

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



Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Dr Stephen Brien, Chair, Social Security Advisory Committee
- 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**
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
- 10.20 Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.40 **Digital poverty and improving children's access to education during and after the pandemic**
Loic Menzies, Chief Executive, The Centre for Education and Youth
Matt Morden, Co-Head Teacher, Surrey Square Primary School, Southwark
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.10 **Chair's closing remarks**
Dr Stephen Brien, Chair, Social Security Advisory Committee
- 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
Rachel Statham, Senior Research Fellow, Institute for Public Policy Research Scotland
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