
Risk and Assurance in the Age of Regulation



Date:

9 March 2020

Location:

**Friends' Meeting House,
Manchester**

We invite you to our higher education sector strategic risk update and networking event for higher education executives and non-executives alike. Lunch and refreshments will be provided.

You will hear from sector practitioners on the main issues around risk and assurance in the new age of regulation. It's the ideal chance to network with the speakers, peers from other institutions and internal audit professionals.

This session will be relevant to:

- Governing body and audit committee members who have a key oversight and governance role within institutions
- Senior university management and staff with responsibility for strategy and policy development, planning, governance and compliance, risk and assurance, academic quality and student experience

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Timings and Speakers*

10:30 **Arrival/Refreshments**

10:40 **Introduction and welcome**

Andrew McConnell OBE, Director of Finance, University of Huddersfield and Chair of the Uniac Board

10:50 **Overview of the HE Sector into the 2020s**

Prof Andy Westwood

Andy worked in government as a political adviser and civil servant (Treasury, Education, Universities, Local Government), and is now Professor of Government Practice and Vice Dean (Social Responsibility) of Humanities at the University of Manchester.

Andy will give his perspective on national policy in relation to HE and what he sees as the main implications for regulation, risk and assurance.

11:20 **The Current Regulatory Environment - Effects on University Assurance**

Martin Conway, Uniac

Martin joined Uniac as a senior audit consultant in 2019, having previously worked at senior levels in higher education administration, including as a University Secretary.

11:50 **Refreshments Break**

12:00 **Climate Change and Environmental Risk**

Robert Cox, University Council and Audit Committee member, University of Huddersfield

Robert was appointed to the University Council with effect from August 2018 and has been a member of the Audit Committee since March 2013. He will discuss how higher education providers, their audit committees and their internal auditors, could / should respond to climate change risk and provide some basic steps to consider / take on board.

12:30 **Governance, Risk and Compliance - not just internal audit's role?**

James Paterson, Director, Risk and Insurance Insights Ltd

James is a leading trainer, writer and practitioner within the fields of internal audit, risk and assurance. He will give an update on future trends in internal audit and risk, including the role executive management and non-executives can play to support IA, and also drive better governance, risk and compliance.

13:00 **Closing remarks followed by light lunch**

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The Annual General Meeting for Uniac's member universities will follow at 13.30.

*Details subject to change