

## Westminster Higher Education Forum policy conference:

### Next steps for degree apprenticeships in England

Timing: Morning, Tuesday, 29<sup>th</sup> April 2025

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



WESTMINSTER  
HIGHER EDUCATION  
FORUM

Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**  
Senior Parliamentarian
- 9.05 **Degree apprenticeship applications and admissions - key challenges and opportunities**  
**Phillippa Always**, Senior Policy Adviser, UCAS
- 9.15 **The current landscape for degree apprenticeships in England, and priorities going forward**  
**Horia Teodorescu**, Policy Officer, Universities UK
- 9.25 Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.45 **Adapting to the new Growth and Skills Levy and changes in funding**  
*assessing implications of the new levy | strategies for adaptation | potential opportunities | effects on providers and employers of potential level 7 funding removal | addressing factors for potential university withdrawal | impact on public sector training | future commercial viability for HEIs*  
**Ashley Wheaton**, Vice Chancellor, University College of Estate Management  
**Tom Richmond**, Founder and Director, EDSK  
Senior representative, employers  
Student representative  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.35 **Chair's closing remarks**  
Senior Parliamentarian
- 10.40 Break
- 10.50 **Chair's opening remarks**  
Senior Parliamentarian
- 10.55 **Improving business-provider partnerships and course delivery**  
*learning from effective collaborations | strategies for successful courses and delivery | expansion into new subjects and emerging fields | meeting evolving skills needs | options for HEIs to expand their offer | regulation and accountability*  
**Tom Taylor**, Head, Degrees at Work, Anglia Ruskin University  
Senior representative, business  
Senior representative, training provider  
Student representative  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.45 **Strategies for sustaining growth and accessibility in degree apprenticeships and meeting the needs of the labour market**  
*priorities for under-25s and underrepresented groups | improving participation | outreach initiatives and increasing awareness | retention and progression | role in upskilling and improving regional and local economies*  
**James Crichton**, Head, Talent Management and Interim Head, Future Talent, Royal Mail  
**Dr Martin Brock**, Principal Lecturer, University of Portsmouth  
Senior representative, social mobility  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.30 **Degree apprenticeships in England - next steps for policy**  
Senior representative, policy  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Higher Education Forum closing remarks**  
Senior Parliamentarian  
**Sean Cudmore**, Westminster Higher Education Forum