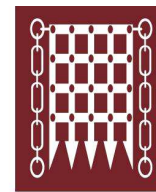


Westminster Employment Forum Keynote Seminar: Responding to the careers strategy - priorities for implementation, improving quality of provision and meeting skills needs

Timing: Morning, Tuesday, 22nd May 2018

Venue: Central London



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Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 - 9.00 Registration and coffee
- 9.00 - 9.05 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 9.05 - 9.35 **Priorities for implementing key proposals in the careers strategy**
Maria Sciara, Team Leader, Careers and Basic Skills, Department for Education
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.35 - 9.45 **Building local partnerships with businesses - understanding the skills needs of employers**
Ryan Gibson, National Facilitator, Careers Education, North East Local Enterprise Partnership and Gatsby Foundation
- 9.45 - 10.20 **Connecting the careers strategy with the needs of the UK economy**
In light of the Government's Unlocking Talent, Fulfilling Potential plan, which sets out ambitions to improve social mobility through education, what role can an evolving framework for careers advice play in reducing attainment gaps between disadvantaged children and their affluent peers? How effectively will schemes such as the National Collaborative Outreach Programme encourage progression to higher education in areas with lower levels of participation, and is greater support needed to engage and inform parents and guardians of the post-16 educational opportunities available? With the careers strategy identifying the growing need for STEM skills, how will plans to increase student encounters with STEM employers need to be implemented to improve the uptake of STEM subjects, and what further steps can be taken to encourage greater interest among pupils; in addition to raising interest, does greater attention need to be applied to the quality of teaching to ensure children are well prepared to pursue a career in STEM?
Helen Barnard, Head of Analysis, Joseph Rowntree Foundation
Professor Liz Barnes, Vice-Chancellor and Chief Executive, Staffordshire University and Co-Chair, Stoke-on-Trent Opportunity Area Partnership Board
Darush Dodds, Head of CSR & Added Value, Esh Group
Questions and comments from the floor with **Ryan Gibson**, National Facilitator, Careers Education, North East Local Enterprise Partnership and Gatsby Foundation
- 10.20 - 10.25 **Chair's closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 10.25 - 10.50 Coffee
- 10.50 - 10.55 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 10.55 - 11.20 **Improving support for adults - careers guidance, access to information and the developing digital resources**
Joe Billington, Director, National Careers Service
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.20 - 11.45 **Benchmarking careers provision - self-evaluation, measuring progress and the national picture**
Claudia Harris, Chief Executive Officer, The Careers and Enterprise Company
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.45 - 12.05 **Improving careers guidance - inspecting quality of provision at schools and colleges**
Anita Pyrkotsch-Jones, National Lead for Careers Guidance and Youth Engagement, Ofsted
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.05 - 12.55 **Developing the current careers offering - training, technical education and Career Leaders**
With careers guidance for schools now measured against all eight of the Gatsby Benchmarks, what measures should be put in place by the Careers Enterprise Company to support schools struggling to adapt, and what does the overall picture say about the quality of careers provision; does the overall picture suggest any particular benchmarks which schools are struggling to meet? In light of the requirement for all schools to appoint a Careers Leader, what support and training should be made available to ensure that individuals in this role develop and deliver their school's careers programme effectively; is the Government's £4 million fund (which will be targeted at institutions of most need) adequate to support schools and colleges develop the required expertise, and what provision might need to be made for schools outside the scope of this fund to finance training for their own Career Leaders? Following the introduction of the Baker Clause, which requires schools to allow providers of technical education (including apprenticeships) the opportunity to speak to all pupils, how will the uptake of apprenticeships and routes to technical education be affected; with the architect of the clause, Lord Baker, noting that he expects the change to be met with resistance by many schools, is additional action required to improve the relationship between schools and technical education providers?
Virginia Isaac, Chair, Career Management Quality Alliance
Vicky Woodings, Head of Careers, Employability and Enterprise, The Bourne Academy, Bournemouth
Robin Ghurbhurun, Chief Executive and Principal, Richmond Upon Thames College
Laura-Jane Rawlings, Founder and Chief Executive, Youth Employment UK
Denise Bertuchi, Assistant National Officer, Education and Children's Services, UNISON
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 - 13.00 **Chair's and Westminster Employment Forum closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
Sean Cudmore, Deputy Editor, Westminster Employment Forum