

Westminster Briefing Conference – 18th October 2011

Widening Participation & Fair Access after the White Paper

- 09.15 Registration and Morning Refreshments
- 10.00 **Chair's Introduction**
- Outlining the key issues and objectives for the day
- 10.05 **Examining the Government's Plans: How will the drive for wider participation & fairer access be improved and protected?**
- The 'core and margin' model: what are the implications of stimulating competition?
 - New providers: lowering barriers to entry to widen participation?
 - The National Scholarship Programme: will it succeed?
 - Access agreements & OFFA's future: what next for the fair access agenda?
 - The National Careers Service: how will it be successfully implemented?
- 10.25 **Q&A**
- 10.45 **Fair Access: Providing everyone with an equal opportunity**
- Promoting and safeguarding fair access: strengthening OFFA's powers & resources
 - Access agreements for 2012/13: comparing commitments made by HEIs
 - Post-Qualification Applications: the progress & potential impact of the proposal
 - Contextual data: will it have a role to play?
 - The role of the third sector: supporting charities to help deliver fairer access
- 11.15 **Q&A**
- 11.30 Morning Coffee Break
- 11.45 **Widening Participation: Current & future policy**
- Sustaining collaborative outreach: ensuring HEIs continue to work together
 - Preventing fragmentation of the WP community: developing a national network
 - Widening participation in rural areas: a different approach for a different environment
 - The National Scholarship Programme: making the most of the NSP
 - Widening Participation Strategic Assessments: key trends and areas for improvement
- 12.15 **Q&A**
- 12.40 **Interactive Voting & Discussion Session**
- Delegates will have an opportunity to answer questions submitted by speakers, delegates and relevant organisations. Each participant will get a voting pad and the results will appear in real time, informing quick-fire discussion between delegates and the panel.*
- 13.00 Lunch

Continued:

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- 14.00 Widening Participation: Best practice case studies**
Delegates will hear from frontline practitioners who are tackling the following issues:
- Collaboration between schools, FECs and HEIs: improving joint working
 - The public's perception of reforms to HE funding: the tuition fees debate
 - Online delivery of widening participation initiatives: making it work
- 14.30 Q&A**
- 14.45 Flexible Higher Education: The role of FECs & part-time study**
- Degree awarding powers: opening up the market to validate higher education courses?
 - Alternative providers: what kind of threat does the private sector pose?
 - Competition: how will the relationship between colleges & modern universities evolve?
 - The value of flexible higher education: why invest in part-time study?
 - Providing specialist support: recruiting and retaining part-time students
- 15.15 Q&A**
- 15.30 Afternoon Tea**
- 15:45 Improving Social Mobility: Looking at the bigger picture**
- The role of universities: establishing a national programme led by HEIs and employers?
 - The role of the Government: changing the public's perception of the cost of HE
 - Postgraduate study: removing financial barriers, understanding postgraduate students
 - The National Careers Service: what kind of impact will it have on participation in HE?
- 16.15 Q&A**
- 16.30 Conference Close**

For further details please contact John.Nassoori@westminster-briefing.com or on: [0207 593 5739](tel:02075935739)

Please find a reservation form below

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No of Places	Cost
1 Place	Third Sector: £225 - Local Authorities/Education: £295 - Private Sector & Central Govt: £395
2+ Places	Third Sector: £175 - Local Authorities/Education: £245 - Private Sector & Central Govt: £345

Delegate Name	Position / Email Address	Briefing Title	Code	Date
1.		‘The Way Forward for Widening Participation & Fair Access: Establishing a socially mobile higher education system ‘	CE101	18/10/11
2.				
3.				
Total number of places required:				

Delegate Details (for event mailing & confirmation purposes)

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I/We agree to notify you of all cancellations and changes **in writing** no later than 30 days prior to the date of the event. I/We further agree to pay £75 administration charge per place on cancellation. If registration or cancellation is received less than 30 days prior to the date of the conference the full delegate fee is payable, however a substitute may be sent.
PLEASE NOTE THE COMPANY NAME TO MAKE PAYMENT TO IS DODS OR DODS PARLIAMENTARY COMMUNICATIONS

Signed (type name if emailing)..... Date:.....

Please fax back to John Nassoori on 0207 593 5501
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