

# URBAN FORUMS

A series of panel discussions on contemporary challenges facing cities

## Using Market Forces to improve Education in Manchester: Possibilities and Challenges

**Tuesday 13 March, 6-7.30pm, followed by drinks**

The Government has committed itself to create independent state schools (i.e. academies and free schools) in the belief that this will raise overall standards. A positive view says that this will inject new energy into the system and, at the same time, usefully intensify competition within the education 'market-place'. There are, however, fears that this approach will further fragment the state education system and compound the disadvantage faced by children and young people from poorer backgrounds. This forum will bring together stakeholders with a wide range of view to debate this vital issue, aiming to develop understandings that can inform further developments in the city.

### PANELLISTS

Aneez Esmail (Chair of Governors, Chorlton High)

Helen Gunter (School of Education, University of Manchester)

Stuart Leeming (New Islington Academy and Deputy High Master, Manchester Grammar)

Kieran McDermott (CEO, One Education)

Julie Thorpe (Head of Schools & Youth Programmes, The Co-operative College)

Chair: Gillian Evans (University of Manchester)

**VENUE:** Anthony Burgess Foundation, Chorlton Mill, 3 Cambridge Street, M1 5BY  
**TICKETS:** Free registration at [www.cities.manchester.ac.uk/events/urban\\_forums](http://www.cities.manchester.ac.uk/events/urban_forums)