

## Westminster Higher Education Forum policy conference:

### Next steps for the Research Excellence Framework

Timing: Morning, Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> 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 Strategy, 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