

Lord Foulkes to open Edinburgh office today

✘ Today marks an exciting day for Edinburgh businesses and property experts alike as peer and former Labour minister Rt. Hon. Lord George Foulkes gets ready to launch 23 Melville Street, the West End's new state-of-the-art serviced office building, at 4.30 this afternoon.

After unveiling the plaque and declaring the centre officially open, Lord Foulkes will be joined by Douglas Ferrans, chairman of HBOS subsidiary Invista, along with Edinburgh-born property development specialist Brian Cormack who has revamped the former New Town Killers film, spending around £500,000 on the project.

Together, they expect to greet more than 50 guests, including journalists, business professionals, MPs and MSPs as well as other representatives at a champagne reception at the New Town's prestigious new facility which also houses a number of high spec meeting rooms fully equipped with the latest in IT and telecoms.

Those already confirmed include MSP Jim Eadie, presenter Joanna Cochrane of Forth One, former Hearts player Gary Mackay, former Hearts chairman and property expert Leslie Deans, Paul Slater of Slater's Menswear and Claire Stewart of STV.

Highlights will include live music, including a harpist and contemporary piper; whisky cocktails from Tigerlily's leading mixologist, Ross Montgomery, courtesy of Montpeliers (Edinburgh) Limited; tastings of the new 'Melville's' fruit beer by Edinburgh-based specialist beer company Innis & Gunn, and catering by Glasshouse Hospitality.

Guests will hear more about 23 Melville Street's plans for

future business development, including how it proposes to champion business alliances and support Scottish enterprise.

Forth One presenter Grant Stott will also be present to receive a cheque from 23 Melville Street on behalf of Cash for Kids.