

chief executive's office

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Dear Mike

### EEDA Board Dinner 9 July 2003

Each month prior to the Agency's Board meeting, the Chairman invites senior representatives of the business community to meet with him and the Board for dinner. The purpose of these events is to seek the views of 'key players' in the business community on our regional economic agenda as well as providing the opportunity for the views of businesses to be fed back to government.

The focus for the July board dinner is Innovation. The dinner is timely as there are a number of major pieces of work being carried out nationally and regionally which will inform our thinking on innovation. These reports include the current DTI Innovation Review, the Lambert review on the effectiveness of linkage between higher education and the business community, the EEDA study on the regional strengths in innovation and technology and the range of developments on creating the right climate for business start ups. In addition to this, EEDA have recently launched it's first 2 Enterprise Hubs, with a further 5 planned over the next 5 years. EEDA are also engaged with a number of international innovation projects.

Our sector and cluster work has highlighted the importance of innovation across the region and it is for this reason that Vincent Watts, the Chairman of the East of England Development Agency, would like to invite you to discuss these important matters at our next pre-board dinner to be held at **The Hanover International Hotel, Church Street, Dunstable, Bedfordshire LU5 4RT**. The evening will start at 7:00pm with pre-dinner drinks followed by dinner.

I look forward to meeting you on the 9<sup>th</sup> of July. If you are unable to make the dinner please feel free to nominate a senior representative to attend in your place.

Yours sincerely



Bill Samuel  
Chief Executive

east of england   
space for ideas



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