

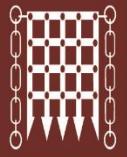
Westminster Business Forum policy conference:

Next steps for the UK professional and business services sector plan

Timing: Morning, Friday, 17th April 2026

Taking Place Online

Draft agenda subject to change

8.30	Registration	 WESTMINSTER BUSINESS FORUM
9.00	<u>Chair's opening remarks</u> Senior Parliamentarian	
9.05	<u>Key developments in the professional and business services sector and considerations going forward</u> Senior commentator Questions and comments from the floor	
9.30	<u>The Professional and Business Services Sector Plan - priorities, governance, and early implementation</u> <i>immediate priorities for delivery and early milestones governance, transparency, and measuring effectiveness oversight and accountability mechanisms regional support and the role of PBS hubs place-based interventions and strategic approaches to local growth local authority roles and capacity for delivery supporting business productivity access to support for non-hub regions and mid-tier firms interaction with wider SME support measures cross-sector coordination priorities for the proposed Office for PBS and interaction with the Industrial Strategy Council</i> Senior representative, industry Senior representative, regions Senior representative, SME Senior representative, investment Senior representative, legal Questions and comments from the floor	
10.20	<u>Strengthening the UK's international position - export growth, trade access, and global competitiveness</u> Senior commentator Questions and comments from the floor	
10.45	<u>Chair's closing remarks</u> Senior Parliamentarian	
10.50	Break	
11.00	<u>Chair's opening remarks</u> Senior Parliamentarian	
11.05	<u>Opportunities for financing growth - inward investment and scaling up firms</u> Senior representative, investment Questions and comments from the floor	
11.30	<u>Support for the PBS workforce - attracting talent, upskilling, and impact of technology</u> Senior representative, workforce	
11.40	<u>Next steps for technology adoption, AI integration, and future operating models for PBS firms</u> <i>ways to support productivity deployment of £150m in five AI and technology adoption programmes priorities for the AI champion procurement, cost barriers, and digital infrastructure regulatory clarity and professional standards equitable access to technology support implications for pricing models, including outcome-based and subscription approaches targeted support for tech adoption in emerging business models developing the Made Smarter PBS delivery model impact on workforce roles liability, ethics, and professional judgement interoperability with existing digital infrastructure</i> Senior representative, business Senior representative, innovation Senior representative, technology Senior representative, regulation	
12.05	Questions and comments from the floor	
12.30	<u>Progress and next steps for delivery of the Professional and Business Services Sector Plan</u> David Riches, Deputy Director, Financial, Professional and Business Services, Department for Business and Trade Questions and comments from the floor	
12.55	<u>Chair's and Westminster Business Forum closing remarks</u> Senior Parliamentarian Thomas Howard, Westminster Business Forum	