## Westminster Higher Education Forum keynote seminar: The future for freedom of speech in UK higher education

Timing: Morning, Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> April 2023

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

Agenda subject to change

HIGHER EDUCATION 8.30 Registration FORUM 9.00 Chair's opening remarks Baroness D'Souza 9.05 Freedom of speech and the higher education policy landscape **Lord Willetts**, former Minister for Universities and Science (2010-2014) Questions and comments from the floor 9.30 Break 9.35 Key issues for freedom of speech in higher education - definition of new duties and compliance with statutory requirements, provider governance and decision making structures, processes, and balancing competing duties Dr Bryn Harris, Chief Legal Counsel, Free Speech Union Gary Attle, Partner Head of Education and Governance, Mills and Reeve Dr Naomi Waltham-Smith, Reader and Chair, Academic Freedom Review Committee, University of Warwick Harry Anderson, Policy Manager, Universities UK Questions and comments from the floor 10.30 Chair's closing remarks **Baroness D'Souza** 10.35 Break 10.45 Chair's opening remarks **Baroness Janet Royall of Blaisdon** 10.50 Campus conduct and culture - understanding the nature and drivers of expression on campus, trends in student views and culture, providing avenues for debate and protest, and addressing harassment and discrimination Professor Bobby Duffy, Director, Policy Institute, King's College London Jordan Kiss, President, Durham Union Society Sabahat Khan, President, Sheffield Hallam Students' Union Questions and comments from the floor 11.40 Academic freedom, teaching and research - curricular design and reading lists, and considering possible implications for quality assurance and impacts on academic enquiry and debate Dr Alex Bols, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Guild HE Oscar Minto, Education Officer, University of Reading Students' Union Professor Tariq Modood, Professor of Sociology, Politics and Public Policy and Director, Research Centre for the Study of Ethnicity and Citizenship, University of Bristol Professor George Letsas, Reader in Philosophy of Law and Human Rights, University College London Questions and comments from the floor

12.25 Break

## 12.30 Regulation and freedom of speech in Higher Education going forward - registration conditions, complaints procedures, and the role of the director for freedom of speech

Andrew Boggs, Visiting Fellow, Oxford Centre for Higher Education Policy Studies

Questions and comments from the floor

## 12.55 <u>Chair's and Westminster Higher Education Forum closing remarks</u>

**Baroness Janet Royall of Blaisdon** 

Jessica Lear, Producer, Westminster Higher Education Forum