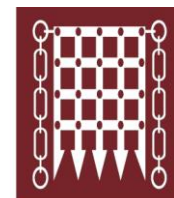


Westminster Social Policy Forum keynote seminar
The future for the Northern Powerhouse - policy priorities, investment and growth, and next steps for infrastructure development

Timing: Morning, Tuesday, 8th September 2020

Venue: Central Manchester



**WESTMINSTER
SOCIAL POLICY
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Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 - 9.00 Registration and coffee
- 9.00 - 9.05 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 9.05 - 9.30 **Strategic priorities for the Northern Powerhouse**
Henri Murison, Director, Northern Powerhouse Partnership
Questions and comments from the floor
- Delivering economic growth across the Powerhouse and attracting businesses and investment**
- 9.30 - 9.40 *Balancing regional economic priorities, attracting investment, and implementing Local Industrial Strategies*
Councillor Iain Malcolm, Leader, South Tyneside Council and Chair, North East Combined Authority
- 9.40 - 9.50 *Tackling the productivity-gap, developing skills, harnessing new technology, and utilising growing opportunities for business*
Miranda Barker, Chief Executive, East Lancashire Chamber of Commerce
- 9.50 - 10.00 *Strategies for establishing world-leading R&D facilities across the Powerhouse*
Dr Aulay Mackenzie, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Partnerships, Wrexham Glyndwr University
- 10.00 - 10.10 *Achieving success across the Powerhouse in progress towards net-zero emissions and priorities for improving natural capital*
Sarah Davies, Northern Powerhouse Lead, Environment Agency
- 10.10 - 10.40 Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.40 - 10.45 **Chair's closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 10.45 - 11.15 Coffee
- 11.15 - 11.20 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- Next steps for infrastructure development in the North - connectivity, value for money, and maximising the economic impact**
- 11.20 - 11.30 *Future housing developments and creating a 'construction corridor'*
Tracy Harrison, Chief Executive, Northern Housing Consortium
- 11.30 - 11.40 *The future for rail infrastructure in the region - building trust in the network and moving forward with Northern Powerhouse Rail*
Tim Wood, Northern Powerhouse Rail Director, Transport for the North
- 11.40 - 11.50 *Priorities for HS2 - policy certainty, cost-efficient services and engaging with communities, and contribution to economic growth*
Senior representative, high speed rail
- 11.50 - 12.00 *Expanding digital infrastructure, improving the quality of service, and accelerating 5G rollout*
Alex Towers, Director, Policy and Public Affairs, BT
- 12.00 - 12.25 Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.25 - 12.55 **Next steps for policy in the Northern Powerhouse**
Senior speaker to be announced
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 - 13.00 **Chair's and Westminster Social Policy Forum closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
Michael Ryan, Deputy Editor, Westminster Social Policy Forum