

## Westminster Business Forum policy conference:

### Next steps for the UK subsidy control regime

Timing: Morning, Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> March 2024

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



WESTMINSTER  
BUSINESS  
FORUM

Agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**  
**Stephen Street**, Senior Government Lawyer, Government Legal Department
- 9.05 **Policy implementation so far - assessing strategic effectiveness**  
**Professor Suzanne Rab**, Barrister, Serle Court Chambers  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.25 **Case study: the application process for subsidy control in action**  
**Robert Shaw**, Chief of Staff, Innovate UK
- 9.35 **Stakeholder views on the Subsidy Control Act 2022**  
*Key issues with policy implementation | Addressing concerns regarding the self-assessment process | Learning from recent case studies to ensure a more effective state aid process moving forward*  
**Ciara Kennedy-Loest**, Partner, Hogan Lovells  
**Nicole Robins**, Partner, Oxera  
**Amy Harhoff**, Corporate Director, Regeneration Economy and Growth, Durham County Council  
**Marie Mackintosh**, Subsidy Control Manager, Highlands and Islands Enterprise
- 9.50 Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.20 **Options for alternative policy approaches**  
**William Bain**, Head of Trade Policy, British Chambers of Commerce  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.45 **Chair's closing remarks**  
**Stephen Street**, Senior Government Lawyer, Government Legal Department
- 10.50 Break
- 11.00 **Chair's opening remarks**  
**Nicole Robins**, Partner, Oxera
- 11.05 **Regulation and appeals**  
*Examining the role so far of the Subsidy Advice Unit and Competition Appeal Tribunal | The effectiveness of assisting in enforcing and regulating the Subsidy Control Act 2022*  
**Sir Marcus Smith**, President, Competition Appeal Tribunal  
**Rachel Merelie**, Senior Director, Office for the Internal Market and Subsidy Advice Unit, Competition and Markets Authority  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.50 **Contributing to the economy and wider UK policy goals**  
*Reviewing the role of streamlined routes in promoting growth | Increasing investment and encouraging research | Further development and innovation | Supporting the UK's transition to net zero and levelling up policies*  
**Nigel Wilcock**, Executive Director, Institute for Economic Development  
**David Trapp**, Managing Associate, Simmons & Simmons  
**Kieran McGaughey**, Director, Lawyers in Local Government  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.30 **Next steps for UK subsidy control and policy priorities moving forward**  
**Tessa Robins**, Deputy Director, Subsidy Control, Department for Business and Trade  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Business Forum closing remarks**  
**Nicole Robins**, Partner, Oxera  
**Alice Burgess**, Senior Researcher, Westminster Business Forum