

Westminster Social Policy Forum conference:
Next steps for regional spatial planning in England
Timing: Morning, Thursday, 28th January 2027
*****Taking Place Online*****



**WESTMINSTER
SOCIAL POLICY
FORUM**

Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentary
- 9.05 **Assessing key reform to planning policy in England and considerations for cross-boundary coordination**
Senior commentator
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 **Priorities for Spatial Development Strategies - development, sector coordination, and supporting regional growth**
preparation, consultation and examination of SDSs / geographies, strategic planning boards and representation of constituent councils / governance and accountability at different stages of devolution / general conformity and transition for Local Plans, including site allocations and existing plans / apportioning housing need across authority boundaries / evidence on housing, employment land, infrastructure and environmental capacity / community and stakeholder engagement / capacity and resourcing, including parallel Local Plan work / the Land Use Framework and Local Nature Recovery Strategies
Senior representative, spatial planning
Senior representative, consultancy
Senior representative, local authority
Senior representative, housing
Senior representative, utilities
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.25 **Developing the West Midlands Spatial Development Strategy - the approach and what has been learned**
Leo Pollak, Head, Policy, West Midlands Combined Authority
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.50 **Chair's closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentary
- 10.55 Break
- 11.05 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentary
- 11.10 **Strategic spatial planning and infrastructure investment - priorities, coordination and implications for delivery**
Greg McClymont, Head, Infrastructure Spatial Planning, National Infrastructure and Service Transformation Authority
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.35 **Delivering strategic growth - development powers, funding and implementation**
funding infrastructure and who bears cost and risk / Mayoral Community Infrastructure Levy, developer contributions and public investment / viability and affordable housing / Mayoral Development Corporations, land assembly and regeneration / implementation of mayoral call-in and Mayoral Development Order powers, including relationships with local planning authorities / interaction with the 10 Year Infrastructure Strategy, NISTA priorities and NSIPs / sequencing infrastructure with development / long-term pipelines and certainty for developers, investors and infrastructure providers
Senior representative, legal
Senior representative, spatial planning
Senior representative, infrastructure
Senior representative, regeneration
Senior representative, investment
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.30 **Implementing spatial planning reform - priorities for policy**
Kevin Reid, Head, Strategic Planning, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Social Policy Forum closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentary
Harry Nelson, Westminster Social Policy Forum