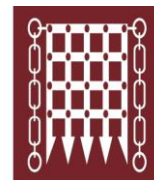


Westminster Employment Forum policy conference

Apprenticeship funding in England - next steps for targeting, flexibility, funding bands, reducing bureaucracy, and widening business participation

Timing: Morning, Thursday, 21st October 2021

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



**WESTMINSTER
EMPLOYMENT
FORUM**

Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Rt Hon the Lord Lilley
- 9.05 **Policy priorities and next steps for apprenticeship funding**
Jonathan Childs, Deputy Director, Apprenticeships Strategy, COVID-19 Recovery and Funding Policy, Education and Skills Funding Agency, Department for Education
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 Break
- 9.35 **Apprenticeship funding in the wake of the pandemic - securing funding for sectors and industries critical for recovery, meeting regional needs and skills shortages, and supporting SMEs**
Verity Davidge, Director of Policy, Make UK
Becci Newton, Director, Public Policy and Research, Institute for Employment Studies
Mark Cameron, Chief Executive Officer, The 5% Club
Teresa Frith, Senior Skills Policy Manager, Adults, Apprenticeships and Employers, Association of Colleges
Councillor Daniel Walton, Portfolio Holder, Economic Development, Malvern Hills District Council
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.25 **Chair's closing remarks**
Rt Hon the Lord Lilley
- 10.30 Break
- 10.40 **Chair's opening remarks**
Lord Young of Norwood Green, former Parliamentary Under Secretary, Skills and Apprenticeships, Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills (2008 - 2009)
- 10.45 **Flexi-job apprenticeships - supporting short-term roles in key sectors, enabling portability between employers, and the impact on funding arrangements**
Tim Weiss, Head of Vocational Education, ScreenSkills
Noel Dunne, Director, Creative Alliance; and Chair, Greater Birmingham and Solihull Training Providers Network
Joanne Harper, CEO, Activate Learning Education Trust
Fiona Stilwell, Managing Director, Activate Apprenticeships
Paul Skerry, UK Early Careers and Professional Development Manager, BAM Construction
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.35 Break
- 11.40 **Increasing business participation in apprenticeships - reducing bureaucracy and simplifying the system, reforming funding bands, and next steps for the levy and the pledge function**
Alissa Dhaliwal, Head, Education and Skills, CBI
Professor Amit Nigam, Professor in Management, Cass Business School, City University of London
Lucy Hunte, National Programme Manager, Apprenticeships, Health Education England
Nav Chohan, Chair, West Yorkshire Skills Partnership; and Chair, West Yorkshire Consortium of Colleges
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.30 **The future for apprenticeship funding bands - transparency, value for money, coherence, and outlook for implementing the new model**
Jane Pierce, Deputy Director, Engineering, Construction and Transport, Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Employment Forum closing remarks**
Lord Young of Norwood Green, former Parliamentary Under Secretary, Skills and Apprenticeships, Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills (2008 - 2009)
Sean Cudmore, Deputy Editor, Westminster Employment Forum