



HWFisher

Higher Education Chair of Audit Committee Virtual Roundtables

Our sessions are for small groups to discuss topical issues with a guest speaker, share experiences and to develop connections with other chairs of audit in the higher education sector. These sessions are virtual so you can attend from the comfort of your own home.

2025 Dates for your Diary:

**30 January
2025**

Guest speakers are Rowena Rowley, Head of Provider Governance & Will Dent, Head of Financial Sustainability, Office for Students

**15 May
2025**

Guest speaker is Stephanie Harris, Director of Strategy, Universities UK

**7 October
2025**

Guest speaker is Karel Thomas, Executive Director, BUFDG

Timings:

9.00am until 10.30am

Speakers biographies are overleaf —————>

Please RSVP to **Louise Hughes**, lhughes@hwfisher.co.uk
to register attendance as places are limited.



Rowena Rowley, Office for Students

Rowena is Head of Provider Governance. She oversees compliance with conditions of registration relating to management and governance. This covers areas such as protecting public funding, the Prevent duty, the C conditions of registration, funding assurance, and providers that are exempt charities.

Will Dent, Office for Students

Will is Head of Financial Sustainability. He leads the organisation's intelligence on the financial sustainability of higher education providers. He is an expert in financial sustainability, financial analysis, corporate governance and risk management and has had many years' experience working closely with government departments including Department for Education (DFE), Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) and HM Treasury.

Stephanie Harris, Universities UK

Stephanie is currently the Director of Strategy, Insight and Member Engagement at Universities UK (UUK), the representative body for UK universities where she has worked for 7 years in various roles. These roles have included leading UUK's immigration policy, managing the organisation's international response to the covid-19 pandemic, and developing UUK's current strategic plan. In her current role, she acts as a senior adviser to the CEO and makes sure UUK's work is driven by and for its membership.

Karel Thomas, BUFDDG

Karel has worked in higher education since 1993, when she made a career change from banking, and financial systems. Since joining BUFDDG in 2003, Karel has built a great team of colleagues, and gathered a lot of information and contacts that she uses for the benefit of BUFDDG members, the HE sector, and Financial Services. She was awarded an MBE in the 2023 King's Birthday Honours for services to Higher Education.