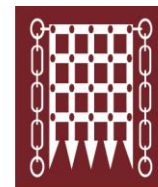


Westminster Higher Education Forum policy conference
Higher Technical Education in England - reform, uptake and delivery, regulation and standards, and contribution to economic recovery

Timing: Morning, Wednesday, 21st April 2021

*****Taking Place Online*****



**WESTMINSTER
HIGHER EDUCATION
FORUM**

Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Lord Storey, Liberal Democrats Education Spokesperson, House of Lords
- 9.05 **The independent consultation on higher technical education - an overview of key findings**
Philip Wilson, Partner, York Consulting
- 9.15 **Higher technical education - the state of play and priorities for implementing the reformed qualifications**
Cheryl Mendes and **Ronnie Whittington**, Heads of Higher Technical Education, Department for Education
- 9.30 Questions and comments from the floor with **Josh Fox**, Policy Adviser - Higher Technical Education, Department for Education
- 9.45 **Improving the delivery of higher technical education - increasing take-up, improving the brand, funding and supporting providers, and addressing cold spots in provision**
Emily Jones, Head of Research, Learning and Work Institute
Shane Chown, Area Director, Midlands and Lead, High Volume Apprenticeships Group, Association of Colleges
Pat Carvalho, Deputy CEO, HCUC and Lead, West London Institute of Technology
Gila Tabrizi, Policy Officer, University and College Union
Ian Pretty, Chief Executive, Collab Group
- 10.10 Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.30 Break
- 10.35 **Regulation and maintaining standards for the new higher technical education qualifications**
Bethany Hughes, Senior Manager - VTQ Strategic Relationships, Ofqual
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.55 **Chair's closing remarks**
Lord Storey, Liberal Democrats Education Spokesperson, House of Lords
- 11.00 Break
- 11.10 **Chair's opening remarks**
Rt Hon the Lord Baker of Dorking, former Secretary of State for Education and Science 1986-1989, and Chairman, Baker Dearing Educational Trust
- 11.15 **The international higher technical education landscape - what can be learned for developing the UK system**
Simon Normandeau, Policy Analyst, Vocational Education and Training team, OECD Centre for Skills
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.35 **Closing the technical skills gaps and boosting the post-pandemic economy - key shortage areas, improving co-operation with employers, and providing high quality on-the-job experience**
Clare Riley, Education Skills Lead, Microsoft UK
Mark Smith, Chief Executive Officer, Ada. National College for Digital Skills
Patrick Craven, Director of Quality, Policy and Stakeholder Engagement, City and Guilds
Alissa Dhaliwal, Head of Education & Skills, Confederation of British Industry
Mike Clancy, General Secretary, Prospect Union
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.25 Break
- 12.30 **Approving qualifications and improving standards through the new quality mark - experience so far with the national approval scheme and next steps forward**
Carmel Grant, Deputy Director - Technical Education Implementation and Delivery, Institute for Apprenticeships
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Higher Education Forum closing remarks**
Rt Hon the Lord Baker of Dorking, former Secretary of State for Education and Science 1986-1989, and Chairman, Baker Dearing Educational Trust
Aleksiiina Kallunki, Senior Researcher, Westminster Higher Education Forum