

Westminster Media Forum policy conference:

Next steps for the UK sports sector - funding, governance and widening participation

Timing: Morning, Tuesday, 12th May 2026

Taking Place Online



WESTMINSTER
MEDIA FORUM

Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 9.05 **Assessing key issues for governance, funding and safeguarding across the sports sector in the UK**
Senior commentator
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 **Preparing funding applications, infrastructure delivery and widening participation**
Oliver Scadgell, Managing Director, Tennis Development, Lawn Tennis Association
- 9.40 **Considerations for funding distribution and the use of investment in grassroots facilities**
criteria and process for accessing the new grassroots facilities funding / meeting strengthened governance and safeguarding standards / demonstrating inclusive participation and community benefit / capabilities and support needed to meet governance and safeguarding expectations / balancing national priorities with local delivery / scope for local flexibility within national funding and governance frameworks / future of multi-sport hubs and shared facilities / local approaches to planning, funding and managing facilities, including maintenance responsibilities / supporting long-term use beyond initial capital investment
Senior representative, grassroots organisation
Senior representative, partnerships
Senior representative, local authority
Senior representative, investment
- 10.00 Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.25 **Strategies for improving financial resilience - revenue models, governance standards and sustainability**
developing resilient funding models for grassroots sport / role of governance standards in supporting long-term sustainability / inclusive facilities and widening participation / interaction between capital and revenue funding for long-term maintenance / approaches to financial planning and meeting transparency requirements across the system / role of national sports bodies in supporting financial resilience / climate resilience and environmental sustainability
Senior representative, national governing body
Senior representative, professional league
Senior representative, grassroots organisation
Senior representative, commercial
Senior analyst
- 11.15 **Chair's closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 11.20 Break
- 11.30 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 11.35 **Taking forward key recommendations from the UK Sport Councils' Safe Sport Report**
Senior representative, sport council
- 11.45 **Safeguarding and sector regulation - developing trust, improving diversity and widening participation**
strengthening safeguarding culture across sport / supporting effective oversight and assurance / what organisations need to have in place to meet safeguarding expectations in practice, including clubs and national governing bodies / developing a robust complaints and resolution function / how accountability mechanisms may need to develop across clubs, local networks and delivery partners / expectations on diversity and inclusion / tackling online abuse / priorities for the Women's Sport Taskforce on equal access, online abuse and facilities / developing a diverse and representative community / next steps for diverse leadership within national governing bodies and grassroots organisations
Senior representative, national governing body
Senior representative, professional club
Senior representative, advocacy
Senior representative, legal
- 12.05 Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.30 **The way forward for financial distribution to support sector resilience**
Senior speaker confirmed from **Sport England**
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Media Forum closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
Thomas Howard, Westminster Media Forum