

## Westminster Education Forum policy conference

### The next steps for the children's care system in England and improving provision for care leavers

Timing: Morning, Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2022

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



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Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**  
**Lord Mike Watson**, Shadow Spokesperson for Education, House of Lords
- 9.05 **The children's social care placement market moving forward**  
**Dan Turnbull**, Director, Markets, CMA  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.35 **Priorities for the children's care system in England - funding, system capacity, standards, national and regional approaches, and the future of the social care market**  
**Rebekah Pierre**, Professional Officer, BASW  
**Councillor Cordelia Law**, Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Torbay Council  
**Harvey Gallagher**, Chief Executive, Nationwide Association of Fostering Providers  
Senior representative, care home  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.15 Break
- 10.20 **Support for children and families - early intervention, keeping families together, mental health, educational attainment, pathways into further study and employment, and responding to the independent review**  
**Hannah McCowen**, Manager, National Leaving Care Benchmarking Forum, Catch22  
**Tim O'Neill**, Managing Director of Children's Services, Action for Children  
**Cathy Ashley**, Chief Executive, Family Rights Group  
Senior representative, education  
Young person  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.05 **Chair's closing remarks**  
**Lord Mike Watson**, Shadow Spokesperson for Education, House of Lords
- 11.10 Break
- 11.15 **Chair's opening remarks**  
Senior Parliamentarian
- 11.20 **Lessons from initiatives in other jurisdictions**  
Senior representative, best practice
- 11.30 **The social care workforce - recruitment and retention, training and CPD, support and pay, caseload burden, parity of esteem and developing the profession**  
**Rachel Harrison**, Public Services National Officer, GMB Union  
**Jane Collins**, Director, Foster Support  
**Councillor Clare Curran**, Cabinet Member for Children and Families, Surrey County Council  
**Peter Sandiford**, CEO, The Independent Children's Homes Association  
**Dr Lucille Allain**, Professor of Social Work & Head of Department, Mental Health & Social Work, Middlesex University London
- 11.55 Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.15 Break
- 12.30 **Key policy priorities and next steps for the children's care system**  
**Mark Riddell**, National Implementation Adviser for Care Leavers, Department for Education  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Education Forum closing remarks**  
Senior Parliamentarian  
**Sean Cudmore**, Deputy Editor, Westminster Education Forum