



CiviCon22

Universities Working in Partnership

A Week of #TrulyCivic Events

**Sheffield
Hallam
University**

Monday 13th June:

What universities can bring to address the challenges of funding levelling up

This session will commence at 11:00



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Sheffield Hallam University



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What universities can bring to address the challenges of funding levelling up

June 2022

Prof Sir Chris Husbands
Vice-Chancellor
Sheffield Hallam University

Economics

Levelling-up is an economic challenge: it's about productivity and GVA

Society

Levelling up is a social challenge: it's about the social resilience of places in an uncertain world

Cultures

Levelling-up is a cultural challenge: its about the perception and self-perception of places

...which means it is a cross-cutting challenge for government and civil society

Universities...

....may be part of the problem:

the problem of location

the problem of the UK residential model

...which means that any solution requires deliberative and purposive interventions – something has to change

The Levelling Up White Paper is a cogent analysis

government
understands
the cross-
cutting
nature of
the
challenge

seriously
under-cooks
the potential
of universities

Why is the White Paper so
unimpressive about the
role of universities?

What could universities
bring to the challenges of
levelling up

Five propositions

Universities need to take their role in place seriously, and especially in the way they relate to (other) places

The current targets for place-based allocation of R&D funds are too conservative

Funding incentives can drive collaboration if there are designed to

Grain size matters: the individual university might be the wrong frame.
Collaborations matter

Humility matters

Thank you



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