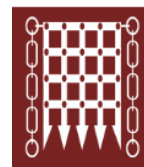


Westminster Higher Education Forum policy conference:

Widening participation and access to higher education

Timing: Morning, Wednesday 4th September, 2024

Taking Place Online



WESTMINSTER
EDUCATION
FORUM

Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 9.05 **Access and participation in Higher Education - assessing the current landscape and next steps**
Ben Jordan, Director, Strategy, UCAS
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 **Examining the process of creating access and participation provider plans (APPs) and maximising their utility**
Dr Andrew Ross, Head of Widening Access and Participation, University of Bath
- 9.40 **Addressing current barriers to widening higher education participation and access**
achieving positive outcomes for students | tackling drop-out rates | diversifying student intake | supporting specific groups | addressing the financial burden of university for some students | supporting graduates into high-skilled jobs
Professor Colin McCaig, Sheffield Institute of Education Research and Knowledge Exchange Centre, Sheffield Hallam University
Professor Graeme Atherton, Head of the Centre for Inequality and Levelling Up, University of West London
Dr Mary Mahoney, Trustee and Secretary, Universities Association for Lifelong Learning
Senior representative, student union
- 10.00 Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.25 **Chair's closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 10.35 Break
- 10.45 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 10.50 **Next steps for HEI collaboration with FE and schools**
information, guidance and clarity for students | technical and vocational routes | developing whole-system approaches with schools | improving relationships between HEIs, schools and the FE sector
Neil Raven, Independent Consultant, Neil Raven Consultancy
Nicola Sinclair, Head of Access, Participation and Outreach, and Director (Practice) Centre for Social Mobility, University of Exeter
Senior representative, school
Senior representative, further education
Student representative
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.40 **Expanding and diversifying routes into higher education**
Senior representative, alternative provision
- 11.50 **Alternative options for HEI provision and HEIs and local skills systems**
meeting local needs | priorities for upskilling | opportunities for mature learners | provision of part-time, distanced and flexible courses | non-traditional degree options | LLE rollout and impact
Nikki Anghileri, Head of Widening Participation, Centre for Teaching Excellence and Student Success, St Mary's University
Senior representative, university course design
Senior representative, local authority
Student representative
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.35 **Priorities for improving access to Higher Education moving forward**
Dr Omar Khan, CEO, Transforming Access and Outcomes in Higher Education
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Higher Education Forum closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
Sean Cudmore, Westminster Higher Education Forum