

Westminster Social Policy Forum conference:
Next steps for development of the Oxford-Cambridge Corridor
Timing: Afternoon, Wednesday, 16th December 2026
*****Taking Place Online*****



Draft agenda subject to change

- 12.30 Registration
- 13.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
 Senior Parliamentary
- 13.05 **Assessing progress and considering next steps in developing the Oxford-Cambridge Growth Corridor**
 Senior academic
 Questions and comments from the floor
- 13.25 **Priorities for innovation and scaling key sectors across the corridor**
reducing barriers to business growth | Investment Prospectus and Supercluster Board vision | research commercialisation, university-industry collaboration and scaling spin-outs | later-stage finance, commercial space, laboratory capacity and R&D hubs | Culham AI Growth Zone and infrastructure for AI and data-intensive sectors | local skills gaps and employment pathways | connectivity between research and business centres | domestic and international investment | Local Innovation Partnership Fund | local supply chains and sharing employment benefits | visitor economy and opportunities associated with Universal Bedford
 Senior representative, university
 Senior representative, industry
 Senior representative, skills
 Senior representative, AI
 Questions and comments from the floor
- 14.10 **Supporting international investment into the Oxford-Cambridge Growth Corridor**
 Senior representative, investment
 Questions and comments from the floor
- 14.30 **Chair's closing remarks**
 Senior Parliamentary
- 14.35 Break
- 14.45 **Chair's opening remarks**
 Senior Parliamentary
- Devolution, governance and priorities for growth**
- 14.50 **Implementing new powers and supporting inclusive economic development across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough**
Judith Barker, Executive Director, Place and Economy, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority
- 15.00 **Delivering housing, jobs and growth across Oxfordshire**
Dr Martin Reeves, Chief Executive, Oxfordshire County Council
- 15.10 Questions and comments from the floor
- 15.30 **Regulatory priorities for environmentally responsible and resilient growth and development**
Sarah Trouw, Programme Director, Oxford to Cambridge Team, Environment Agency
- 15.40 **Delivering housing and infrastructure across the Oxford-Cambridge Corridor - planning, connectivity and major development**
proposed new towns at Tempsford and Milton Keynes and priorities for other strategic sites | draft New Towns Programme, New Towns Planning Policy and Strategic Environmental Assessment | NPPF reform, viability challenges and development certainty | applying the up to £800m for land acquisition and infrastructure | land release, CPOs, enabling works and infrastructure finance | East West Rail and wider transport priorities | electricity and grid capacity | data centres and NSIP regime | sequencing housing with transport, utilities and public services | water availability, wastewater capacity and Fens Reservoir | nature recovery and climate adaptation | rural communities, housing affordability and local participation | construction and supply chain capacity
 Senior representative, transport
 Senior representative, local authority
 Senior representative, housing
 Senior representative, water
 Senior representative, community
- 16.05 Questions and comments from the floor
- 16.30 **Policy priorities for delivering the Oxford-Cambridge Growth Corridor strategy**
 Senior representative, policy
 Questions and comments from the floor
- 16.55 **Chair's and Westminster Social Policy Forum closing remarks**
 Senior Parliamentary
Harry Nelson, Westminster Social Policy Forum