

BJIR Conference in Memory of Professor Sir David Metcalf

A conference and subsequent special issue of the **British Journal of Industrial Relations** dedicated to the work of **Professor Sir David Metcalf**.

Thursday 03 - Friday 04 December 2026,

LSE, SAL.1.04, 32 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, WC2A 3PH, with refreshments served in room SAL.1.05.

In-person only, times are shown in GMT.

Day one - Thursday 03 December

09.00	Registration and refreshments
09.30	Welcome Session on David Metcalf's Contribution to Academia and Public Service, LSE and CEP, Obituaries David's life and work Presenter: Steve Nickell (University of Oxford) TBC Presenter: Sarah Ashwin (London School of Economics)
10.30	Invited presentation #1 Unions Presenter: Richard Freeman (Harvard University and NBER)
11.15	Coffee break
11.30	Session one: Trade unions On the road to perdition? Union coverage and membership in Britain, 1991-2022 Presenter: John Forth (City St George's, University of London) Revisiting Metcalf's unions-productivity agenda Presenter: Patrice Laroche (University of Lorraine) When floors fall: decentralisation and the inversion of the wage premium Presenter: Vassilis Monastiriotis (London School of Economics)
13.00	Lunch
14.00	Session two: Wages Trade Unions and the Young Presenter: David Blanchflower (Dartmouth College) Wage-setting in the UK: a machine learning approach Presenter: Maria Balgova (Bank of England) Do gender pay transparency laws spill over Across firms? Evidence from European supply chains Presenter: Mingfa Ding (Central University of Finance and Economics)
15.30	Coffee break
15.45	Invited Presentation #2 The price of permission: occupational licensing, labor market institutions and policy directions Presenter: Morris Kleiner (University of Minnesota)
16.15	Session three: Migration, Licensing, Non-Compliance

Estimating relative labour-market effects of immigration: evidence from UK administrative data

Presenter: **Jonathan Portes** (King's College London)

16.15 Session three: Migration, Licensing, Non-Compliance (Cont.)

Now you can take it with you: effects of occupational credential recognition on labor market outcomes

Presenter: **Ed Timmons** (The Archbridge Institute)

Canaries in coal mines: Targeted enforcement of work-related breaches and issues – evidence from the Working Lives Survey

Presenter: **Krisztian Posch** (University College London)

17.45 Drinks reception (open to all attendees)

19.30 Dinner (by invitation only)

Day two - Friday 04 December

08.45 Refreshments

09.00 David Metcalf's Contribution to Policy

Tim Butcher (Low Pay Commission)

Tim Harrison (Labour Market Enforcement & Migration Committee)

09.30 Invited presentation #3

History of National Minimum Wage/Low Pay Commission (TBC)

Presenter: **Richard Dickens** (University of Sussex)

10.15 Coffee break

10.30 Session four: Minimum Wages

Did the national minimum wage change consumption behaviour of the low paid in the UK?

Presenter: **Peter Dolton** (University of Sussex)

Minimum Wages and adverse shocks: evidence from English adult care homes during the Covid-19 pandemic

Presenter: **Andreas Georgiadis** (University of Leeds)

Market power and minimum wages

Presenter: **Nikhil Datta** (Warwick University)

12.30 Lunch

Presentation format

- 25 minutes for each presenter
- 10 minutes for each discussant
- 10 minutes for questions from the floor

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