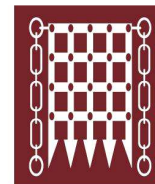


Westminster Social Policy Forum Keynote Seminar: The future for the Midlands Engine - investment, infrastructure and economic growth

Timing: Morning, Thursday, 29th November 2018

Venue: Central Birmingham



**WESTMINSTER
SOCIAL POLICY
FORUM**

Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 - 9.00 Registration and coffee
- 9.00 - 9.05 **Chair's opening remarks**
Richard Burden MP, Member of Parliament for Birmingham Northfield
- 9.05 - 9.30 **Devolution in the West Midlands - priorities and next steps**
Senior speaker to be confirmed
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 - 10.10 **Creating an environment for economic success - connectivity, industrial priorities and promoting the Midlands as a place to live, work and visit**
Maria Machancoses, Director, Midlands Connect
Dr Clive Hickman, Chief Executive, Manufacturing Technology Centre
Paul Harris, Director of Economic Development, Rolls-Royce
Senior representative, place
- 10.10 - 10.30 Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.30 - 10.35 **Chair's closing remarks**
Richard Burden MP, Member of Parliament for Birmingham Northfield
- 10.35 - 11.05 Coffee
- 11.05 - 11.10 **Chair's opening remarks**
Maggie Throup MP, Member of Parliament for Erewash and Vice Chair, All-Party Parliamentary Group on the East Midlands
- 11.10 - 11.50 **The vision for the Midlands Engine**
Senior speaker to be confirmed
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.50 - 12.30 **Next steps for driving regional growth - skills, investment, innovation and the Industrial Strategy**
- Attracting investment to the Midlands*
Grant Peggie, Director, European Funding, British Business Bank
- Next steps for digital connectivity*
Senior representative, innovation
- Regional skills, employment prospects and supporting the workforce*
Alison Munro, Chair, National College for High Speed Rail
- Collaboration in research and innovation, and the role of universities*
Dr James Wilkie, Director of Enterprise and Innovation, University of Birmingham
- 12.30 - 12.50 Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.50 - 12.55 **Keynote closing remarks**
Senior speaker to be confirmed
- 12.55 - 13.00 **Chair's and Westminster Social Policy Forum closing remarks**
Maggie Throup MP, Member of Parliament for Erewash and Vice Chair, All-Party Parliamentary Group on the East Midlands
Michael Ryan, Deputy Editor, Westminster Social Policy Forum