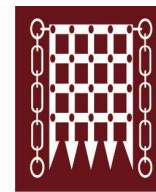


## Westminster Education Forum Keynote Seminar: The future of school funding: policy, efficiency and best practice

Timing: Morning, Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2016

Venue: Sixty One Whitehall, London SW1A 2ET

Agenda subject to change



WESTMINSTER  
EDUCATION  
FORUM

- 8.30 - 9.00 Registration and coffee
- 9.00 - 9.05 **Chair's opening remarks**  
**James Heapey MP**
- 9.05 - 9.30 **Working towards a fairer school funding system**  
**Sue Baldwin**, Director of Academies and Maintained Schools Group, Education Funding Agency  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 - 9.45 **Addressing challenges and priorities in school funding**  
**Luke Sibieta**, Programme Director, Institute for Fiscal Studies
- 9.45 - 10.40 **Future of school funding: funding allocations, budgetary constraints and rising demand**  
*How might Government and local authorities help schools to alleviate budgetary constraints caused by rising costs in national insurance, staff wages and the lack of increases in school funding? In light of the expected further rise of demand for pupil places in the primary sector, how can schools be supported to meet the demand for places and maintain a high standard of provision amidst rising costs and funding constraints? What examples of best practice are emerging for local authorities to prioritise education spending to meet specific needs and requirements in their localities? What impact has the splitting of the Dedicated Schools Grant into three funding units - covering schools, early years and high-needs funding for pupils that require additional resources - had in simplifying and making school funding allocations fairer? Has the additional £390 million funding allocated for the least fairly-funded areas helped address disparities in funding between regions? What more could be done to address concerns raised about the variations in education funding received per pupil, particularly by schools in coastal and rural areas; will the proposed introduction of a national funding formula from 2017 adequately address these issues?*  
**Allan Foulds**, President, ASCL  
**Lynn Knapp**, Headteacher, Windmill Primary School, Oxfordshire  
**Dr Mark Smith**, Director, Developing Learning  
**Councillor Ivan Ould**, Chair, f40 Group  
**Hywel Jones**, Headteacher, West London Free School  
Questions and comments from the floor with **Luke Sibieta**, Programme Director, Institute for Fiscal Studies
- 10.40 - 10.45 **Chair's closing remarks**  
**James Heapey MP**
- 10.45 - 11.10 Coffee
- 11.10 - 11.15 **Chair's opening remarks**  
**Lord Storey**, House of Lords Liberal Democrat Education Spokesperson
- 11.15 - 11.40 **Strategies towards developing an efficient school system**  
**Chris Kirk**, Education and Skills Consulting Lead, PwC  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.40 - 12.35 **Case studies: best practice in school clusters, staff deployment and financial management**  
  
*"The role of multi-academy trusts in promoting efficiency in schools"*  
**Amy Finch**, Senior Researcher, Reform  
  
*Using School Business Managers to enhance school performance*  
**Stephen Morales**, Chief Executive, National Association of School Business Management  
  
*The effective deployment of staff to improve teaching and learning outcomes*  
**Andrew May**, Deputy Headteacher, Charlotte Sharman Primary School, London  
  
*Financial management strategies and benchmarking*  
**David Butler**, Partner, Bishop Fleming and Author, *Academies Benchmarking Report 2015*  
  
*Making the most of financial and budgetary freedoms for academies*  
**Steve Avis**, Finance Director, Leigh Academies Trust  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.35 - 12.55 **Working towards building a more efficient school system - lessons to be learnt from other sectors**  
**Mark Parrett**, Audit Manager, Value for Money Audit, National Audit Office  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 - 13.00 **Chair's and Westminster Education Forum closing remarks**  
**Lord Storey**, House of Lords Liberal Democrat Education Spokesperson  
**Dieuni Welihinda**, Forum Lead, Westminster Education Forum