

Westminster Legal Policy Forum keynote seminar:

Next steps for the UK asylum system

Timing: Morning, Friday, 22nd November 2024

Taking Place Online



WESTMINSTER
LEGAL POLICY
FORUM

Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Baroness Lister of Burtersett
- 9.05 **The UK asylum system and key considerations for policy and implementation**
Vicky Tennant, UNHCR Representative to the United Kingdom, UNHCR
- 9.20 **Latest thinking on policy priorities and issues for the UK asylum system**
assessing proposals from the new Government, including on border protection, housing and addressing backlogs | access to legal advice and representation for asylum seekers | accommodation arrangements | appeals processes and efficiency | safeguarding and mental health support | public perception and media reporting | options for resettlement routes going forward
Mishka Pillay, Lived Experience Leader and Co-Partner, Ana and Mishka Consultancy
Seema Farazi, Global Government Affairs Immigration Leader, EY
Dan Gascoyne, Chief Executive, Braintree District Council
Claudia Sturt, Immigration Director, Serco
Senior representative, legal
- 10.15 Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.35 **Chair's closing remarks**
Baroness Lister of Burtersett
- 10.40 Break
- 10.50 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 10.55 **The Border Security Command - potential role, powers and governance**
Senior commentator
- 11.10 **Evaluating plans for tackling organised immigration crime and enhancing enforcement measures**
what should the BSC's priorities be as it prepares for operations | new investigation and enforcement powers, and how they can be exercised most effectively | ensuring that standards oversight and safeguards are in place for enhanced powers | opportunities for the use of new technology and AI, and views on safeguards and scope of its use | balancing national security concerns with humanitarian obligations
Richard Ballantyne, Chief Executive, British Ports Association
Senior representative, law enforcement
Senior representative, legal
- 11.25 Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.40 **Priorities for creating alternative and safe routes for asylum seekers**
Jon Featonby, Chief Policy Analyst, Refugee Council
- 11.50 **Strategies for security cooperation with Europe**
Senior commentator, international policy
- 12.00 **Strategies for collaboration and tackling issues in the asylum system**
achieving orderly and humane management of migration | how can collaboration best be incentivised to promote the care of asylum seekers | access to employment | support for local authorities | safeguarding issues and priorities | strengthening services available for asylum seekers | exploring family reunion policies
Vicky McDermott, Director, Housing and Communities, Newcastle City Council
Janice Lopaktin, Chair, Refugee Employment Network
Senior representative, advocacy
- 12.15 Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.30 **Policy priorities and considerations for the UK asylum system going forward**
Daniel Hobbs, Director General, Migration and Borders, Home Office
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Legal Policy Forum closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
Amy Wassif, Westminster Legal Policy Forum