

Incorporation of HE provision registered at further education colleges

PITG 12/01

Issue

1. The currently published Performance Indicators do not cover higher education registered at UK further education colleges.

Outcomes

2. The Performance Indicators Technical Group to provide advice to the Performance Indicators Steering Group on:
 - a. Practicalities of extending the current widening participation and non-continuation Performance Indicators to include HE registered at UK further education colleges;
 - b. Advantages and disadvantages of such an extension;
 - c. Any existing activities that relate to the production of indicators for HE provision registered at UK HEIs.

Discussion

Coverage of existing performance indicators

3. Since 1999, Performance Indicators for HE provision registered at HEIs (including provision franchised to further education colleges(FECs)) have been published on behalf of all four UK HE funding bodies. However no performance indicators have been published for HE provision registered at FECs.
4. There are a number of reasons why HE provision registered at FECs have not historically formed part of the coverage of the Performance Indicators including:
 - a. The number of data sources that cover HE provision registered at FECs across the UK.
 - b. The early Performance Indicators focused on full-time first degree provision. At that time, the level of full-time first degree provision registered at FECs formed only a small minority of the total full-time first degree provision.

HEFCE's work for provision registered at English FECs

5. In summer 2012 HEFCE will publish a first set of widening participation and non-continuation indicators for HE provision registered at further education colleges in England. The indicators for this publication are derived from data submitted to the Data Service's Individualised Learner Record (ILR) and the HESA student record for the years 2008-09 to 2009-10.
6. There will be two sets of indicators on the:
 - a. Low Participation Neighbourhood profile (as defined by POLAR2) for young full-time undergraduate entrants in 2009-10; and
 - b. The non-continuation state (one year after commencement) for both young and mature full-time undergraduate entrants in 2008-09.
7. The methods used to calculate the indicators have been designed to be as consistent as possible with the UK Higher Education Performance Indicators published by HESA for HE provision registered at HEIs.

Outcome

8. The Performance Indicators Technical Group to provide advice to the Performance Indicators Steering Group on:
 - a. Practicalities of extending the current widening participation and non-continuation Performance Indicators to include HE registered at UK FECs;
 - b. Advantages and disadvantages of such an extension;
 - c. Any existing activities that relate to the production of indicators for HE provision registered at UK HEIs.

Further information

18. For further information contact Mark Gittoes (Phone: 0117 931 7052; e-mail: m.gittoes@hefce.ac.uk).