Westminster Business Forum policy conference:
Next steps for advanced materials in the UK
Timing: Morning, Thursday, 4th February
*****Taking Place Online*****

Draft agenda subject to change

8.30 Registration

9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian

9.05 **Policy priorities for advanced materials in the UK**
Caroline France, Head, Tech Growth, Robotics and Advanced Materials, Department for Business, Innovation, Science and Trade
Questions and comments from the floor

9.30 **The *National Materials Innovation Strategy* - research, innovation and assessing progress**
Professor David Knowles, CEO, Henry Royce Institute

9.40 **Materials innovation programmes - priorities, participation and routes to industrial use**
Senior speaker confirmed from **Innovate UK**

9.50 **Key considerations for advanced materials policy in the UK - commercial priorities, competitiveness and strategic enablers**
scope and priorities for public intervention | alignment of policy and innovation programmes with downstream user needs | addressing barriers to investment, commercialisation and industrial scale-up | energy and input costs and implications for manufacturing competitiveness | customer demand and market opportunities across aerospace, automotive, energy, defence, and other industries | workforce development and future skills needs | priorities for the forthcoming Advanced Manufacturing Jobs Plan | collaboration between industry, universities and innovation organisations | regional clusters and local industrial strengths | improving productivity and industrial capacity | standards and regulatory frameworks for new materials
Senior representative, industry
Senior representative, standards
Senior representative, workforce

10.10 Questions and comments from the floor

10.35 **Financing advanced materials - patient capital, private investment and commercial scale-up**
Senior representative, investment
Questions and comments from the floor

10.50 **Chair's closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian

10.55 Break

11.05 **Chair's opening remarks**
Noah Law MP, Chair, All-Party Parliamentary Group on Critical Minerals

11.10 **Supporting resilience in UK supply chains - critical minerals, strategic dependencies and sovereign capability**
critical minerals and advanced materials dependencies | concentrated international supply, geopolitical risks and export restrictions | domestic extraction, processing and refining capability, and commercial viability | rare earths, magnets and strategic materials supply chains | sovereign capability and economic security | respective roles of domestic production and international partnerships | diversifying international supply and reducing strategic risks | recycling, recovery and access to secondary materials | business priorities for supply chain resilience
Dr Olga Kazakova, Research Fellow, Quantum Materials, National Physical Laboratory
Senior representative, critical minerals
Senior representative, infrastructure
Questions and comments from the floor

11.50 **Routes to industrial use - customer requirements, qualification, manufacturing and procurement**
downstream requirements for performance, quality, consistency and cost | commercial risks and costs of introducing new materials | access to pilot, demonstration and manufacturing facilities | procurement, long-term purchase contracts and demand signals | testing, certification, validation and qualification for industrial applications | collaboration between large firms and SMEs | creating routes to commercial deployment and growth | scaling production and integrating new materials into existing products and processes | opportunities in international markets and implications of the EU Advanced Materials Act | Materials 4.0, data sharing, interoperability and digital tools in development and qualification
Justin Kelly, CEO, Glass Futures
Senior representative, end user
Senior representative, manufacturing
Questions and comments from the floor

12.30 **Materials and industrial capacity - priorities for advanced manufacturing sectors in the UK**
Senior representative, industry
Questions and comments from the floor

12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Business Forum closing remarks**
Noah Law MP, Chair, All-Party Parliamentary Group on Critical Minerals
Thomas Howard, Westminster Business Forum