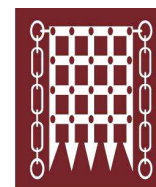


Westminster Employment Forum policy conference:
Growing participation and improving diversity in Apprenticeships in England
Timing: Morning, Thursday, 5th December 2019
Venue: Central London



**WESTMINSTER
EMPLOYMENT
FORUM**

Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 - 9.00 Registration and coffee
- 9.00 - 9.05 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 9.05 - 9.30 **Driving growth in the Apprenticeship programme**
Kathryn Porter, Vice-Chair, Apprenticeship Ambassadors Network and Director, Youth Strategy, Europe, Middle East and Africa, Hilton Worldwide
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 - 9.40 **Assessing progress and setting direction for the '5 Cities Project'**
Nic Hutchins, Principal Skills Manager, Apprenticeships, Greater Manchester Combined Authority
- 9.40 - 10.25 **Driving growth in apprenticeship starts - ensuring better regional coverage, tackling STEAM skills gaps and utilising the Apprenticeship levy effectively**
Dominique Unsworth, SME Apprenticeship Ambassador and Chief Executive Officer, Resource Productions
Shalah Akhtar, Tax Manager, PwC UK
Senior representative, local authority
Senior representative, university
Questions and comments from the floor with **Nic Hutchins**, Principal Skills Manager, Apprenticeships, Greater Manchester Combined Authority
- 10.25 - 10.30 **Chair's closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 10.30 - 10.55 Coffee
- 10.55 - 11.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 11.00 - 11.25 **'Growing participation and improving diversity in apprenticeships in Scotland's Public Sector- lessons from Scotland'**
Hayley Cross, Apprenticeships Executive, Scottish Government
Catherine Thomas, Public Sector Relationships Executive, Skills Development Scotland
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.25 - 11.45 **The 'Opportunities through Apprenticeships' project - lessons from the pilots**
Rebecca Davies, Senior Economic Development Officer, TDA
Sarah McMillan, Corporate Lead, Economic Strategy & Skills, South Tyneside Council
- 11.45 - 12.30 **Improving participation amongst under-represented and disadvantaged groups and low skilled workers**
John Banks, Apprenticeship Delivery Manager, Lloyds Banking Group
Simon Broad, Head of Operations, New Talent, BBC
Diane Lightfoot, Chief Executive, Business Disability Forum
Abbie Langridge, External Affairs Apprentice, Construction Industry Training Board
Questions and comments from the floor with **Rebecca Davies**, Senior Economic Development Officer, TDA and **Sarah McMillan**, Corporate Lead, Economic Strategy & Skills, South Tyneside Council
- 12.30 - 12.55 **Improving participation and diversity in the Apprenticeships programme**
Senior speaker to be confirmed
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 - 13.00 **Chair's and Westminster Employment Forum closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
Sean Cudmore, Deputy Editor, Westminster Employment Forum