

**Westminster Higher Education Forum policy conference:
Next steps for graduate outcomes and employability in the UK**

Timing: Morning, Friday, 4th October 2024

*****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 **The current graduate employment landscape in the UK**
Georgia Greer, Head of Insights, Institute for Student Employers
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 **Changing trends in the graduate labour market and implications for HEIs, employers and policy**
assessing measures announced by the new Government, implications for graduate employment and stakeholder priorities for policy going forward | examining graduate recruitment and retention rates | assessing demand for degrees from employers | increasing employer engagement in the skills and training sectors | the role of HE courses in addressing skills gaps in the job market
Nicola Sullivan, Solutions Director, Meet & Engage
Jamie Cater, Senior Employment Policy Manager, Make UK
Professor Harriet Dunbar-Morris, Pro Vice-Chancellor, University of Buckingham
Blessing Okafor, Learning Experience Officer, University of Portsmouth Student Union
Senior commentator
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.20 **Chair's closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 10.25 Break
- 10.35 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 10.40 **Preparing students for employment and strengthening collaboration between HEIs and industry**
careers advice and mentoring services provided by HEIs | embedding employability within course structures and providing skills employers need | maximising the value and impact of internships, work placements and graduate schemes | understanding student employability expectations post-graduation
Raisa McNab, CEO, Association of Translation Companies
Alison Lowe MBE, Director, Careers and Enterprise, University of East London
Lexie Baynes, Union Affairs Officer, University of Manchester
Senior representative, industry body
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.30 **'The development of a new graduate outcome measure'**
Tej Nathwani, Principal Researcher, Higher Education Statistics Agency
- 11.40 **Latest thinking on improving support for students into employment**
widening access and participation | examining qualification value | expanding measurements for graduate outcomes and success | retaining and expanding the UK's attractiveness as a study and work destination | strategies for incorporating student input into course content and structures
Olivia Trodden, Employer Engagement Manager, Kingston University
Kirsten Barnes, Platform CEO, Bright Network
Anna Campbell, Activities and Development Officer, University of Sheffield
Senior representative, employer
Senior representative, international students
- 12.05 Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.30 **Policy priorities for graduate employment moving forward**
Senior representative, policy
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Higher Education Forum closing remark**
Senior Parliamentarian
Sean Cudmore, Westminster Higher Education Forum