Delivering Excellence in Higher Education

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Developments in HE Policy: Reflections on the emerging landscape

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Agenda

• HEFCE Revised Operating Model for Quality Assessment
• Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF) and TEF Technical Consultation Year 2

• Discussion questions
• Table discussions
• Participation in our ‘Poll Everywhere’ online surveys using your electronic device (Ipad, Tablet and Laptop)
• ‘Old School’ participation by talking welcome too!!
Polleverywhere

PollEv.com/leejones843 via windows device

Apple device: PollEv.com
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A UK quality system?

• **England:** new HEFCE QA model; TEF; White Paper and HE and Research Bill

• **Northern Ireland:** new HEFCE QA model; TEF Year 1; TEF year 2?

• **Wales:** 2015 HE Wales Act; consultation on variant of HEFCE QA model; TEF Year 1; TEF year 2?

• **Scotland:** Quality Enhancement Framework stands; review of Enhancement Led Institutional Review; HE Governance Act; TEF Year 1; TEF year 2?

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HEFCE QA model

Key features

• Baseline regulatory requirements
• Development period for recent entrants
• For established providers: verification of governing body assurance;
• Annual Provider Review; expanded 5-year HEFCE Assurance Review
• Degree standards: external examiner training; calibration (UK-wide)
• Right touch and risk based?
• Rapid, tailored intervention
• International review and strategic activities (UK-wide)
• 2016-17 pilots
• Changes to staff resource requirements?
• Implications for internal review processes?

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TEF Consultation

- TEF Assessment Criteria and Metrics
- Highly skilled employment metric(s)
- Setting benchmarks and splitting by characteristics – WP, Mode
- Submitting contextual information and additional evidence
- The Assessment Process
- Communicating TEF Outcomes
Poll 2 - Sector changes

What do you think will change in the sector as a result of the HEFCE’s Revised Operating Model for Quality Assessment, the TEF and the HE White paper? Rank in order of priority

• Improved student experience/better student performance
• Enhancement and improved standards
• More Higher Education Institutions (HEIs)
• Less HEIs/HEI Mergers
• An enhanced student voice
• A diminished student voice
• Increased use of ‘Big Data’
• Further marginalisation of part-time and mature students
• Fewer inter/multidisciplinary degrees (reduced diversity)
• TEF delivering quality improvements
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Poll 1 – Policy landscape

• If you reflect upon the rapidly changing HE Policy landscape, summarise in a few words what you identify as potential (1) challenges and (2) benefits arising from the HEFCE Revised Quality Model, the TEF and the HE White Paper?
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Discuss the challenges/benefits of the HEFCE Revised Model and place brief points/comments on the ‘text wall’.

Some ideas to prompt discussion:

- Implications for QA processes or internal process change management
- Maintaining a sector approach to enhancement and exchange of good practice
- Annual Provider Review
- Impact on collaborative provision
- Student involvement in process
- Assessment visits
- Concerns Scheme
- Capacity building for Governing Bodies
- External Examining arrangements
- Academic standards and quality enhancement

*Adapted by Jones and Colledge (2016) QSN Symposium, ‘Engaging with the New Landscape’, 21st June 2016, Leeds Beckett University*
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Group Discussion/Poll4 – TEF

Discuss the following challenges/benefits of TEF and place comments on the ‘text wall’

Some ideas to prompt discussion:

• Data and metrics - Influencing behavioural change in how we respond to the data
• TEF ratings – greater differentiation, granularity and an assessment criteria approach
• Distinguishing Excellent and Outstanding; Defining ‘commendation’ criteria
• Providers’ contextualisation – and what to include and/or omit
• Internal process change management
• Impact on collaborative provision
• Maintaining a sector approach to enhancement and exchange of good practice
• Link to HEFCE Annual Provider Review
• Role and involvement of Governing Bodies
• Handling/dealing with negative TEF metrics

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Poll 5 Institutional changes

What do you think will change in your institution as a result of the HEFCE’s Revised Operating Model for Quality Assessment, the TEF and the HE White paper? Rank in order of priority

- Greater innovation in learning and teaching
- Enhancement of the student experience
- Financial pressures with potential further erosion by inflation indexing
- More regulatory intervention
- Challenges to institutional autonomy
- Greater focus on institutional responsibility for academic standards
- External and internal ‘dictations’ to the governing body
- Direct access from the funders to hear the student voice
- Greater use of data analytics
- Increased transaction costs of moving to the new system
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Any questions?