

Westminster Business Forum policy conference:

Next steps for the UK subsidy control regime

Timing: Morning, Friday, 15th March 2024

Taking Place Online



WESTMINSTER
BUSINESS
FORUM

Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Chair to be confirmed
- 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**
Chair to be confirmed
- 10.50 Break
- 11.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Chair to be confirmed
- 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
- 11.45 **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
Senior representative, SME
Senior representative, local authority
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.35 Break
- 12.40 **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
- 13.10 **Chair's and Westminster Business Forum closing remarks**
Chair to be confirmed
Peter van Gelder, Director, Westminster Business Forum