

Westminster Social Policy Forum keynote seminar
Next steps for tackling child poverty and hunger in the UK - access to education, impact of COVID-19, and priorities for policy and support

Timing: Morning, Wednesday, 26th May 2021

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



**WESTMINSTER
SOCIAL POLICY
FORUM**

Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior parliamentarian
- 9.05 **Child poverty in the wake of the pandemic**
Alison Garnham, Chief Executive, Child Poverty Action Group
- 9.15 **Policy priorities for addressing child poverty after the 2020 targets**
Sammy Wright, Commissioner, Schools and Higher Education, Social Mobility Commission
- 9.25 Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.50 Break
- 9.55 **'Addressing inequalities in child health - the importance of protecting children from poverty and adversity'**
Dr David Taylor-Robinson, Professor of Public Health and Policy, University of Liverpool
- 10.05 **Tackling child poverty and supporting groups most affected - Universal Credit, regional disparities, employment and cost of living**
Cllr Richard Watts, Leader, Islington Council, and Chairman of the Local Government Association's Resources Board
Edward Davies, Head of Policy, Centre for Social Justice
Imran Hussain, Director, Policy and Campaigns, Action for Children
Rory Weal, Policy & Public Affairs Manager, Trussell Trust
- 10.25 Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.40 **Digital poverty and improving children's access to education during and after the pandemic**
Matt Morden, Co-Head Teacher, Surrey Square Primary School
Loic Menzies, Chief Executive, The Centre for Education and Youth
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.10 **Chair's closing remarks**
Senior parliamentarian
- 11.20 Break
- 11.30 **Chair's opening remarks**
Ian Byrne MP, Vice Chair, All-Party Parliamentary Group on the National Food Strategy
- 11.35 **Strategies for tackling food poverty amongst children and harnessing the National Food Strategy**
Anna Taylor, Executive Director, Food Foundation and Chief Independent Adviser to Henry Dimbleby for the development of the National Food Strategy
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.00 Break
- 12.05 **Addressing child hunger - improving support available for families, free school meals, foodbanks, tackling root causes and creating a joined-up system**
Ben Levinson, Head teacher, Kensington Primary School
Stephen Forster, National Chair, LACA - The School Food People
Councillor Kate Booth, Cabinet Member, Children's Wellbeing, Birmingham City Council
Clare McNeil, Associate Director, Institute for Public Policy Research
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Social Policy Forum closing remarks**
Ian Byrne MP, Vice Chair, All-Party Parliamentary Group on the National Food Strategy
Michael Ryan, Deputy Editor, Westminster Social Policy Forum