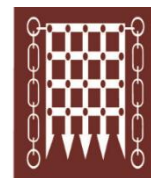


## Westminster Employment Forum policy conference:

### Next steps for labour market enforcement - the Fair Work Agency, employment rights and workplace relations

Timing: Morning, Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2026

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



WESTMINSTER  
EMPLOYMENT  
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Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**  
Senior Parliamentary
- 9.05 **The role and remit of the Fair Work Agency - first phase of delivery, organisational transition and operational priorities**  
**Matthew Taylor**, Chair, Fair Work Agency  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.35 **Assessing priorities for implementation of the Fair Work Agency's enforcement and compliance frameworks**  
*functions and powers inherited by the FWA / organisational capacity and service continuity during transition / balancing compliance support with investigation and sanctions / proportionality and fairness in enforcement / allocation of funding and resources / governance, accountability and reducing system fragmentation / extension of state enforcement to further employment rights / preparations for holiday pay enforcement / intelligence and data-led approaches to targeting activity / support for businesses, including smaller employers, with guidance and transition*  
Senior representative, employer  
Senior representative, trade union  
Senior representative, legal  
Senior commentator  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.25 **Priorities for businesses preparing for National Minimum Wage changes and enforcement**  
Senior representative, enforcement  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.45 **Chair's closing remarks**  
Senior Parliamentary
- 10.50 Break
- 11.00 **Chair's opening remarks**  
Senior Parliamentary
- 11.05 **Next steps for regulation of agency work, umbrella companies and the temporary labour market**  
*implications of the consultation on modernising the Agency Work Regulatory Framework / regulation of agencies and umbrella companies / allocation of responsibilities across complex labour supply chains / operation of the new PAYE joint and several liability rules / implications for agencies, umbrella companies and end clients / financial responsibility, due diligence and contractual arrangements / transparency around pay, deductions, contracts and employment rights / employment status and protections for self-employed, freelance and contracted labour / maintaining labour market flexibility and access to skilled temporary workers / workforce planning, administrative costs and business preparedness*  
Senior representative, agency  
Senior representative, workforce  
Senior representative, legal  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.40 **Labour market enforcement reform and priorities for workplace dispute resolution**  
**Baroness Jones of Whitchurch**, Chair, Acas  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.05 **Examining the future role of trade unions in labour market relations**  
**Nicola Smith**, Director, Policy and Analysis, Trades Union Congress
- 12.15 **Implications of the Employment Rights Act 2025 for workplace disputes collective employment relations**  
*implications of employment rights reform for workplace disputes and collective relations / interaction between FWA enforcement, Acas conciliation and the employment tribunal system / supporting early intervention and resolution / implications of the extension of employment tribunal time limits to six months / tribunal capacity and wider reform / enforcement of new Statutory Sick Pay measures / implementation of new trade union rights and responsibilities / reduced notice for industrial action, recognition processes and workplace access arrangements / employer duties to inform workers of their right to join a trade union / the expanded role of the Central Arbitration Committee / future relations between employers, workers, trade unions and enforcement bodies*  
Senior representative, employer  
Senior representative, SME  
Senior representative, legal
- 12.30 Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Employment Forum closing remarks**  
Senior Parliamentary  
**Harry Nelson**, Westminster Employment Forum