

## Westminster Higher Education Forum policy conference

### Next steps for higher technical education

Timing: Morning, Friday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2022

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



WESTMINSTER  
HIGHER EDUCATION  
FORUM

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**  
**Baroness Garden**, Vice Chair, All-Party Parliamentary Group for Further Education and Lifelong Learning
- 9.05 **Delivery of Higher Technical Qualifications - progress and next steps**  
**Cheryl Mendes**, Head of Higher Technical Education, Department for Education  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 Break
- 9.35 **Implementation priorities - support for providers, readiness and putting in place adequate capacity, harnessing the Growth Fund, and improving awareness and take-up**  
**Jacky Hinton**, Director of Apprenticeships and HTQs, The Open University  
**Rebecca Mameli**, Head of Higher Education Research and Qualifications, Pearson  
Senior representative, further education  
Senior representative, employer  
Senior commentator
- 10.00 **Learning from international best practice and developing a coherent system for England**  
**Simon Field**, Director, Skills Policy
- 10:10 Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.30 **Chair's closing remarks**  
**Baroness Garden**, Vice Chair, All-Party Parliamentary Group for Further Education and Lifelong Learning
- 10.35 Break
- 10.40 **Chair's opening remarks**  
Senior Parliamentarian
- 10.45 **HTQs in the wider skills system - progression from the new T Level qualifications and other post-16 qualifications, pathways to HE, and achieving a joined-up skills framework**  
**Parisa Shirazi**, Head of Skills Development and International Competition, WorldSkills UK  
**Professor Martin Jones**, Deputy Vice Chancellor, Staffordshire University  
**Steve Mariadas**, Chief Executive, South West Institute of Technology  
Senior representative, T Level provider  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11:30 Break
- 11.35 **Aligning HTQs with the needs of key sectors and upskilling the workforce**  
Senior representative, employer
- 11.45 **The role of HTQs post-pandemic - addressing regional and national skills shortages, meeting the needs of employers, and supporting economic recovery and social mobility**  
**David Hughes**, Chief Executive, Association of Colleges  
**Professor Graeme Atherton**, Head of the Centre for Levelling Up, University of West London; and Director, Neon  
Senior representative, employer  
Senior representative, local authority  
Senior representative, provider
- 12.10 Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.30 **Priorities for the approval scheme and the future outlook for HTQs**  
Senior representative, regulation  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Education Forum closing remarks**  
Senior Parliamentarian  
**Sean Cudmore**, Deputy Editor, Westminster Higher Education Forum