Westminster Higher Education Forum policy conference
Evidence-based policymaking - next steps for academic and industry research in policy development
Date: Morning, Friday, 4th December 2020
Taking Place Online

Agenda subject to change

8.30   Registration

9.00   **Chair's opening remarks**
        Sir Bernard Jenkin MP, Chair, Liaison Committee

9.05   **The state of play for evidence-based policymaking - current challenges and next steps**
        Dr Grant Hill-Cawthorne, Head, Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology
        Questions and comments from the floor

9.30   **Strategies for improving engagement and co-operation between academia, business and policymakers**
        Dr Malcolm Skingle, Head of Academic Liaison, GlaxoSmithKline
        Dr Stuart Thomson, Head of Public Affairs, BDB Pitmans
        Dr Joe Marshall, Chief Executive Officer, National Centre for Universities and Business
        Dr Lindsey Pike, PolicyBristol Associate and Impact and Policy Engagement Manager, University of Bristol
        Questions and comments from the floor

10.20   Break

10.25   **Challenges in delivering evidence-based policymaking during exceptional circumstances such as the COVID-19 pandemic**

        Behavioural science in policymaking - the nudge theory, behavioural fatigue, and factors determining future use
        Dr David Halpern, Chief Executive Officer, The Behavioural Insights Team

        Policy and competing demands - public health and the economy, and short-term, long-term and knock-on effects
        Professor Federica Angeli, The York Management School, University of York

        Questions and comments from the floor

10.55   **Chair's closing remarks**
        Sir Bernard Jenkin MP, Chair, Liaison Committee

11.00   Break

11.15   **Chair's opening remarks**
        Debbie Abrahams MP

11.20   **Improving the acceptance of evidence-based policy - education and scientific literacy, digital poverty and the spread of disinformation, and guarding against the deepening of societal divisions**
        Dr Rasmus Nielsen, Professor of Political Communication and Director, Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism, University of Oxford
        Dr Emma Stone, Director of Design, Research and Communications, Good Things Foundation
        Questions and comments from the floor

11.55   **The use of data in policymaking - clarifying needs, finding what works, and strategies for creating an integrated system**

        Improving the delivery of social services
        Dr Claire Craig, Provost, The Queen's College, University of Oxford

        Use of data modelling in policymaking
        Professor Deirdre Hollingsworth, Senior Group Leader, Big Data Institute, University of Oxford

        Questions and comments from the floor

12.25   Break

12.30   **'The realities of *actually* using evidence and expertise to inform policy'**
        Chris Webber, Head, Open Innovation Team, Cabinet Office
        Louis Coiffait, Senior Policy Advisor, Open Innovation Team, Cabinet Office
        Questions and comments from the floor

12.55   **Chair's and Westminster Higher Education Forum closing remarks**
        Debbie Abrahams MP
        Sean Cudmore, Deputy Editor, Westminster Higher Education Forum