



Attendees:

Commissioners

Dame Martina Milburn
Steven Cooper
Sam Friedman
Harvey Matthewson
Sandra Wallace
Jody Walker
Liz Williams

Secretariat

Members of the Secretariat

Commissioners were welcomed to the first conference call meeting. These were agreed at the July Commission meeting. Main points were:

- **Update on research programme:** Two projects were ready for publication. It was suggested that one project could be published in December.
- **Commission's strategy document** will be published on 2 October and launched at the **Commission Ambassadors' reception** on the same day
- **20/21 Budget:** Finance had been asked to provide notification of next year's budgets (Programme and Admin) by the end of November to enable the SMC to undertake business planning.
- **Staffing:** Programme funding would be used to improve the Commission's capacity to improve its statutory duty to promote social mobility across England.
- **Chief Analyst:** a recruitment process was underway. The expectation was that Secretariat would have someone in place by December.
- **FE Campaign:** Following on from the Chair's letters to MPs and social mobility experts, the Chair wrote to the Chancellor calling for a boost FE funding and a student premium for disadvantage students. The Chancellor announced a £400m funding package for FE in his first budget.
- **OFTI –** Telephone meeting took place between the Chair and Baroness Ruby McGregor-Smith
- **The APPG on Social Mobility** were holding an evidence session on FE on Monday 4 November. Secretariat would be presenting on the FE campaign evidence gap mapping; what works centres and recommendations to government
- **29/10 Commission meeting:** the agenda and proposed engagement activities were discussed. The Chair asked for two papers - (1) on SMC's budget and (2) on a Commission Social Mobility Manifesto to be added to the agenda.
- There was a separate discussion about the annotated programme for those Commissioners involved in the Ambassadors Reception.