

**Westminster Higher Education Forum policy conference**  
**UK universities and their contribution to local and regional development - the developing policy landscape, opportunities, practicalities, and impact**

Date: Morning, Monday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2021

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



- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**  
**Lord Lucas**
- 9.05 **UK universities and their developing role in regional development**  
**Richard Brabner**, Director, UPP Foundation and Member, Steering Group, Civic University Commission  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 **Improving knowledge exchange between universities and industry**  
**Phil Baty**, Chief Knowledge Officer, Times Higher Education
- 9.40 **The role of universities in supporting local recovery and growth in the wake of the pandemic - developing effective partnerships between HEIs, councils and businesses, and priorities in areas where the impact has been greatest**  
**Dr Joe Marshall**, Chief Executive Officer, National Centre for Universities and Business  
**Simon Foy**, Head of Intelligence, Policy & Housing, Leeds City Council  
**Professor Julia Bennell**, Executive Dean, Leeds University Business School, University of Leeds  
**Nigel Wilcock**, Executive Director, Institute of Economic Development and Managing Director, Mickledore Senior representative, business
- 10.00 Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.25 Break
- 10.30 **Next steps for the Strength in Places Fund**  
**Dame Kate Barker**, Chair, Strength in Places Panel  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.55 **Chair's closing remarks**  
**Lord Lucas**
- 11.00 Break
- 11.10 **Chair's opening remarks**  
**Daniel Zeichner MP**, Chair, All-Party Parliamentary Group on Universities
- 11.15 **'Community engagement in higher education: new developments in Europe and future directions'**  
**Thomas Farnell**, Higher Education Policy Expert, Institute for the Development of Education, Zagreb, Croatia
- 11.25 **Measuring the local impact of UK universities**  
**Professor Simon Collinson**, Deputy Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Regional Engagement, University of Birmingham and Director, West Midlands Regional Economic Development Institute and CITY-REDI
- 11.35 Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.50 **Focus areas for providing place-based benefits**  
*Contributing to regional healthcare capacity and workforce development*  
Senior representative, health  
*Next steps for HEI outreach to local schools*  
Senior representative, university  
*Improving collaboration between the HE sector and creative industries*  
**Laura Sillars**, Director, MIMA and Dean, MIMA School of Art & Design, Teesside University  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.25 Break
- 12.30 **The outlook for universities and regional innovation going forward**  
**Alice Frost**, Director, Knowledge Exchange, Research England  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Higher Education Forum closing remarks**  
**Daniel Zeichner MP**, Chair, All-Party Parliamentary Group on Universities  
**Sean Cudmore**, Deputy Editor, Westminster Higher Education Forum