

Westminster Employment Forum policy conference:

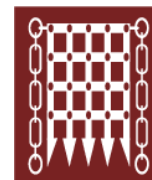
Next steps for supporting health in the workplace

Timing: Morning, Thursday, 3rd September 2026

Taking Place Online

Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 9.05 **Health, employment and economic activity - the policy landscape and considerations for implementation**
Dr Sally Wilson, Head, Workplace Health and Wellbeing Research, Institute for Employment Studies
- 9.15 **Workplace health support - coordination, practicalities and the role of employers**
early lessons from the Vanguard Phase | next steps for a Healthy Working Lifecycle standard | roles of employers and local partners in delivery | strategy for scaling up from pilots to sustainable national adoption | insights from previous UK initiatives and international case studies | governance, resourcing and cross sector coordination | integration of clinical and allied health expertise within delivery models | the role of leadership in setting workforce health priorities and culture | compliance and enforcement | delivery of NHS Health Checks into workplace settings | assessing effectiveness of workplace interventions and use of health data to link clinical and employment outcomes
Paul Schreier, CEO, Simplyhealth
Senior representative, employer
Senior representative, local authority
Senior representative, union
- 9.35 Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.00 **Priorities for taking forward the Keep Britain Working programme**
Sir Charlie Mayfield, Lead, Keep Britain Working Review, Department for Work and Pensions
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.25 **Chair's closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 10.30 Break
- 10.40 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 10.45 **'Bridging the gap - data and evidence from implementing a national pilot of work and health support services'**
Dr Shriti Pattani, National Clinical Expert in Occupational Health and Wellbeing, NHS England
- 11.00 **Supporting faster recovery and return to work - health system and employer roles**
strategic approaches for reducing time away from work due to ill health | fit note reform and improving clinical workplace coordination | early employer intervention and ongoing support | coordination between health services and employers on support | potential role of neighbourhood health centres in supporting return to work | managing fluctuating and energy limiting conditions in the workplace | addressing variability in access to services and support | lessons in best practice and coordination from pilots and local delivery | customisation of guidance and support for large employers and SMEs | support for employers including guidance advisory services and access to occupational health
Kevin Bampton, CEO, British Occupational Hygiene Society; and Chair, Council for Work & Health
Senior representative, primary care
Senior representative, employer
Senior representative, SME
Senior representative, trade union
- 11.25 Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.45 **The future for workplace implementation of employment rights, inclusion and sustained employment**
translating new employment rights and duties into fair and workable practice | changes to statutory sick pay | clarity, enforcement and proportionality for reasonable adjustments | compliance practicalities and costs for different employer sizes | consistency in application of standards | support frameworks for workers with disabilities and long term health conditions | lived experience in policy and workplace design | addressing inequalities in job quality, retention and progression | wider labour market participation objectives, including youth inactivity | reconciling voluntary standards in the Vanguard with statutory duties for employment rights | procurement and funding incentives to support implementation and uptake
Ruhel Ahmed, Senior Policy Adviser, Acas
Jon Clover, Managing Director, Workplace Health Division, Spire Healthcare
Andrew Davidson, National Head, Employment, Hempsons Solicitors
Senior representative, employer
Senior representative, inclusion
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.30 **Next steps for health and employment policy**
Senior representative, policy
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Employment Forum closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
Harry Nelson, Westminster Employment Forum



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