

Westminster Higher Education Forum keynote seminar
Degree apprenticeships in England - next steps for development and performance, standards and assessment, and branding and economic contribution

Timing: Morning, Monday 28th February 2022

Taking place online



**WESTMINSTER
HIGHER EDUCATION
FORUM**

Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 9.05 **Priorities for improving the offer of degree apprenticeships**
Senior commentator
- 9.15 **Taking forward degree apprenticeships following the pandemic - lessons learned, the future for blended and flexible provision, and supporting employers in taking on apprentices**
Graham Hasting-Evans, Chief Executive, NOCN Group
Hannah McAuley, Director of Advanced Programmes, Multiverse
Senior representative, provider
Senior representative, tech
- 9.35 Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.00 Break
- 10.05 **Degree apprenticeships assessment - external assessment and industry involvement, integrating End Point Assessments and degree examinations, and priorities for safeguarding the quality of qualifications**
Rachel Hewitt, Chief Executive, MillionPlus
Senior representative, employer
Senior commentator
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.40 **Chair's closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 10.45 Break
- 10.55 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 11.00 **Contribution to the labour market - addressing skills gaps, expanding the offer, the outlook for employer mandating of qualifications, facilitating local partnerships, and supporting regional growth and workforce retention**
Chris Ensor, Deputy Director for Cyber Skills and Growth, NCSC
Nicola Drury, UK Apprenticeship Manager, Amazon
Viren Patel, Director of Business Development Unit, The Open University
Senior representative, local authority
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.45 Break
- 11.50 **Priorities for degree apprenticeships admissions - the application process, student support, and widening the offer**
John Cope, Director, Strategy, Policy & Public Affairs, UCAS
- 12.00 **Developing a clear brand for degree apprenticeships, improving awareness and take-up amongst disadvantaged groups, and supporting social mobility**
Rachael Johnstone, Director of Degree Apprenticeships, University of Exeter Business School
Senior representative, think tank
Senior representative, FE college
- 12.15 Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.30 **Next steps for driving up standards and quality in degree apprenticeships**
Mandy Crawford-Lee, Director of Policy and Operations and Chief Executive, University Vocational Awards Council
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Higher Education Forum closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
Sean Cudmore, Deputy Editor, Westminster Higher Education Forum