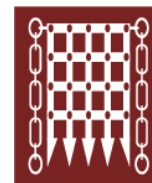


Westminster Employment Forum policy conference:

Next steps for supporting health in the workplace

Timing: Morning, Thursday, 3rd September 2026

Taking Place Online



WESTMINSTER
HEALTH FORUM

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**
Senior commentator
- 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
Senior representative, employer
Senior representative, local authority
Senior representative, union
Senior academic
- 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, employees
Senior representative, SME
- 11.20 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
Senior representative, legal
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