

Westminster Legal Policy Forum keynote conference:

Next steps for immigration policy in the UK

Timing: Morning, Wednesday, 2nd July 2025

Taking Place Online



WESTMINSTER
LEGAL POLICY
FORUM

Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 9.05 **Current trends in migration, underlying factors and implications for policy**
Rich Pereira, Deputy Director, Demography, Office for National Statistics
- 9.20 **Assessing the Immigration White Paper and priorities for the UK immigration system moving forward**
examining White Paper proposals and priorities for implementation | assessing the current points-based system and potential changes | developing a coordinated approach between Skills England, the Migration Advisory Committee and the Industrial Strategy Council | efficiency of eVisas and the transition to a fully digital immigration system | potential barriers for the digitally disadvantaged | implications of rising visa fees for migrants, public services and employers
Samar Shams, Managing Partner, Changes Immigration
Yasmin Halima, Executive Director, Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants
Matthew Percival, Director, People and Skills, CBI
Stephen Webb, Head, Government Reform and Home Affairs, Policy Exchange
Councillor Blerina Hashani, Cabinet member, Thriving Communities, Ealing Council
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.10 **Shaping immigration policy to support UK workforce and skills planning, and the MAC's role in developing a joined-up approach**
Professor Brian Bell, Chair, Migration Advisory Committee
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.35 **Chair's closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 10.40 Break
- 10.50 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 10.55 **Workforce planning and priorities for employers, higher education, affected stakeholders, and key agencies going forward**
coordinating immigration policy with domestic skills strategies | priorities for Skills England and other bodies in upskilling | addressing implications for sectors such as health and social care, hospitality, and IT | new laws requiring employers hiring gig economy workers to expand illegal working checks | priorities for the domestic workforce and planning for reduced reliance on migrant labour | UK attractiveness as a destination for international students | challenges for student recruitment and university funding | addressing dependence on international student fees for UK HEIs
Dhruv Krishnaraj, Director and Co-Founder, Student Circus
Gavin Edwards, Senior National Officer, Social Care, UNISON
Haleema Masud, Policy Adviser, International Students, UCAS
Marcia Longdon, Partner, Kingsley Napley
Senior representative, employer
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.45 **Implementing proposals in the White Paper, practicalities for integration, tackling modern slavery, and next steps for border security**
policy implementation | priorities for managing borders and controlling migration | effectiveness of enforcement policies | balancing security with human rights considerations | impact of reforms on protections against modern slavery | priorities for community cohesion and access to healthcare, housing and education | safeguarding strategies and addressing barriers to support | considering alternative approaches and international co-operation
Rico Wojtulewicz, Head, Policy and Market Insight, National Federation of Builders
Anita Hurrell, Head, Migrant Children's Programme, Coram Children's Legal Centre
Adam Sinfield, Immigration Director, Dentons UK and Middle East
Senior speaker confirmed from **Serco**
Senior representative, local authority
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.35 **Policy priorities moving forward**
Senior speaker confirmed from the **Home Office**
Questions and comments from the floor
- 13.00 **Chair's and Westminster Legal Policy Forum closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
Sean Cudmore, Westminster Legal Policy Forum