

## Westminster Higher Education Forum policy conference

The future of degree courses in Higher Education Institutions - student decisions and choices, national economic needs, HEI capacity and finances, and implications for the academic disciplines

Timing: Morning, Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2022

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



WESTMINSTER  
HIGHER EDUCATION  
FORUM

Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**  
Lord Lucas
- 9.05 **Demand for UK university courses - the current landscape, trends, and the capacity of the Higher Education sector now and into the future**  
Senior speaker confirmed from UCAS
- 9.15 **Alignment of HE course provision and economic needs - improving university-employer engagement, and assessing skills requirements, current contribution, and the value for money of qualifications**  
Professor Kiran Trehan, Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Partnerships and Engagement, University of York  
Clare Riley, Education Skills Lead, Microsoft UK  
Caitroina McCusker, Responsible Growth Lead, PwC UK  
Senior academic
- 9.35 Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.55 Break
- 10.00 **Options for growth in key courses - course designations, provider incentives, student number controls, differentiated tuition fees, and the impact on student choice and sector autonomy and finances**  
Sarah Cowan, Head of Policy, Higher Education and Skills, The British Academy  
Alexander Proudfoot, Chief Executive, Independent HE  
Professor Helena Gillespie, Professor of Learning and Teaching in Higher Education, and Associate Pro Vice Chancellor for Student Inclusion, University of East Anglia  
Senior representative, students  
Senior representative, university  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.00 **Chair's closing remarks**  
Lord Lucas
- 11.05 Break
- 11.15 **Chair's opening remarks**  
Senior Parliamentarian
- 11.20 **Social mobility and opportunity - considering the impacts of reform on marginalised and disadvantaged communities**  
Senior representative, social mobility
- 11.35 **Building capacity in key courses and disciplines - delivery costs, staff, facilities and equipment, providing industry placements, and maintaining quality of provision**  
Senior representative, academic staff  
Senior representative, university  
Senior representative, industry  
Senior representative, students
- 12.00 Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.25 Break
- 12.30 **Higher education and courses policy going forward**  
Anne Spinalli, Director for HE Reform and Funding, Department for Education  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Higher Education Forum closing remarks**  
Senior Parliamentarian  
Patrick Owen, Senior Researcher, Westminster Higher Education Forum