

## Westminster Business Forum policy conference

### Disability in the workplace - removing barriers to recruitment and progression, creating inclusive workplace cultures, and next steps for policy and organisational practice

Timing: Morning, Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> January 2020

Venue: The Caledonian Club, 9 Halkin Street, London SW1X 7DR



*Agenda subject to change*

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| 8.30 - 9.00   | Registration and coffee  |
| 9.00 - 9.05   | <b><u>Chair's opening remarks</u></b><br><b>Lord Low</b> , Officer, All Party Parliamentary Group for Disability   |
| 9.05 - 9.40   | <b><u>Government policy on work and disability - providing greater workplace support for disabled employees</u></b><br><b>Justin Tomlinson MP</b> , Minister of State for Disabled People, Health and Work, Department for Work and Pensions<br>Questions and comments from the floor with <b>Tabitha Jay</b> , Director, Joint Work and Health Unit, Department for Work and Pensions and Department of Health and Social Care  |
| 9.40 - 10.25  | <b><u>Evaluating policy and progress made towards reaching government targets - what is the latest thinking on what more needs to be done to increase the number of disabled people in work?</u></b><br><b>Professor Kim Hoque</b> , Director of the Industrial Relations Research Unit, University of Warwick<br><b>Kamran Mallick</b> , Chief Executive Officer, Disability Rights UK<br><b>Abigail Hirshman</b> , Deputy Area Director, Acas<br>Questions and comments from the floor   |
| 10.25 - 10.30 | <b><u>Chair's closing remarks</u></b><br><b>Lord Low</b> , Officer, All Party Parliamentary Group for Disability   |
| 10.30 - 11.00 | Coffee   |
| 11.00 - 11.05 | <b><u>Chair's opening remarks</u></b><br><b>Joanne Preston</b> , Chair, Ministry of Defence London Disability Network  |
| 11.05 - 11.25 | <b><u>Reimagining the workplace - overcoming barriers to progression of disabled people in work</u></b><br><b>Neil Heslop</b> , Chief Executive Officer, Leonard Cheshire  |
| 11.25 - 12.20 | <b><u>Case studies: successfully creating an inclusive workplace culture - increasing understanding of disability, communicating with and retaining disabled employees, and ensuring routes to progression</u></b><br><b>Esi Hardy</b> , Managing Director, Celebrating Disability<br><b>Gareth Parry</b> , Chief Executive Officer, Remploy<br><b>Stuart Moore</b> , Project Coordinator, NHS Workforce Disability Equality Standard<br>Questions and comments from the floor with <b>Neil Heslop</b> , Chief Executive Officer, Leonard Cheshire |
| 12.20 - 12.55 | <b><u>Responsibilities and actions - what needs to be done to move forward in increasing opportunities for disabled people in work</u></b><br><b>Sonali Parekh</b> , Head of Policy, Federation of Small Businesses<br><b>Sigrid Fisher</b> , Relationship Manager, Employers Network for Equality & Inclusion<br>Questions and comments from the floor  |
| 12.55 - 13.00 | <b><u>Chair's and Westminster Business Forum closing remarks</u></b><br><b>Joanne Preston</b> , Chair, Ministry of Defence London Disability Network<br><b>Helen Crocker</b> , Forum Lead, Westminster Business Forum  |