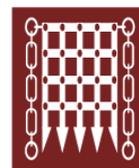


**Westminster Higher Education Forum policy conference:
Next steps for Lifelong Learning Entitlement**

Timing: Morning, Tuesday, 28th April 2026

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

Draft agenda subject to change



**WESTMINSTER
HIGHER EDUCATION
FORUM**

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 9.05 **The current landscape for the Lifelong Learning Entitlement and next steps for delivery**
Senior commentator
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 **Preparing for implementation of the LLE - funding, design, and delivery**
alignment with ambitions in the Post-16 Education and Skills White Paper and the modern Industrial Strategy | practicalities for translation of LLE policy into workable provision | implications for learners, employers and providers | regulatory readiness and provider transition timelines | sequencing implementation | minimising financial and administrative pressures | personal learner accounts and the Student Loans Company | positioning of the LLE within the wider post-16 qualification and funding landscape, including devolved and local skills funding | clarifying interactions between the LLE and the Growth and Skills Levy | employer engagement | financial sustainability priorities for providers scalability of modular delivery models | data sharing, learner tracking and reporting requirements
Professor Harriet Dunbar-Morris, Professor of Higher Education, Visiting Fellow at Oxford Lifelong Learning, University of Oxford
Andrew Harding, Secretary General, CIMA
Senior representative, FE
Senior representative, employer
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.25 **Supporting delivery of modular learning and LLE development within institutions - partnerships, pathways, and progress**
Sandra Binns, Policy Advisor, Universities UK
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.45 **Chair's closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 10.50 Break
- 11.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Lord Knight of Weymouth, Co-Chair, APPG Future of Work; and former Minister of State, Education and Skills, School and 14-19 Learners (2006-2007)
- 11.05 **Quality assurance in modular learning**
Helena Vine, Lead Policy Officer, England, Quality Assurance Agency
- 11.15 **Designing and delivering modular and flexible learning programmes**
balancing flexibility with programme coherence | effective models for employer engagement in module design | managing co-design without narrowing provision | supporting credit transfer systems | approaches to structuring modules that support progression | achieving recognition across institutions and sectors | portability between FE and HE providers | consistency of quality assurance
Pascal Paschoud, Director, Formation Continue UNIL-EPFL; and President, European University Continuing Education Network
Senior representative, HE
Senior representative FE
Senior commentator
- 11.25 Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.40 **Supporting workforce development and addressing skills gaps**
Senior representative, employer
- 11.50 **Widening participation and developing employment pathways**
Strategies for effectively accommodating prior learning, varied career stages and caring responsibilities | considering barriers linked to cost, debt aversion and time commitment | next steps for driving for take-up and participation | outreach, guidance and awareness-building | supporting quality alongside efficiency and accessibility | addressing skills needs in priority sectors and workforce mobility | improving access for underrepresented and disadvantaged learners | priorities for regional upskilling and workforce development pathways | promoting partnerships between employers and HEIs | implications of exclusion of postgraduate study from the LLE | supporting learner and employer awareness
Dr Alice Wilby, Pro Vice-Chancellor, Education and Student Experience, University of Northampton
Senior representative, FE
Senior representative, employer
Senior commentator
- 12.10 Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.30 **Policy priorities for the Lifelong Learning Entitlement and next steps for preparation for 2027 delivery**
Senior representative, policy
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Higher Education Forum closing remarks**
Lord Knight of Weymouth, Co-Chair, APPG Future of Work; and former Minister of State, Education and Skills, School and 14-19 Learners (2006-2007)
Sean Cudmore, Westminster Higher Education Forum