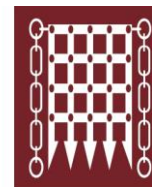


Westminster Higher Education Forum policy conference:

Addressing UK university financial sustainability

Timing: Morning, Friday, 22nd November 2024

Taking place online



WESTMINSTER
HIGHER EDUCATION
FORUM

Agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Tom Williams, Deputy News Editor, Times Higher Education
- 9.05 **The funding landscape for UK universities and priorities for the sector**
Sarah Bevan, Head, Funding Policy, Universities UK
- 9.15 **The challenges and impact of current funding models**
Nick Hillman, Director, Higher Education Policy Institute (HEPI)
- 9.25 Questions and comments from the floor with **Will Dent**, Head, Financial Sustainability, Office for Students
- 9.50 **'Imperatives for the structural reform of the UK's HE sector'**
Professor Shitij Kapur, Vice Chancellor, King's College London
- 10.00 **Immediate priorities for improving HE sector financial sustainability**
implementation of OfS report recommendations | assessing government and regulator priorities | addressing key cost drivers | impact of tuition fee increase for 2025/26 | addressing decline in student numbers | compensating for lower research revenue | new funding investment initiatives
Charlotte Corrish, Head of Public Policy, Office of the Independent Adjudicator for Higher Education
Lulu Collins, President, Kent Student Union
Sam Sanders, Partner and Consulting Lead, Education, Skills and Productivity, KPMG
Ashley Wheaton, Vice Chancellor, University College of Estate Management
- 10.20 Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.45 **Chair's closing remarks**
Tom Williams, Deputy News Editor, Times Higher Education
- 10.50 Break
- 10.55 **Chair's opening remarks**
Lord Lucas
- 11.00 **Developing alternative funding models for longer-term financial sustainability and future approaches to funding settlements**
Vanessa O'Donnell, Head, Policy and Research, MillionPlus
Professor Christopher Millward, School of Education, University of Birmingham; and Board Member, MEDR, Commission for Tertiary Education and Research in Wales
- 11.15 **Strategies for diversification of income and improving sector resilience**
new government policy priorities | optimising income streams | alternative business strategies | industry investment and support for research | marketing and raising the profile of institutions | research commercialisation | international ventures | alternative governance and staffing models | strengthening strategic partnerships | learning from other jurisdictions
Edward Venning, Partner, Six Ravens Consulting
Professor Andy Long, Vice Chancellor and Chief Executive, Northumbria University
Damien Ashford, Partner, PwC
Poppy Short, Partner, Mills & Reeve
Iliana Portugues, Vice President, Innovation Centre Berlin, Siemens Energy
- 11.40 Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.05 **Securing the long-term financial sustainability of the HE sector**
regulatory frameworks and support | options for future funding settlements | reducing dependence on foreign students while maintaining an attractive offer | cost-efficiency for estates maintenance and development | investment to reduce carbon emissions | future of tuition fees beyond 2025/26
Emma Beenham, Students' Union Manager, The University of Law
Professor David Maguire, Vice-Chancellor and President, University of East Anglia
Graeme Aithie, Partner, QMPF
Jack Clare, Director, UK Student Recruitment, Access and Partnerships, University of Wolverhampton
Professor Allam Ahmed, Professor, Knowledge Management and Sustainable Development, Queen Mary University of London
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Higher Education Forum closing remarks**
Lord Lucas
Sean Cudmore, Westminster Higher Education Forum