

**Westminster Higher Education Forum policy conference:
Next steps for quality and standards in UK higher education**

Timing: Morning, Friday, 10th January 2025

*****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 **Quality and standards in HE - the current state of play**
Dr Charlotte Snelling, Head of Regulation Policy, Universities UK
Professor Nic Bech, Chair, Quality Council for UK Higher Education
- 9.25 Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.50 **The new UK Quality Code and its implementation**
assessing key developments in HE quality and standards | implementation issues | role of the new Quality Council | alignment with European standards | challenges and priorities going forward | student and teaching staff communication and engagement | strategies and best practice for quality enhancement | enabling curriculum design and regulation to keep pace with innovation and changing needs | addressing key challenges, including the increased use of AI
Daisy Watson, President, Sheffield Students' Union
Senior speaker confirmed from the **QAA**
Senior representative, HE
Senior representative, FE
Senior representative, employer
- Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.40 **Chair's closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 10.45 Break
- 10.55 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 11.00 **Developing high quality courses that are challenging and current**
aligning courses and standards with developing skills requirements and employer needs | understanding student needs and how they can be met | providing value for money and developing courses in the face of financial constraint | supporting diverse HE routes and new providers | considerations for the future of HE quality regulation | best practice for supporting graduate employability prospects | incorporating remote and blended learning | addressing challenges for quality delivery under financial constraints
Marija Solic, Academic Representation Officer, University of Portsmouth Students' Union
Senior representative, employer
Senior representative, university
Senior commentator
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.45 **Impact of UK HE franchise provision and transnational education on quality and standards**
maintaining the UK's global standing and reputation in international markets | quality assurance in franchise provision | alignment of transnational education with European standards | addressing concerns over potential abuse of the student loans system | ensuring quality and standards in transnational education
Professor Paul Marshall, Vice-President, Global Campus; and Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Careers and Enterprise, University of East London
Fenella Johnson, Academic Officer, University of York Students' Union
Professor Nick Braisby, Vice-Chancellor and Chief Executive, Buckinghamshire New University
Senior representative, TNE
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.30 **Priorities for improving HE quality and standards moving forward**
Senior speaker confirmed from the **QAA**
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