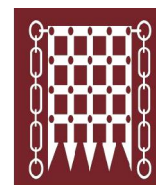


**Westminster Employment Forum Keynote Seminar:
Next steps for increasing UK productivity - innovation, business practice and policy developments**

Timing: Morning, Tuesday, 6th November 2018

Venue: Central London



**WESTMINSTER
EMPLOYMENT
FORUM**

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 **The Industrial Strategy and priorities for the Business Productivity Review**
James Partington, Deputy Director, Long Tail Productivity Review,
Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.35 - 9.55 **Workforce planning - preparing for the impact of Brexit**
Matthew Percival, Head of Group, Employment Law and Employee Relations, CBI
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.55 - 10.50 **Understanding the drivers for UK productivity - addressing skill gaps, leadership and business support services**
With the Business Productivity Review aiming to unlock £100bn of untapped benefit to the economy, what are the key factors which affect UK growth and what more needs to be done to understand them? What more needs to be done to improve the supply of STEM skills, and what further initiatives - such as the creation of Institutes of Technology - are needed to help to develop a technical education system to match the prestige of the UK's higher education system? In light of the Government's plans to establish a National Retraining Scheme, what further measures can be taken to help adults to retrain and re-skill throughout their lifetime - including transition into management roles; how should organisations and skills and training providers work together in this regard? With sectors deals for key industries being announced, how can employers and industry representatives engage with education and training providers to encourage students to pursue courses providing the skills required for growth; how can such efforts be aligned with the requirement introduced in the careers strategy for schools to provide pupils with employee encounters? What potential role can business support and advice services play in improving general employee skills? What more can be done to develop leadership and how can management be measured?
Professor Philip McCann, Chair, Urban and Regional Economics, University of Sheffield and Director, Productivity Insights Network
Sue Ferns, Senior Deputy General Secretary, Prospect
Lowell Williams, Chief Executive Officer, Dudley College of Technology
Ian Fordham, Director, Education, Microsoft
Tej Parikh, Senior Economist, Institute of Directors
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.50 - 10.55 **Chair's closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 10.55 - 11.20 Coffee
- 11.20 - 11.25 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 11.35 - 12.20 **Innovation in job design and workplace practices, organisational performance and disseminating best practice**
How can the introduction of new forms of technology, such as the application of artificial intelligence for work otherwise completed by human beings, be managed so as to minimise disruption to employees and the labour market - and what more should be done to encourage businesses to adopt new technologies in cloud computing, mobile technology and e-purchasing? With the Government looking to establish an annual measure of the quality of work on offer in the UK, what guidance can be provided to employers; how can best practice be successfully disseminated? Given that SMEs account for 60% of all private sector jobs what special support do they require and to what extent do they have the capacity in utilising technological advances to drive productivity compared to larger firms?
Christine Hancock, Director, Oxford Health Alliance
David Perring, Director of Research, Fosway Group
Dr Duncan Brown, Head of HR Consultancy, Institute for Employment Studies
Senior representative, employer
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.20 - 12.30 **Encouraging better job quality - measurement, people management and flexible working**
Ben Willmott, Head of Public Policy, CIPD
- 12.30 - 12.40 **Engaging with SMEs, benchmarking and sharing best practice - next steps for boosting productivity in the workplace**
Ann Francke, Chief Executive Officer, CMI
- 12.40 - 12.55 Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 - 13.00 **Chair's and Westminster Employment Forum's closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
Sean Cudmore, Deputy Editor, Westminster Employment Forum