Westminster Higher Education Forum policy conference
Next steps for the REF - independence and positive research environments, delivering and measuring impact, and the future of open access
Timing: Morning, Tuesday, 23rd March 2021
***Taking Place Online***

Draft agenda subject to change

8.30 Registration

9.00 Chair’s opening remarks
Lord Norton of Louth

9.05 Key priorities for the REF
Dr Steven Hill, Director of Research, Research England
Questions and comments from the floor

9.35 Break

9.40 The Real-Time REF Review - outcomes from the pilot study
Dr Netta Weinstein, Associate Professor, School of Psychology, University of Reading

9.50 Research environments in the REF - stimulating positive cultures and wellbeing, academic independence and interdisciplinary research
Professor Anne Boddington, Pro Vice Chancellor, Research, Business & Innovation, Kingston University
James Murray, Associate, Taylor Vinters
Dr Julie Bayley, Director of Research Impact Development and ARMA Director of Qualifications, University of Lincoln
Dr Emma Williamson, Reader in Gender Based Violence, University of Bristol

10.10 Questions and comments from the floor

10.35 Chair’s closing remarks
Lord Norton of Louth

10.40 Break

10.50 Chair’s opening remarks
Professor Stephen Pollock, The Viscount Hanworth

11.00 Next steps for open research - alignment with UKRI open access policy and the broader open science agenda
Professor Sylvia Walby, Professor of Sociology and Director, Violence and Society Centre, City, University of London and Chair, Sociology Sub-Panel, REF2021
Sofia Fernandes, Open Research Manager, University of Exeter
Professor Dave Jones, Dean, National Institute for Health Research Academy
Caroline Sutton, Director, Open Research, Taylor & Francis
Questions and comments from the floor

11.50 Break

11.55 Delivery and measurement of impactful research - the significance of increased weighting, ‘institutional game-playing’ and the evidence base for effective impact assessment
Professor Thom Brooks, Dean & Chair in Law and Government, Durham University
Dr Laura Bellingan, Science Policy Manager, Royal Society of Biology
Dr Juergen Wastl, Director Academic Relations and Consultancy, Digital Science
Professor Paul Phillips, Professor of Strategic Management, Kent Business School, University of Kent
Questions and comments from the floor

12.45 Closing keynote remarks
Dr Steven Hill, Director of Research, Research England

12.55 Chair’s and Westminster Higher Education Forum closing remarks
Professor Stephen Pollock, The Viscount Hanworth
Sean Cudmore, Deputy Editor, Westminster Higher Education Forum