

Westminster Social Policy Forum keynote seminar

The future for devolution in England - lessons learned, policy development, funding, infrastructure, economic recovery, and tackling regional inequalities

Timing: Morning, Wednesday, 8th September 2021

Taking Place Online



WESTMINSTER
SOCIAL POLICY
FORUM

Draft agenda subject to change

8.30 Registration

9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**

Rt Hon Baroness Armstrong of Hill Top, Member, Public Services Committee, and former Minister of State for Local Government (1997-2001)

9.05 **Key lessons from devolution to date, and next steps for delivering economic growth and regeneration across England**

Rt Hon Lord Pickles, Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government 2010-15

Questions and comments from the floor

9.35 **The outlook for future devolution - priorities for ensuring balanced regional growth, and fostering stakeholder engagement and collaboration**

Baroness Blake of Leeds, former leader, Leeds City Council; and Board Member, The Northern Powerhouse Partnership

Questions and comments from the floor

10.05 Break

10.10 **Priorities for the planned Levelling up White Paper, the future of regional devolution in England, and how local decision making has evolved as a response to the pandemic**

Jim Hubbard, Head of Regional Policy, CBI

Jessie Hamshar, Strategy and Engagement Service Director, Cornwall Council

Jonathan Werran, Chief Executive, Localis

Alan Reiss, Director of Strategy, Communications and Policing, West Yorkshire Combined Authority

Senior academic

Questions and comments from the floor

11.00 **Chair's closing remarks**

Rt Hon Baroness Armstrong of Hill Top, Member, Public Services Committee, and former Minister of State for Local Government (1997-2001)

11.05 Break

11.15 **Chair's opening remarks**

John Stevenson MP, Member, Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee

11.20 **Developing the infrastructure needed to support growth, building on existing knowledge and partnership frameworks, linking with existing local services, and building regional strengths**

Councillor Liam Robinson, Transport Portfolio Holder, Liverpool City Region Combined Authority

Laura Shoaf, Managing Director, Transport for West Midlands

Dr Patricia Greer, Chief Executive, West of England Combined Authority

Senior representative, investment

Questions and comments from the floor

12.25 Break

12.30 **Next steps for policy to drive economic growth across the UK and priorities for reducing regional economic inequalities**

Nigel Wilcock, Executive Director, Institute of Economic Development (IED)

Questions and comments from the floor

12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Social Policy Forum closing remarks**

John Stevenson MP, Member, Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee

Michael Ryan, Deputy Editor, Westminster Social Policy Forum