

**Westminster Employment Forum Keynote Seminar: The future for higher technical education in England
- delivery, simplifying pathways and establishing Institutes of Technology**

Timing: Morning, Tuesday, 4th December 2018

Venue: Central London



Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 - 9.00 Registration and coffee
- 9.00 - 9.05 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 9.05 - 9.20 **Progress and current trends in higher technical education**
Professor Sandra McNally, Director, Centre for Vocational Education and Research,
London School of Economics and Political Science
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.20 - 9.30 **Institutes of Technology (IoTs) - an international perspective**
Professor Brian Norton, President, Dublin Institute of Technology
- 9.30 - 10.20 **Key issues for delivery - funding mechanisms, higher apprenticeships and establishing IoTs**
With the Government currently looking at how to extend technical education reforms to Level 4 and 5, and in light of its Review of Post-18 Education and Funding, how should funding mechanisms incentivise learning providers to offer options which meet suitable skills needs? What support do teachers of STEM subjects need to be able to develop a higher skilled workforce? Does more need to be done to achieve parity of esteem between higher technical education and academic education, and to what extent can these two approaches be better blended? As the uptake of higher apprenticeships increases, what further opportunities exist to upskill or retrain those already in full time work? With the first IoT expected to open in September 2019, what are the next steps for collaboration between employers and FE and HE providers, and what more needs to be done to increase workforce capacity and capability in areas where there are technological skills shortages?
Charles Ewen, Director of Technology and Chief Information Officer, Met Office
Vicky Knight, President, University and College Union
Senior representative, learning provider
Senior representative, higher apprenticeships
Questions and comments from the floor with **Professor Brian Norton**, President, Dublin Institute of Technology
- 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 - 11.25 **The developing regulatory landscape**

Navigating technical education - simplifying the pathway for learners
Nicola Turner, Head of Skills, Office for Students

Quality of higher technical education and the changing role of the Institute for Apprenticeships
Carmel Grant, Deputy Director, Technical Education, Institute for Apprenticeships

'Ofqual's approach to regulating technical and vocational qualifications'
Lucy Sydney, Director of Strategic Relationships for VTQ, Ofqual
- 11.25 - 11.45 Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.45 - 12.30 **Qualifications at Level 4 and 5 - provision, upskilling and meeting the needs of employers**
Mark Titterton, Chief Executive, EngineeringUK
Senior representative, awarding body
Senior representative, college
Student voice
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.30 - 12.55 **Next steps for higher technical education**
Senior representative, policy
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