Westminster Higher Education Forum policy conference:
Next steps for UK transnational education
Timing: Morning, Friday, 5th March 2027
*****Taking Place Online*****

Draft agenda subject to change

WESTMINSTER HIGHER EDUCATION FORUM

8.30 Registration

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

9.05 **Current development and priorities for UK transnational education**
Senior commentator

9.15 **Priorities for TNE growth and international partnerships - markets, investment and the *International Education Strategy***
international demand and opportunities for market diversification | priorities and responsibilities of overseas partners and host-country institutions | implementation of the International Education Strategy 2026 and ESAG action plans | progress towards the £40bn annual education exports ambition by 2030 | qualification recognition and barriers to entering new markets | responding to host-country education and skills priorities, and employer demand | franchise and validation arrangements | joint and dual degrees | international campuses | online and hybrid delivery | government and sector support for sustainable overseas provision | role of TNE alongside student mobility, research and wider international collaboration
Senior representative, university
Senior representative, partner institution
Senior representative, employer
Senior commentator

9.45 Questions and comments from the floor

10.05 **Developing international partnerships for UK TNE**
Eduardo Ramos, Head, Higher Education Systems and Internationalisation, British Council
Questions and comments from the floor

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

10.35 Break

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

10.50 **Regulatory priorities for UK TNE**
Charles Watson, Senior Regulation Manager, Office for Students
Questions and comments from the floor

11.15 **Financial sustainability, partnership governance and institutional risk**
contribution of TNE income amid pressures on UK institutions and international student recruitment | full-costing provision, including revenue-sharing, taxation, foreign exchange, staffing, travel, technology and partnership management | pricing, break-even assumptions and financial viability | choice of delivery models, capital requirements and institutional capacity | partner due diligence, including financial resilience, governance and delivery capability | allocation of academic, operational and financial responsibilities and benefits between partners | managing financial, regulatory and political risks | institutional oversight and accountability | planning for partnership failure, restructuring or exit, including student protection and continuity of provision
Senior representative, university
Senior representative, partner institution
Senior commentator
Questions and comments from the floor

11.50 **Safeguarding quality and student protection in TNE**
Shannon Stowers, Director, International Policy and Engagement, Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education

12.00 **Quality, student experience and the value of UK qualifications delivered overseas**
operation of the UK TNE Quality Scheme and its relationship with UK regulatory oversight and host-country requirements | maintaining academic standards while adapting curricula to local educational and labour market contexts | student experience, including academic and wellbeing support, learning resources, careers provision, complaints and representation | qualification employer and professional recognition, value for students and graduate outcomes | digital and hybrid delivery | cyber security, cross-border data, AI and academic integrity | academic freedom and foreign-interference risks | implications of developing OfS freedom of speech requirements in England | the expanded Aggregate Offshore Record from 2026/27 and implications of paused individualised TNE student data | demands on institutions and overseas partners and limitations for assessing outcomes
Senior representative, university
Senior representative, students
Senior representative, legal
Senior representative, employer

12.20 Questions and comments from the floor

12.40 **Next steps for UK TNE policy**
Jonathan Ledger, Global TVET Specialist, Department for Business, Innovation, Science and Trade
Questions and comments from the floor

13.05 **Chair's and Westminster Higher Education Forum closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
Sean Cudmore, Westminster Higher Education Forum