

Westminster Higher Education Forum policy conference

Tackling sexual harassment in higher education - policy, prevention and reporting

Timing: Morning, Friday, 16th October 2026

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 **Sector priorities for tackling sexual harassment and misconduct in higher education**
Dr Aleata Alstad-Calkins, Director, Student and Library Services, Anglia Ruskin University; and Chair, AMOSSHE, The Student Services Organisation
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 **Strengthening institutional approaches to prevention, reporting and response under Condition E6**
prominence, accessibility and cohort-specific clarity of providers' single comprehensive sources of information | learning from implementation so far | developing accessible and proportionate policies, reporting routes and support pathways | arrangements for smaller and specialist providers, including shared resources and partnership working | building internal capability and access to specialist expertise | alignment of E6 implementation with student wellbeing, safeguarding and prevention strategies | approaches to trauma-informed practice
Senior representative, university
Senior representative, students' union
Senior representative, advocacy
Senior representative, legal
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.15 **Reporting, investigations and case handling under E6 - procedural fairness and implications of revised OIA guidance**
Jo Nuckley, Head, Outreach and Insight Team, Office of the Independent Adjudicator for Higher Education
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.40 **Chair's closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 10.45 Break
- 10.55 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 11.00 **Institutional leadership, accountability and whole-university approaches to prevention and response**
board-level oversight, leadership responsibility and clear lines of accountability | institutional capability and resourcing under E6 | using complaints learning, OIA reporting trends and internal monitoring to support improvement | evaluating prevention activity and mandatory training | freedom of speech and the design of training and institutional policies, services and student-facing processes | staff-to-student misconduct, professional boundaries and power imbalances | implementing restrictions on use of NDAs | building transparency and student confidence
Zaid Altikriti, Co-President, Welfare and Liberation, SOAS Students' Union
Senior representative, university
Senior representative, advocacy
Senior commentator
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.45 **Developing multi-agency responses to sexual harassment and misconduct**
Senior representative, support organisation
- 11.55 **Student safety on and off campus - co-ordination across different settings, online abuse and student support**
safety in student accommodation, neighbourhoods and public spaces | co-ordination between universities, accommodation providers, local authorities, police, sexual assault referral centres and specialist support services | information sharing, safeguarding and escalation where incidents take place beyond university premises | safer routes, lighting, CCTV and night-time economy initiatives | local violence against women and girls strategies, Safer Streets measures and implementation of the Protection from Sex-based Harassment in Public Act 2023 | preventing and responding to online abuse, image-based offences and illegal online content | reporting, student support and disciplinary responses where misconduct takes place online | responsibilities where university-operated online services fall within the scope of the Online Safety Act
Senior representative, local authority
Senior representative, police
Senior representative, university
Senior commentator
- 12.15 Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.35 **Policy priorities for tackling sexual harassment and misconduct in higher education**
Senior representative, policy
Questions and comments from the floor
- 13.00 **Chair's and Westminster Higher Education Forum closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
Sean Cudmore, Westminster Higher Education Forum