

**Westminster eForum policy conference:
Next steps for diversity in the UK technology workforce**

Timing: Morning, Friday, 6th November 2026

*****Taking place online*****

Draft agenda subject to change



**WESTMINSTER
eFORUM**

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Dawn Butler MP
- 9.05 **The UK technology sector following the Women in Tech Taskforce findings - strategic priorities, participation and accountability**
Belton Flournoy, Managing Director, Cybersecurity, Digital Identity and AI Resilience, Protiviti
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 **Education and training pathways to technology careers - widening access, skills alignment and industry partnerships**
early STEM and computing engagement | careers information and addressing stereotypes | implications of curriculum and assessment reform | computing and AI literacy | teacher capacity and digital literacy | access to technical education, T Levels, apprenticeships and vocational routes | higher technical, alternative and returner pathways | employer recognition of different qualifications and entry routes | partnerships between schools, FE, HE, training providers and industry | mentoring, work experience and placements | employer involvement in programme design | regional access to training and technology careers | addressing socio-economic, gender, ethnicity and disability-related barriers | access to upskilling and emerging roles in AI, digital infrastructure and cybersecurity | alignment with workforce demand | evaluating participation and employment outcomes
Michael Houlihan, CEO, UK and Ireland, Generation
Timothy Bateup, Headteacher, King's Maths School, London
Sarah Atkinson, CEO, Social Mobility Foundation
Senior representative, employer
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.20 **Chair's closing remarks**
Dawn Butler MP
- 10.25 Break
- 10.35 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 10.40 **Experience of entering, remaining and progressing in technology careers - priorities for culture and leadership**
Professor Sue Black, Professor, Computer Science and Technology Evangelist, Durham University
- 10.50 **Improving retention, progression and workplace practice across the UK technology workforce**
priorities emerging from the Women in Tech Taskforce call-for-evidence findings | recruitment, retention and progression | factors contributing to women and other underrepresented groups leaving technology roles | career development, sponsorship and leadership pathways | workplace culture and management practice | tackling harassment, discrimination, stereotyping and exclusionary behaviour | flexible and hybrid working | support for those with caring responsibilities | menopause and health-related support | gender pay and progression disparities | mid-career retention and returner pathways | measuring progress and evidence of what works | transparency, workforce engagement and leadership accountability | gender pay gap and menopause action plans for employers with 250 or more employees | organisational capacity, proportionality and implementation | practical approaches for SMEs and smaller technology businesses | intersectional barriers affecting women and other underrepresented groups
Lucy Ruck, Taskforces Manager, Business Disability Forum
Maria Torres-Quevedo, Negotiations Officer, Tech Workers, Prospect
Kathryn Croft-Baker, Partner and Head, Technology Transformation and Change, KPMG
Jaldeep Katwala, Director, The Sir Lenny Henry Centre for Media Diversity, Birmingham City University
- 11.15 Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.45 **Inclusive technology entrepreneurship - access to investment, commercial networks and opportunities to scale**
barriers faced by underrepresented founders | access to finance, commercial networks, advice and opportunities to scale | investor practices, pipeline development and funding transparency | R&D and commercialisation pathways | access to accelerators, founder networks and business support | regional differences in access to investment and technology networks | support for SMEs and scaling businesses | management and workforce capability | inclusive access to training and lifelong learning | addressing bias and the reproduction of existing inequalities in recruitment tools, emerging technologies, products and services | widening participation in technology ownership and leadership | measuring investment and business growth outcomes
Check Warner, Founding Partner, Ada Ventures
Alex Molokwu, Founder and CEO, Loujo
Nadia Edwards-Dashti, Chief Customer Officer, Harrington Starr
Chantelle Young, Head, Entrepreneurship, Imperial Enterprise Lab
Jill McKinney, Director, Service Delivery, Sunderland Software City
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.30 **Policy priorities for an inclusive and diverse UK technology workforce**
Dr Anne-Marie Imafidon, Women in Tech Envoy, Women in Tech Taskforce; and Founder, Stemettes
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster eForum closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
Thomas Howard, Westminster eForum