

Westminster Higher Education Forum policy conference
Next steps for improving quality and standards in HE - new regulation, implementation, course development, funding, assessment and qualifications

Timing: Morning, Monday, 21st February 2022

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



**WESTMINSTER
HIGHER EDUCATION
FORUM**

Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 9.05 **The quality of UK higher education moving forward from the pandemic - priorities for the sector**
Dr Charlotte Snelling, Policy Manager, Universities UK
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 **New regulations and key issues for implementation - developing a principles-based approach, accounting for provider diversity, avoiding undue bureaucratic burden, and the support needed by HEIs**
Carmai Pestell, Registrar, TEDI-London
Smita Jamdar, Partner, Head of Education Team, Shakespeare Martineau
Senior representative, university
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.05 Break
- 10.10 **Developing high-quality courses that are challenging and current - curricula and pedagogic approaches, using remote and blended learning, access to support and resources, and aligning course standards with employer needs**
Sarah Knight, Head of Learning and Teaching Transformation, Jisc
Senior representative, student union
Senior representative, university
Senior academic
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.50 **Chair's closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 10.55 Break
- 11.05 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 11.10 **What is needed from funding levels and grants to support improvement in HE standards and the capacity of providers to comply with changing regulations**
Sally Burtonshaw, Senior Policy and Advocacy Officer, London Higher
Senior representative, university
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.35 **Tackling grade inflation and safeguarding the quality of HE degrees**
Alex Bols, Deputy CEO, GuildHE
- 11.45 **Next steps for assessment and qualifications - tackling grade inflation, improving employer confidence in degree standards, and delivering value for money**
Senior representative, employer
Senior representative, university
Senior commentator
- 12.00 Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.25 Break
- 12.30 **The way forward for driving up standards in HE assessment**
Professor Andrew Wathey, Chair, UK Standing Committee for Quality Assessment; and Vice Chancellor and Chief Executive, Northumbria University
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Higher Education Forum closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
Sean Cudmore, Deputy Editor, Westminster Higher Education Forum