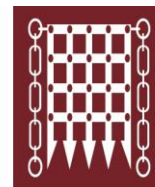


Westminster Higher Education Forum policy conference:

Addressing UK university financial sustainability

Timing: Morning, Friday, 22nd November 2024

Taking place online



WESTMINSTER
HIGHER EDUCATION
FORUM

Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 9.05 **The funding landscape for UK universities and priorities for the sector**
Sarah Bevan, Head, Funding Policy, Universities UK
- 9.15 **The challenges and impact of current funding models**
Nick Hillman, Director, Higher Education Policy Institute (HEPI)
- 9.25 Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.45 **'Imperatives for the structural reform of the UK's HE sector'**
Professor Shitij Kapur, Vice Chancellor, King's College London
- 9.55 **Immediate priorities for improving HE sector financial sustainability**
Implementation of OfS report recommendations | assessing government and regulator priorities | addressing key cost drivers | the tuition fee freeze and inflationary pressures | addressing decline in student numbers | compensating for lower research revenue | new funding investment initiatives
Charlotte Corrish, Head of Public Policy, Office of the Independent Adjudicator for Higher Education
Lulu Collins, President, Kent Student Union
Senior representative, specialist provider
- 10.10 Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.30 **Chair's closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 10.35 Break
- 10.45 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 10.50 **Developing alternative funding models for longer-term financial sustainability and future approaches to funding settlements**
Vanessa O'Donnell, Head, Policy and Research, MillionPlus
Professor Christopher Millward, School of Education, University of Birmingham; and Board Member, MEDR, Commission for Tertiary Education and Research in Wales
- 11.10 **Strategies for diversification of income and improving sector resilience**
new government policy priorities | optimising income streams | alternative business strategies | industry investment and support for research | marketing and raising the profile of institutions | research commercialisation | international ventures | alternative governance and staffing models | strengthening strategic partnerships | learning from other jurisdictions
Edward Venning, Partner, Six Ravens Consulting
Professor Andy Long, Vice Chancellor and Chief Executive, Northumbria University
Damien Ashford, Partner, PwC
Senior representative, industry
- 11.30 Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.50 **Securing the long-term financial sustainability of the HE sector**
regulatory frameworks and support | options for future funding settlements | reducing dependence on foreign students while maintaining an attractive offer | cost-efficiency for estates maintenance and development | investment to reduce carbon emissions
Emma Beenham, Students' Union Manager, The University of Law
Senior representative, university
Senior representative, international university
Senior representative, student recruitment
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.30 **Strategic oversight and wider policy priorities moving forward**
Senior representative, policy
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Higher Education Forum closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
Sean Cudmore, Westminster Higher Education Forum