

**Westminster Higher Education Forum Keynote Seminar**  
**The future of UK research and development - implementing the R&D Roadmap**

Date: Morning, Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2021

\*\*\*Taking place online\*\*\*

Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**  
**Daniel Zeichner MP**, Shadow Minister for Food, Farming and Rural Affairs
- 9.05 **The state of play for research and development in the UK and implementing the Roadmap**  
**David Rogers**, Deputy Director, Strategy Investment, UKRI  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 **Next steps for supporting innovation in the UK**  
**Alice Frost**, Director of Knowledge Exchange, Research England  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.55 Break
- 10.00 **The way forward for international collaboration in R&D and retaining international research talent in the UK**  
**Stephanie Smith**, Head of Policy, Russell Group  
**Professor Simon Goldhill**, Professor of Greek Literature and Culture, University of Cambridge and Foreign Secretary, The British Academy  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.30 **Next steps forward for research and development**  
**Amanda Solloway MP**, Minister for Science, Research and Innovation  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.00 **Chair's closing remarks**  
**Daniel Zeichner MP**, Shadow Minister for Food, Farming and Rural Affairs
- 11.05 Break
- 11.15 **Chair's opening remarks**  
**Lord Bilimoria**, President, UK Council for International Student Affairs; Chancellor, University of Birmingham and Vice-President, CBI
- 11.20 **The R&D system and supporting economic recovery following the COVID-19 pandemic**  
  
*Improving productivity across businesses and the workforce*  
**Dr Jun Du**, Professor of Economics, Aston Business School and Centre Director, Lloyds Banking Group Centre for Business Prosperity  
  
*Local economic recovery and growth, and the Strength in Places Fund*  
**Dr Carol Clugston**, Project Director, Strength in Places Fund  
  
*Digital development and innovation in the UK*  
**Lauren Kisser**, Director, Alexa AI, Amazon Development Centre, Cambridge  
  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.05 Break
- 12.10 **Developing a joined-up system - fostering effective collaboration between researchers, policymakers and businesses**  
  
*Streamlining the research funding process, reducing bureaucracy and supporting early-career researchers*  
Commentator  
  
*Supporting effective collaboration between researchers and policymakers*  
**Dr Nicola Heron**, Head of Collaborative R&D, Medicines Discovery Catapult

*Boosting business-led innovation in the UK*

**Dr Phil Harper**, Founder and Chief Technology Officer, Tribosonics

Questions and comments from the floor

12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Higher Education Forum closing remarks**

**Lord Bilimoria**, President, UK Council for International Student Affairs; Chancellor, University of Birmingham and Vice-President, CBI

**Sean Cudmore**, Deputy Editor, Westminster Higher Education Forum