

Westminster Higher Education Forum policy conference:

Next steps for the Research Excellence Framework

Timing: Morning, Tuesday 5th March 2024

Taking place online



WESTMINSTER
HIGHER EDUCATION
FORUM

Agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Dr Sarah Fahle, Head of Research Impact, UK Health Security Agency
- 9.05 **The future of the Research Excellence Framework and findings from the initial period of consultation for the next REF**
Rebecca Fairbairn, Director of REF, Research England
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.40 **Key issues for REF 2029**
The initial high-level design | Implications of the delay | Implementation | Submissions | Likely impact on research culture and incentives
Professor James Wilsdon, Executive Director, Research on Research Institute; and Professor of Research Policy, University College London
Anna Grey, Director of Research and Innovation Services, University of Dundee
Elizabeth Garcha, Head of Research Quality and Impact, University of Leeds
Dr Alex Lewis, Director of Research, The British Academy
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.45 **Assessing qualitative changes to HEI research culture and implications of the REF**
Rachel Hewitt, Chief Executive, MillionPlus Association for Modern Universities
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.15 Break
- 11.25 **REF in the research landscape**
Research funding | Assessing the future role of the REF in national research strategy | Performance incentives
Dr Annamaria Carusi, Director, Interchange Research
Dr Karen Clegg, Director, Research Super-Vision Project, University of York
Dr Alexandra Freeman, Director, Octopus Publishing CIC
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.15 **Finding shared principles in research assessment**
Marta Agostinho, Executive Director, EU-LIFE
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.45 **Concluding remarks**
Rebecca Fairbairn, Director of REF, Research England
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Higher Education Forum closing remarks**
Dr Sarah Fahle, Head of Research Impact, UK Health Security Agency
Sean Cudmore, Deputy Editor, Westminster Higher Education Forum