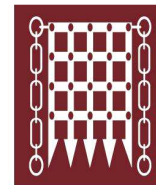


Westminster Social Policy Forum keynote seminar
Next steps for English towns and the Levelling Up White Paper

Timing: Morning, Wednesday, 12th January 2022

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



**WESTMINSTER
SOCIAL POLICY
FORUM**

Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Rt Hon the Lord Bassam of Brighton
- 9.05 **Developing the infrastructure needed to support economic development across towns in England**
Bridget Rosewell, Commissioner, National Infrastructure Commission
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 **Using the Towns Fund to create a legacy, boost the natural environment, and dovetail with net-zero priorities**
Glenn Caplin-Grey, Chief Executive, Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Local Enterprise Partnership and Service Director for Economic Growth, Cornwall Council
- 9.40 **Key issues for the future funding of regeneration projects and priorities for the allocation of Towns Funding**
Michelle Sacks, Joint Deputy Chief Executive (Place), Boston Borough Council and East Lindsey District Council
Joanna Rowelle, Director, Integrated City Planning, Arup; and Senior Responsible Officer, Towns Funds Delivery Partner
Senior representative, local authority
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.25 **Chair's closing remarks**
Rt Hon the Lord Bassam of Brighton
- 10.30 Break
- 10.55 **Chair's opening remarks**
Peter Aldous MP, Officer, All-Party Parliamentary Group for Town Centres
- 11.00 **Utilising local business and communities to drive economic growth and support left behind regions**
Baroness Jo Valentine, Director of Place, Business in the Community
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.25 **Priorities for regenerating and innovating high streets, and supporting high street businesses**
Bill Grimsey, former CEO, Wickes and Iceland; and Author, Grimsey Report
- 11.35 **Creating optimal conditions for economic growth and taking forward the Levelling Up White Paper - ensuring the right infrastructure is in place, building on local expertise, and making towns attractive places to live and work**
Dominic Curran, Policy Adviser, British Retail Consortium
Wayne Butcher, Director, Public Services Advisory, Grant Thornton
Gavin Bostock, Head of Corporate Affairs, The Go Ahead Group
Senior representative, Local Authority
Questions and comments from the floor with **Bill Grimsey**, former CEO, Wickes and Iceland; and Author, Grimsey Report
- 12.25 **Policy priorities for supporting towns in England**
Senior speaker confirmed from **Cities and Local Growth Unit**
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Social Policy Forum's closing remarks**
Peter Aldous MP, Officer, All-Party Parliamentary Group for Town Centres
Michael Ryan, Deputy Editor, Westminster Social Policy Forum