Westminster Business Forum policy conference:
Next steps for advanced materials in the UK
Timing: Morning, Thursday, 4th February
*****Taking Place Online*****

Draft agenda subject to change

8.30 Registration

9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian

9.05 **Policy priorities for advanced materials in the UK**
Caroline France, Head, Tech Growth, Robotics and Advanced Materials, Department for Business, Innovation, Science and Trade
Questions and comments from the floor

9.30 **The *National Materials Innovation Strategy* - research, innovation and assessing progress**
Professor David Knowles, CEO, Henry Royce Institute

9.40 **Materials innovation programmes - priorities, participation and routes to industrial use**
Senior speaker confirmed from **Innovate UK**

9.50 **Key considerations for advanced materials policy in the UK - commercial priorities, competitiveness and strategic enablers**
scope and priorities for public intervention | *alignment of policy and innovation programmes with downstream user needs* | *addressing barriers to investment, commercialisation and industrial scale-up* | *energy and input costs and implications for manufacturing competitiveness* | *customer demand and market opportunities across aerospace, automotive, energy, defence, and other industries* | *workforce development and future skills needs* | *priorities for the forthcoming Advanced Manufacturing Jobs Plan* | *collaboration between industry, universities and innovation organisations* | *regional clusters and local industrial strengths* | *improving productivity and industrial capacity* | *standards and regulatory frameworks for new materials*
Senior representative, industry
Senior representative, standards
Senior representative, workforce

10.10 Questions and comments from the floor

10.35 **Financing advanced materials - patient capital, private investment and commercial scale-up**
Senior representative, investment
Questions and comments from the floor

10.50 **Chair's closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian

10.55 Break

11.05 **Chair's opening remarks**
Noah Law MP, Chair, All-Party Parliamentary Group on Critical Minerals

11.10 **Supporting resilience in UK supply chains - critical minerals, strategic dependencies and sovereign capability**
critical minerals and advanced materials dependencies | *concentrated international supply, geopolitical risks and export restrictions* | *domestic extraction, processing and refining capability, and commercial viability* | *rare earths, magnets and strategic materials supply chains* | *sovereign capability and economic security* | *respective roles of domestic production and international partnerships* | *diversifying international supply and reducing strategic risks* | *recycling, recovery and access to secondary materials* | *business priorities for supply chain resilience*
Senior representative, industry
Senior representative, critical minerals
Senior representative, infrastructure
Questions and comments from the floor

11.50 **Routes to industrial use - customer requirements, qualification, manufacturing and procurement**
downstream requirements for performance, quality, consistency and cost | *commercial risks and costs of introducing new materials* | *access to pilot, demonstration and manufacturing facilities* | *procurement, long-term purchase contracts and demand signals* | *testing, certification, validation and qualification for industrial applications* | *collaboration between large firms and SMEs* | *creating routes to commercial deployment and growth* | *scaling production and integrating new materials into existing products and processes* | *opportunities in international markets and implications of the EU Advanced Materials Act* | *Materials 4.0, data sharing, interoperability and digital tools in development and qualification*
Senior representative, end user
Senior representative, manufacturing
Senior representative, SME
Questions and comments from the floor

12.30 **Materials and industrial capacity - priorities for advanced manufacturing sectors in the UK**
Senior representative, industry
Questions and comments from the floor

12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Business Forum closing remarks**
Noah Law MP, Chair, All-Party Parliamentary Group on Critical Minerals
Thomas Howard, Westminster Business Forum