

Westminster Higher Education Forum and Westminster Business Forum policy conference:

Next steps for UK university spin-outs and commercialisation

Timing: Morning, Monday, 11th December 2023

Taking Place Online



Agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Baroness Neville-Jones, House of Lords Science and Technology Committee
- 9.05 **Key findings from the Independent Review of university spin-outs - priorities for policy delivery, funding and HE sector practice going forward**
Alice Frost, Director of Knowledge Exchange, Research England
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 Break
- 9.35 **Defining the relationship between HEIs and spin-outs - the structure of university spin outs, equity stakes in spin-out companies and their impact on further investment, and creating a fair relationship between HEIs and investors**
Tomas Ulrichsen, Director, Policy Evidence Unit for University Commercialisation and Innovation, University of Cambridge
Dr Benjamin Miles, Chief Executive Officer and Founder, Spin Up Science
Dr Ananay Aguilar, Head, TenU
Professor Claude Wischik, Executive Chairman and Co-Founder, TauRx Therapeutics
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.30 **Chair's closing remarks**
Baroness Neville-Jones, House of Lords Science and Technology Committee
- 10.35 Break
- 10.45 **Chair's opening remarks**
Baroness Brown of Cambridge, Chair, House of Lords Science and Technology Committee
- 10.50 **Spin-out creation - process efficiency and reducing bureaucracy, the role of early-stage angel and VC funding, knowledge exchange, reducing barriers to pursuing commercial interests, and securing scale-up and long-term investment**
Henry Whorwood, Head of Research and Consultancy, Beauhurst
David Russell, Chief Executive Officer, Praxis Auril
Dr David McBeth, Vice-Principal of Enterprise and Economic Transformation, University of Dundee
Clare Terlouw, Head of LifeArc Ventures
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.40 **Widening participation and improving diversity - increasing the geographic spread of successful spin-outs, encouraging investment beyond the South East of England, and examining the role of spin-outs in the levelling up agenda**
Dr Simonetta Manfredi, Professor of Equality and Diversity Management and Director of Research, Innovation and Enterprise, Oxford Brookes University
Nicola McConville, Partner, Mishcon de Reya
Nick Smailes, Commercial Director, Faraday Institution
Dr Anna Vartapetian, Chief Executive Officer, Director and Founder, Securium
Professor Richard Hague, Director, Centre of Additive Manufacturing, University of Nottingham
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.25 Break
- 12.30 **Key priorities for policy moving forward**
Robin Polding, Research Commercialisation Policy Lead, Department for Science, Innovation and Technology
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Higher Education Forum and Westminster Business Forum closing remarks**
Baroness Brown of Cambridge, Chair, House of Lords Science and Technology Committee
Sean Cudmore, Deputy Editor, Westminster Higher Education Forum and Westminster Business Forum