

SQW CONSULTING

Press release – 3 December 2009

Chris Hasluck joins SQW Consulting

SQW Consulting appoints a new associate director to expand services in employment, skills and welfare reform

Chris Hasluck has been appointed as an Associate Director at SQW Consulting, one of the UK's leading providers of sustainable economic and social development consultancy services. Mr Hasluck will be responsible for expanding and developing SQW's research and evaluation capabilities, focusing specifically on worklessness and skills, welfare reform and employment services. He will be based in the company's Manchester office, working predominantly with public sector clients across the UK.

Mr Hasluck is a labour economist with 38 years experience of lecturing, academic management and research. Prior to his appointment at SQW Consulting, he spent 20 years as Principal Research Fellow and Director of the Work, Welfare and Policy Evaluation research programme at the Institute for Employment Research (IER), University of Warwick. He has worked on a wide range of labour market and policy evaluation research and consultancy projects. He will be continuing his association with IER in the future, having just been granted the title and status of Associate Fellow by the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Warwick.

While at IER, Mr Hasluck undertook major projects on behalf of the Department for Work and Pensions and Jobcentre Plus relating to initiatives such as Employment Zones and the New Deal. He also has an interest in developing the business case for apprenticeships, and has produced a number of analyses of the costs and benefits of apprenticeships for employers. He has also previously advised the World Bank, the European Commission, the Equality and Human Rights Commission, the Learning and Skills Council, the Guardian Newspaper Group and Lloyds TSB.

Mr Hasluck is an expert providing detailed analyses of local labour markets, unemployment and worklessness, public and private employment services, employers' recruitment practices and government employment programmes. He has

significant experience in the design and interpretation of surveys, and the collation and manipulation of data.

A graduate of the London School of Economics, Mr Hasluck also holds a Masters in labour economics from the University of Leeds. Following graduation he worked for 10 years as a lecturer in economics at Wolverhampton Polytechnic and was Deputy Head of the School of Economics and Accounting at Leicester Polytechnic.

Simon Pringle, SQW Consulting's Managing Director, said: "We're delighted to welcome Chris Hasluck to the team as an Associate Director. His significant and specialist experience is a valuable addition to the services we can offer to our clients. He will take the lead in enabling us to provide specialist services in the area of employment and worklessness that will include analyses of the skills, employment and broader labour market issues that our clients are facing."

Chris Hasluck said: "It's an exciting time to be joining SQW Consulting and I look forward to working with my new colleagues and our clients. The employment and skills sector is in a constant state of flux and it is a stimulating challenge to help develop the best approach to these issues. SQW has a reputation for delivering high quality consulting services and I am pleased to have the opportunity to develop our services in the area of employment and skills."

- ENDS -

Editors Notes

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Photo available on request

Chris Hasluck, who has joined as an Associate Director at SQW Consulting, to assist with the expansion of services in the area of employment and worklessness.

About SQW Consulting

SQW Consulting is a leading independent consultancy in the area of sustainable economic and social development that is part of SQW Group. The firm is well-known for producing 'The Cambridge Phenomenon', a defining report that brought Cambridge's high-tech industry to worldwide attention.

SQW Consulting's clients include government departments in the UK and overseas, devolved administrations, regional development agencies, funding bodies, local authorities, partnerships and international organisations.

SQW's consultants bring extensive experience to their assignments, with backgrounds in academia, national and local government, industry, and development agencies. At any one time, they are working on over 100 projects in the areas of urban and rural regeneration;

innovation and business development; higher education and technology transfer; and skills and young people.

SQW is headquartered in Cambridge with regional offices in Edinburgh, Leeds, London and Manchester. For more information: www.sqw.co.uk

About SQW Group

SQW Consulting is part of SQW Group. Other divisions include: Oxford Innovation, which is a leading operator of innovation centres, advisory services and investment networks for start-up and growing technology companies; SQW Energy, which provides energy market design and carbon management services and SQW Asia, which operates from Hong Kong providing economic and management consultancy services to Asia and the international market. For more information: www.sqwgroup.com