

**Westminster Social Policy Forum keynote seminar**  
**Tackling drug dependence and improving delivery of services - assessing the Independent Review of Drugs and the UK Government's Strategy**

Timing: Morning, Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> February 2022

\*\*\*Taking Place Online\*\*\*



**WESTMINSTER  
SOCIAL POLICY  
FORUM**

*Draft agenda subject to change*

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**  
**Baroness Meacher**, Co-Chair, All-Party Parliamentary Group for Drug Policy Reform
- 9.05 **Taking forward the independent review and key issues in supporting effective prevention, treatment, and recovery**  
**Professor Dame Carol Black**, Review lead, Independent Review of Drugs  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.40 Break
- 9.45 **Stakeholder perspectives on the independent review and the Government's long-term strategy to drive down drug supply and demand**  
**Danny Hames**, Head of Inclusion, Midlands Partnership NHS Foundation Trust  
**Professor Sir John Strang**, Head of Department, National Addiction Centre, Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology & Neuroscience, King's College London  
**Niamh Eastwood**, Executive Director, Release  
**Jason Harwin**, Deputy Chief Constable, Lincolnshire Police; and Drugs Lead, National Police Chief's Council  
**Michaela Jones**, Lived Experience Officer, Scottish Recovery Consortium  
**Mark Johnson**, Founder, User Voice  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.45 **Chair's closing remarks**  
**Baroness Meacher**, Co-Chair, All-Party Parliamentary Group for Drug Policy Reform
- 10.50 Break
- 11.00 **Chair's opening remarks**  
**Crispin Blunt MP**, Chair, All-Party Parliamentary Group for Drug Policy Reform
- 11.05 **Priorities for improving society's response to drug dependence - engaging with those in recovery, supporting innovative approaches, and tackling the root causes of dependence**  
**Dr Keith Humphreys**, Professor of Psychiatry, Stanford University; Advisor to the Independent Review of Drugs; and former drug policy advisor to President Barack Obama  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.30 Break
- 11.35 **Assessing the impact of the pandemic on drug dependence and service provision and priorities for improving access and quality in prevention, treatment, and recovery support**  
**Kirsty Day**, Director of Recovery Services, Nelson Trust  
**Dave Higham**, Chief Executive and Founder, The Well Communities  
**Nuno Albuquerque**, Head of Treatment, UK Addiction Treatment Group  
**Sonia Humphreys**, Detective Chief Inspector, Local Serious and Organised Crime Team, Safeguarding & Investigations and Head of Drugs Taskforce, Norfolk Constabulary  
**Duncan Hill**, Specialist Pharmacist in Substance Misuse, NHS Lanarkshire; and Honorary Lecturer, School of Pharmacy, University of Strathclyde  
**Dan Carden MP**, Vice Chair, All-Party Parliamentary Group for Alcohol Harm; and Member, All-Party Parliamentary Group for Children of Alcoholics  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.25 **Policy priorities for supporting people through treatment and recovery, disrupting criminal supply chains, and tackling drug demand**  
**Rosanna O'Connor**, Director, Addictions & Inclusion, Office of Health Improvement & Disparities, Department of Health and Social Care  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Social Policy Forum closing remarks**  
**Crispin Blunt MP**, Chair, All-Party Parliamentary Group for Drug Policy Reform  
**Michael Ryan**, Deputy Editor, Westminster Social Policy Forum