

INVEST FORUM SERIES

Midlands

14 May 2025 | Malmaison, Birmingham

Event Partner

AON

Featuring Vision 2025 -
Leaders Driving Growth Awards

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13:00 Registration & networking lunch

13:35 Welcome address

Matthew Sabben-Clare, Senior Advisor, Cinven & BVCA Chair

13:45 Growth in the Midlands - local leadership, infrastructure planning and investment
Panel

Moderator: Sarah Adams, Director of Policy, BVCA
Jon Baty, Head of Inward Investment, West Midlands Growth Company
Andy Green, Investment Director, Mercia (FDC)
Joshua Hawkins, Head of Global and Investment, Midlands Engine
Hayley Pepler, Head of Culture, Creative Industries and Digital, West Midlands Combined Authority
Seb Saywood, Partner, Investment, BGF

14:25 Vision Fireside Chat - Supporting startups in the Midlands
Panel

Interviewer: Samantha Phipps, Director, Grant Thornton
Vlad Gubala, Chief Scientific Officer, PocDoc
Steve Roest, Chief Executive Officer, PocDoc
Luke Smith, Head of Early Investing, Molten Ventures

14:55

Networking Break

15:15 Scale ups, spin outs and innovation
Panel

Moderator: Rena Sandhu, Head of Regional M&A and Mid-Market, Aon
Ken Cooper, Managing Director - Venture Solutions, British Business Bank
Katharine Fuller, Chief Operating Officer, TechWM
Rupert Lyle, Investment Director, Midven
Dr Lisa Smith, Chief Executive, Midlands Mindforge

15:55

Boosting productivity in the Midlands

Panel

Moderator: Karim Palant, Director of External Affairs, BVCA

Chris Handy, Head of West Midlands, LDC

Professor Donato Masi, Professor of Supply Chain Management,
Loughborough University

Professor Rebecca Riley, Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Regional Engagement,
University of Birmingham

Matthew Way, CEO, Clamason

Gemma Whitehouse, CFO, Kingswood Mobility Group (LDC)

16:35

Closing remarks

Michael Moore, Chief Executive, BVCA

16:45 - 17:45

Networking Drinks Reception

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