

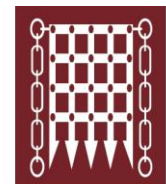
Westminster Higher Education Forum policy conference

Deepening stakeholder involvement in policymaking - learning from the COVID-19 response, streamlining processes, widening the evidence base, and improving communication

Timing: Morning, Friday, 21st May 2021

Taking Place Online

Agenda subject to change



WESTMINSTER
HIGHER EDUCATION
FORUM

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Sir Bernard Jenkin MP, Chair, Liaison Committee, House of Commons
- 9.05 **Evidence-based policy and the pandemic - what has been learned and implications for the future**
Dr Sarah Foxen, Knowledge Exchange Lead, POST
Dr Rowena Bermingham, Covid-19 Science Coordination Team Leader, GO-Science
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 **Improving the system of evidence-based policymaking - priorities for both deepening and streamlining co-operation between policymakers, businesses and researchers**
Professor Matthew Flinders, Department of Politics, University of Sheffield and Chair, Universities Policy Engagement Network
Dr Malcolm Skingle, Head of Academic Liaison, GlaxoSmithKline
Professor Sarah Main, Executive Director, Campaign for Science and Engineering
Dr Emma Gordon, Director, Strategic Hub, Administrative Data Research UK, ESRC
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.10 Break
- Widening the evidence base behind policy decisions - drawing on key disciplines, joining up pools of expertise, improving understanding of what works, and the role of local knowledge and place-based policy**
- 10.15 *Next steps for data-informed policymaking*
Simon Mico, Managing Director and Immunologist, Bio-Diagnostics
- 10.25 *Pushing forward public policy - innovative thinking, experimentation, and evaluating what works*
Professor David Halpern, Chief Executive Officer, Behavioural Insights Team
- 10.35 *'Uncertainty and the use of interdisciplinary insights in complex decision-making'*
Richard Bronk, Author of *The Romantic Economist* and Co-editor, *Uncertain Futures*
- 10.45 *Harnessing local evidence bases and R&D systems for regionally-focussed policy development*
Thomas Knights, Partnerships Manager, Strava Metro
- 10.55 Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.20 **Chair's closing remarks**
Sir Bernard Jenkin MP, Chair, Liaison Committee, House of Commons
- 11.25 Break
- 11.35 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 11.40 **Learning from international approaches to using evidence to inform policy**
Frank Zwetsloot, Director and Founder, ScienceWorks
- 11.50 **Priorities for improving the acceptance of evidence-based policy - communicating scientific reasoning to the public, addressing disinformation, and the role of public engagement and citizen science**
Tracey Brown, Director, Sense about Science
Dr Su Anson, Senior Research Manager, Trilateral Research
Michael Wendling, Editor, Trending and Anti-disinformation Unit, BBC News
- 12.05 Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.25 Break
- 12.30 **Evidence-informed policy post-COVID-19 - lessons learned and future directions**
Dr Ben Taylor, Senior Policy Advisor, Department for Education
Megan Lynch, Senior Policy Advisor, Department for Education
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Higher Education Forum closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
Aleksiina Kallunki, Senior Researcher, Westminster Higher Education Forum