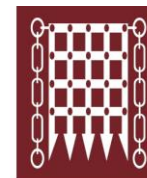


**Westminster Higher Education Forum policy conference:  
Next steps for Higher Technical Qualifications in England**

Timing: Morning, Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> December 2024

\*\*\*Taking place online\*\*\*



WESTMINSTER  
HIGHER EDUCATION  
FORUM

*Draft agenda subject to change*

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**  
Chair to be announced
- 9.05 **The current HTQs landscape, key themes from stakeholder consultation, and considerations for policy going forward**  
Senior speaker confirmed from the **Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education (IFATE)**  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.25 **HTQs implementation so far - assessing progress, widening access to study routes, and priorities for the new Government**  
*next steps and stakeholder views on policy | increasing awareness and understanding | addressing barriers to growing uptake | flexible and modular learning | tackling inequalities and increasing diversity | developing more inclusive training programmes | delivering high quality outcomes for learners | assessing IfATE's proposals for a larger range of approval categories | accommodating a broader choice of technical qualifications at levels 4 to 6*  
**Dr Rupal Patel**, Policy and Research Director, Youth Employment UK  
**Rebecca Mameli**, Senior Strategic Lead for Higher Education Research and Product Solutions, Pearson  
**Dr Arti Saraswat**, Senior Policy Manager, Higher Education, Association of Colleges  
Senior representative, HE  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.05 **Options for expanding delivery of HTQs**  
**Graham Hasting-Evans**, CEO, NOCN Group; and report Co-Chair, *Higher Technical Qualifications: How to Liberate Employers & Skill Workers for the Future*  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.25 **Chair's closing remarks**  
Chair to be announced
- 10.30 Break
- 10.40 **Chair's opening remarks**  
Chair to be announced
- 10.45 **Employer engagement in designing HTQs and supporting strategic workforce planning**  
*strengthening partnerships with key employment sectors | addressing barriers to employer engagement | informing careers advice and training programmes | plugging the skills gap | delivering successful employment outcomes | Apprenticeship Levy*  
**Jason Phin**, Training Solutions Business Manager, Siemens  
**Professor Graeme Atherton**, Head of the Centre for Inequality and Levelling Up, University of West London  
**Simon Fennell**, Partner and Employment Law Specialist, Shoosmiths  
Senior representative, awarding body  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.30 **Meeting future sector needs and employer demand**  
Senior representative, employer
- 11.45 **Shaping future higher technical education programmes and qualifications**  
*assessment of new qualifications and employment categories | improving the quality of courses | increasing the range of occupational routes | improving joined-up agency working to better manage supply and learner demand | designing inclusive training programmes | improving accessibility | serving emerging areas of demand such as green skills needs*  
**David Gallagher**, CEO, NCFE  
**Ginny Page**, Director of Programmes, Education, The Gatsby Charitable Foundation  
Senior representative, HE  
Senior academic
- 12.05 Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.25 **Policy options for HTQs moving forward**  
Senior representative, policy  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Education Forum closing remarks**  
Chair to be announced  
**Aissa Gaye**, Westminster Higher Education Forum