

**Westminster Higher Education Forum policy conference:
Tackling sexual harassment within UK HEIs - policy, prevention and reporting**

Timing: Morning, Monday, 13th January 2025

*****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 **Priorities for addressing sexual misconduct and harassment in HE**
Sophie Ireland, Policy Adviser, Universities UK
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 **Next steps for strengthening reporting mechanisms and understanding trends in student reports of sexual harassment**
evaluating the effectiveness of existing frameworks | improving institution transparency | student confidence in reporting mechanisms
David Hardstaff, Partner, BCL Solicitors
Amara Relf, Equality and Liberation Officer, Leeds University Union
Senior representative, university
Senior representative, advocacy
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.15 **'Reviewing student complaints processes'**
Jo Nuckley, Head, Outreach and Insight, Office of the Independent Adjudicator
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.35 **Chair's closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 10.40 Break
- 10.50 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 10.55 **Developing whole-university approaches for tackling misconduct**
strengthening leadership and governance to improve accountability | evaluating strategies and policies to promote cultural change and transparency in decision-making processes | standardising definitions of harassment and misconduct | appropriately regulating staff-student relationships
Lisa Ravenscroft, Communications Manager, ProtectED
Lisa Brooks-Lewis, Social Impact and Inclusivity Manager, Loughborough University
Professor Graham Towl, Professor, Psychology and Fellow, Wolfson Research Institute for Health and Wellbeing, Durham University
Senior representative, student union
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.40 **Improving multi-agency co-ordination in responses to sexual harassment and abuse**
Stephanie Reardon, CEO, Lime Culture
- 11.50 **Strategies to improve off-campus safety**
university policy and practical measures | partnerships with local services and communities | non-university student accommodation | the role of HEIs in wider community safety
Senior representative, local authority
Senior representative, university
Senior representative, police
Senior representative, student union
Senior representative, mental health
- 12.10 Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.35 **Policy priorities for addressing sexual harassment and misconduct in HEIs**
Senior representative, policy
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Higher Education Forum closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
Sean Cudmore, Westminster Higher Education Forum