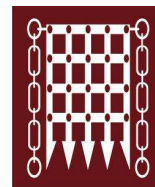


**Westminster Higher Education Forum Keynote Seminar:
Universities in their local economies: devolution, skills development and
supporting entrepreneurship**

Timing: Morning, Thursday, 8th December 2016

Venue: Manchester Town Hall, Albert Square, Manchester M2 5DB



**WESTMINSTER
HIGHER EDUCATION
FORUM**

Agenda subject to change

- 8.30 - 9.00 Registration and coffee
- 9.00 - 9.05 **Chair's opening remarks**
Rt Hon the Baroness Hughes of Stretford
- 9.05 - 9.35 **Universities as 'anchor institutions' in a new devolution landscape: key challenges and opportunities**
Kevin Richardson, Local Growth Consultant, HEFCE
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.35 - 10.15 **The role of universities in promoting enterprise: spin outs, graduate start-ups and encouraging local business**
Professor Ellie Hamilton, Emeritus Professor of Entrepreneurship, Lancaster University
Anne Dornan, Head of Innovation and Partnerships, Manchester Science Partnerships
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.15 - 10.25 **Chair's closing remarks**
Rt Hon the Baroness Hughes of Stretford
- 10.25 - 10.55 Coffee
- 10.55 - 11.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Jim McMahon MP, Shadow Minister, Local Government and Devolution
- 11.00 - 11.45 **Working with employers to boost high-level skills and retain graduates in the local economy**
Susan Davies, Commercial Director, Santander Business Banking
Dr Charlie Ball, Head of Higher Education Intelligence, Graduate Prospects and Deputy Director of Research, HECSU
Andrew Bacon, Chief Executive Officer, Enactus UK
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.45 - 12.30 **Innovation and local growth: knowledge transfer, smart specialisation and the future of structural funds**
Nick Goldspink, Project Manager, N8 Research Partnership
Dr Richard Deed, Technology Director, TRUSTECH, the North West NHS Innovation Service
Rick Watson, Business Development Manager, Business Growth Hub
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.30 - 12.55 **Policy priorities for supporting universities and local growth**
Joe Manning, Head of Private Sector Growth, Cities and Local Growth Unit
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 - 13.00 **Chair's and Westminster Higher Education Forum closing remarks**
Jim McMahon MP, Shadow Minister, Local Government and Devolution
Jonny Roberts, Associate Editor, Westminster Higher Education Forum