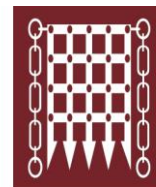


## Westminster Social Policy Forum keynote seminar

### The future of social security - adaptation, restructuring, support for vulnerable people, and tackling unemployment

Timing: Morning, Tuesday, 1<sup>st</sup> February 2022

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



WESTMINSTER  
SOCIAL POLICY  
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*Draft agenda subject to change*

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**  
**Debbie Abrahams MP**, Member, Work and Pensions Committee
- 9.05 **Key and emerging issues for the structure of financial support provided to working age people in the UK, and priorities for meeting the ongoing challenge of the pandemic**  
**Dr Stephen Brien**, Chair, Social Security Advisory Committee  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.35 Break
- 9.40 **Stakeholder perspectives on the future of social security in England - impact of COVID-19 on social security, the ongoing rollout of Universal Credit, and making sure the system works for vulnerable groups and others who need it most**
- Alison Garnham**, Chief Executive, Child Poverty Action Group
- Gavin Rice**, Head of Work and Welfare Policy Unit, The Centre for Social Justice
- Councillor Mufeedah Bustin**, Cabinet Member for Social Inclusion and Public Realm, Tower Hamlets Council
- Angela Harrington**, Director of Inclusive Economy, Manchester City Council
- Senior representative, claimant
- Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.45 **Chair's closing remarks**  
**Debbie Abrahams MP**, Member, Work and Pensions Committee
- 10.50 Break
- 11.00 **Chair's opening remarks**  
**Nigel Mills MP**, Member, Work and Pensions Committee
- 11.05 **Latest thinking on reducing unemployment and boosting skills amongst young people - next steps for social mobility and addressing inequality in the provision of training and education opportunities for school leavers**  
**Robert Joyce**, Deputy Director, Institute for Fiscal Studies  
Senior representative, further education  
Senior representative, careers  
Senior representative, young people's group  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.45 Break
- 11.50 **Support through the social security system for those who can go back into work - innovation and improvement in services for job-seekers and their delivery, and improving links with employers and training and education providers**  
**Matthew Oakley**, Director, WPI Economics  
Senior representative, job seeker services  
Senior representative, training provider  
Senior representative, local authority  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.30 **Policy priorities for adapting the social security system to meet future challenges**  
Senior representative, policy  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Social Policy Forum closing remarks**  
**Nigel Mills MP**, Member, Work and Pensions Committee  
**Michael Ryan**, Deputy Editor, Westminster Social Policy Forum