

Chief Executive's Report

Issue

1. To update on work undertaken and issues that have arisen since the date of the last board meeting on 9 April 2020, to the extent that they are not covered in other board papers. Issues relating to COVID-19 (Coronavirus) and the OfS's response are covered in a separate paper.

Recommendations

2. The board is invited to:
 - Note the use of special delegations at paragraph 25 and Annex A
 - Approve proposed changes to the scheme of delegation outlined in paragraph 26 and at Annex B
 - Note the report on the use of delegated authority between 18 January and 13 May 2020 at Annex D
 - Note the update on media activity at Annex D
 - Note the update on OfS strategic and corporate risks at Annex E
 - Note the updates contained in this paper.

Further information

3. Available from Nicola Dandridge (nicola.dandridge@officeforstudents.org.uk).

Summary of main activity

4. The main focus of OfS activity since the date of the last board meeting has been coronavirus-related. Details of our response are set out in the separate board paper (paper 4.1). Over the course of the next three months, we plan to transition from an approach that primarily reacts to the impact of coronavirus, to one that follows our more usual business planning model, albeit in the context of a new coronavirus world.

Strategic objective – participation

5. This month (May 2020), we updated Regulatory Notice 1, which provides guidance on the submission of access and participation plans, together with the updated access and participation data-set and our A - Z guidance on effective practice. The aim of these updates is both to inform any new access and participation plan submissions once we return to normal regulatory requirements and to enhance the delivery of existing plans. We have also commissioned an evaluation of the access and participation plan assessment process conducted during 2020. This includes content analysis of plans to understand the extent to which they reflect the ambition and changes we have been seeking to achieve, a stakeholder review to understand how our reforms have influenced provider behaviour, and an after-action review with our own staff.
6. The Centre for Transforming Access and Student Outcomes (TASO), currently funded by the OfS, has announced that its new Director from June 2020 will be Dr Omar Khan. Omar is currently the Chief Executive of the Runnymede Trust, a race equality think tank. TASO completed a review of the existing evidence base for access and participation in February and is now commissioning work to analyse evaluation evidence relating to outreach to under-represented groups and BAME student success. The Centre will become an independent charity during the summer and aims to launch its online toolkit to help providers identify and use evaluation resources by the autumn.

7. Exempt from publication.

Strategic objective - experience

8. At the time of writing, we have registered 394 providers and refused registration to 25. Due to the difficulties of assessing provider applications during the coronavirus pandemic, and the need to prioritise OfS resources where they will be of most benefit in protecting current students, a sub-group of the PRC recently agreed a prioritisation strategy for dealing with registration applications:
 - We are not accepting new applications at this time
 - We are continuing to assess applications from providers wishing to change registration category
 - We are progressing to a final decision for those applications which are complete and where, on initial review, the provider is likely to satisfy the conditions of registration
 - We are pausing assessment of those applications where significant information is missing, or where on initial review the provider is unlikely to satisfy the conditions of

registration. We are recommending that these providers reapply once the operating environment is more stable. For any provider citing exceptional circumstances, we will take individual decisions about whether to proceed.

- We are pausing assessment of those applications where the provider would require a Quality and Standards Review by the QAA. We cannot currently make referrals to the QAA as they are unable to undertake onsite review visits. We are talking to QAA about whether they are able to undertake desk-based reviews for two providers which are intending to offer online provision only.

9. Although we have paused the harassment and sexual misconduct in higher education consultation, work has continued on the collation of feedback from the provider- and student-focused consultation events we held during February and March 2020, before lockdown came into effect. We expect that this consultation and our response to it will be a high priority for work when we reintroduce regulatory requirements.
10. We published in April updated official and experimental equality and diversity data for students at English higher education providers, bringing further data on protected characteristics into scope for consideration across our regulatory activities. This includes specific consideration of the underpinning causes and impact of persistent inequalities in relation to LGBT+ students, and differences in outcomes according to religion and belief, particularly for Muslim students.
11. Since the TEF board sub-group met in March, we are continuing to develop TEF proposals internally and we are working to align these with our wider regulatory functions, with particular focus on data alignment. We are also continuing to prepare for consultation on these proposals once the government has published its response to the independent review. We anticipate currently that the future TEF exercise will be completed by 2022 rather than 2021. We are discussing this with Research England as we want to avoid any overlap with the submission window for the REF, in relation to which dates are also still to be determined.
12. We continue to make decisions in relation to a provider's eligibility to receive a TEF award once they are registered. Two providers that have recently been registered have been granted provisional TEF awards. Ten providers have been deemed ineligible to receive a TEF award under the current scheme. These are providers who have either been refused registration or have withdrawn from the registration process. A further nine providers who have applied for a TEF award are awaiting a decision about their registration status. These decisions are likely to be delayed due to the pandemic. We will make recommendations on these providers' TEF eligibility once their registration applications have been determined.
13. The paper on funding considered at the last board meeting on 16 March 2020 included an update on the plans for the review of the OfS's approach to funding. At that time we anticipated that the government's spending review, and their response to the report of the independent panel for post-18 education funding, would be in the summer and that these would then provide the context for our own review of our funding, generally for

implementation for 2022-23. We had also expected to bring proposals to this board meeting on the process and eligibility criteria for the review of specialist institution funding, to form the basis of consultation over the summer, and to bring separate proposals about funding to support continued progress in 2021-22 on access to higher education.

14. There is now greater uncertainty over the timescales for the different elements of our funding review. This is due to uncertainty over the timing of the government's spending review and their response to the post-18 education funding review, as well as our own commitment not to consult while the current government measures to tackle the pandemic remain in force. We are continuing work on our review as far as we can, recognising in particular the desirability of making early progress with the review of funding for specialist providers.
15. Our current commitment to funding Uni Connect continues until July 2021, which means momentum on access measures could be lost if new funding arrangements are not introduced until 2022-23. We are developing proposals which would seek to maintain a collaborative outreach programme in 2021-22 to smooth the transition to new funding arrangements from 2022-23. We intend to bring these issues back to the board later this year.

Strategic objective – outcomes

16. Following the Board's approval in principle of challenge competition funding in March 2020, we have now finalised a proposed joint funding competition with UKRI/Research England to test innovative ways of improving access and participation for black, Asian and minority ethnic students in postgraduate research. Given the demands currently being placed on the sector, we have decided to postpone the competition until later this year, but we made a short announcement of the programme in May so that interested providers and partners can begin to develop ideas. This follows the joint programme with UKRI/Research England on supporting the mental health of postgraduate research students, for which we are currently finalising an evaluation report.

Strategic objective – efficient and effective

17. Following the board's discussion of a proposal to support the government's target to reach 'net zero' greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, we have now started work on phase one of the proposal. This comprises a consultation on the future collection and publication of carbon emissions data from registered providers and an OfS Insight Brief highlighting information on the sector's carbon emissions, and students' attitudes to climate change, to be published concurrently with the launch of the consultation.
18. Our Equality Diversity and Inclusion objectives (Action plan 2018 - 2022) include reference to "fostering inclusive leadership and culture, supporting staff to embed diversity and inclusion and behaving as an inclusive employer which attracts and retains diverse talent". An internal Equality Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) group, set up in 2018, produced a detailed report with recommendations which are now being taken forward. In particular,

workforce data and recruitment statistics were analysed and shared with staff, a task force established to review recruitment policy and processes, staff networks established and a suite of EDI training courses are being delivered. An EDI adviser has been recruited on a 12 month secondment to support our ongoing work in this area. She will be putting together a clear EDI governance structure that will ensure EDI will continue to be a priority and that we are on course to meet our six aspirational EDI targets, set in 2019.

19. We will be bringing our annual EDI report to the board in July 2020 with more details of our plans and activities.

20. As set out in our recently published student engagement strategy, a review of the student panel is currently underway, involving many members of the board. The review will evaluate the effectiveness of the panel, understand how the panel is having impact and consider whether improvements could be made to enhance the impact of the panel.

21. The review comprises:

- analysis of the impact of the work of the panel on OfS's work and on students' experiences
- a survey of panel members (past and present)
- telephone interviews with panellists led by Martha Longdon
- telephone conversations and a survey with members of the board
- feedback from colleagues who have engaged with the panel at the meetings
- research on other student panels and student engagement mechanisms

22. Themes and ideas which are highlighted during the review will be explored and summarised in a report with recommendations being shared with the board for information at the next board meeting.

23. Separately, recruitment for the 2020/21 student panel has been delayed due to coronavirus. Alternative options for interviewing prospective panellists are currently being explored so the recruitment process can proceed online. It is hoped that vacancies could be advertised during the summer, with a full panel in place by the start of the 2020/21 academic year. The format of the meetings will clearly need to be informed by both the outcomes of the student panel review along with the government's advice in relation to coronavirus.

24. In February 2020, we invited all staff to respond to a new OfS People Survey, which mirrored the Civil Service People survey. There were 357 responses in total, representing an overall 85 per cent response rate. The results are rich, and we are taking time to have a conversation across the organisation to build on areas of high satisfaction and also to address concerns raised. The survey showed that overall engagement is lower in OfS when compared to the Civil Service average, so we clearly have challenges to address. We will be bringing an update on our staff profile to the July board meeting, which will include a summary of responses to the People Survey.

25. Exempt from publication.

26. We are seeking the board's agreement to a further series of minor changes to the scheme of delegation. These are set out in Annex B.

27. Our communications activity has clearly been focused on responding to the impact of the pandemic on higher education and students. We have communicated with providers regularly and straightforwardly, setting out our changed regulatory requirements and new expectations around issues including unconditional offers. In addition to communicating directly with providers, we have also created a new coronavirus section on the OfS website, with sub-sections for providers and students. These have been well received, with the coronavirus pages becoming the most popular part of the website and accounting for over a quarter of visits to the website. We have published regularly updated FAQs on a range of issues and are linking to them on social media to ensure they are widely available. In addition, we are answering calls and emails from providers with a dedicated team, while our public affairs team continues to respond to a growing number of calls and emails from students and members of the public. We are continuing to have regular contact with the NUS, mission groups and representative bodies. There has been a marked increase in the number of questions and comments we are receiving from students on social media. We now have 13,000 followers on Twitter and continue to build our presence on LinkedIn and Instagram.

28. We continue to receive regular media queries and coverage in sector media, and we have had good balanced coverage on admissions, including articles in The Sunday Times, Daily Telegraph, BBC and Independent, as well as interest in our new case study-focused briefing notes on how the sector is responding to the crisis which cover issues such as accommodation and mental health. The accommodation briefing note has had more than 5,800 readers in its first three weeks and our mental health briefing 3,000 readers in its first two weeks.

29. A summary of media activity is available at Annex C.

30. Exempt from publication.

31. Exempt from publication.

32. Since the March board meeting, we have released our annual updates to several key performance measures (KPMs):

- KPM 1: Gap in participation between most and least represented groups;
- KPM 2: Gap in participation at higher-tariff providers between the most and least represented groups;
- KPM 3: Gap in non-continuation between most and least represented groups;
- KPM 4: Gap in degree outcomes (1sts or 2:1s) between white students and black students;

- KPM 5: Gap in degree outcomes (1sts or 2:1s) between disabled students and non-disabled students;
- KPM 18: Students achieving 1sts.

The new data points and updated visualisations, which mostly relate to the 2018-19 academic year, can be seen on our website: <https://www.officeforstudents.org.uk/about/measure-of-our-success/>.

33. In terms of litigation, we continue to seek to recover the remainder of our legal costs from Bloomsbury, who are now pursuing a second application for permission to appeal the High Court judgment, having already been refused permission by the High Court. We expect the Court of Appeal will make a decision on this application in May. We have made a compelling written submission arguing that permission to appeal should be refused (this builds on the High Court decision to refuse permission). If an appeal is permitted, this would be limited to points of law.

Annex B – amendments to the scheme of delegation

The following proposed amendments to the scheme of delegation approved by the board on [date] ensure that the scheme makes provision clearly for the disclosure of information in response to a request made under section 78 of HERA. This relates to disclosures made during the course of routine business relating to registration, monitoring and intervention, and DAPs and university title.

Amendments to insert after paragraph 18, which relates to registration:

18A In respect of any matters relating to applications for registration and/or the assessment of such applications, the chief executive, Director of Competition and Registration, and any member of staff at pay band 8 or above (with written authorisation from that director) has delegated authority to:

- a. compel the production of documents and information in accordance with any statutory provision (excluding section 61 of HERA);
- b. disclose information externally in accordance with any statutory power or duty (including, but not limited to, sections 63 and 78 of HERA); and
- c. do anything which is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive or incidental to the matters described in paragraph 18 and paragraph 18A (a) and (b).

Amendments to paragraphs 34 and 35, which relate to monitoring, intervention and sanctions:

34e. To disclose information externally in accordance with any statutory power or duty (including, but not limited to, sections 63 and 78 of HERA).

35b. The chief executive or Director of Competition and Registration is the person exercising the relevant function, or one of them has given written authorisation (in any form or medium) to the relevant member of staff in respect of all or any relevant functions (which may be on a specific occasion or on a time-limited or enduring basis).

Amendments to paragraphs 43 and 44, which relate to the use of university title:

43b. To disclose information externally in accordance with any statutory power or duty (including, but not limited to, sections 63 and 78 of HERA).

44b. The chief executive or the Director of Competition and Registration is the person exercising the relevant function, or one of them has given written authorisation (in any form or medium) to the relevant member of staff in respect of all or any relevant functions (which may be on a specific occasion or on a time-limited or enduring basis).

Amendments to paragraphs 54 and 55, which relate to degree awarding powers:

54c. To disclose information externally in accordance with any statutory power or duty (including, but not limited to, sections 63 and 78 of HERA).

55b. The chief executive or the Director of Competition and Registration **is the person exercising the relevant function, or one of them** has given written authorisation (in any form or medium) to the relevant member of staff in respect of all or any relevant functions (which may be on a specific occasion or on a time-limited or enduring basis).

Annex D - Report on use of delegated decision making

18 January – 13 May 2020

1. Under the scheme of delegation, the board delegates to the chief executive the ability to make changes to individual funding allocations, virements between budgets and decisions on the recovery of grant. On 16 March 2020, the OfS board also agreed a special delegation to provide decision-making and supplementary arrangements for matters relating to coronavirus (COVID-19) and other contingency arrangements. Under this delegation, on 20 March 2020, the Chief Executive delegated authority to the director of resources, finance and transformation and the director for fair access and participation:
 - a. The authority to make changes to individual funding allocations or virements between programme budgets, including changes to AY2019-20 recurrent and capital grants and changes from data audit/reconciliation work.
 - b. The authority to agree the specific allocations to providers or to funded organisations from within programme budgets following any agreed funding principles set by the board, including but not limited to:
 - i. The initial provider level allocations of 2020-21 capital grants.
 - ii. The initial budgets for each line of AY2020-21 recurrent funding.
 - iii. The initial provider level allocations of AY2020-21 recurrent grants.
 - c. The authority to finalise the terms & conditions of funding for AY2020-21.
 - d. The authority to publish any funding announcements.
 - e. The authority to make decisions on the reporting requirements (including timings of these) for any programme funding.
 - f. The authority to pause and stop any planned funding activities (e.g. challenge fund competitions).

Recurrent funding allocations for 2019-20

2. On 20 March 2020, the director of resources, finance and transformation agreed a number of changes to recurrent grant for academic year 2019-20. Revised allocations for 2019-20 were included in an updated Annex A to 'Recurrent funding for 2019-20' (OfS2019.17)¹, published on 27 March 2020. In total, 42 providers have had a change to recurrent grant for 2019-20 since allocations were last published in October 2019, with changes totalling £1,516,362. These changes have been met from funding originally set aside for allocation after May 2019 and do not affect our ability to secure the savings of £26 million that we are making from

¹ See www.officeforstudents.org.uk/publications/recurrent-funding-for-2019-20/.

uncommitted funds in academic year 2019-20 as a result of our grant settlement for financial year 2020-21.

3. The changes since October 2019 comprise:

- a. Allocations for three providers that were not registered in the Approved (fee cap) category in time for inclusion in our recurrent grant announcement in 18 Oct 2019 but had become registered in that category by 17 March 2020.
 - i. Funding to Spurgeon's College (£22,902), approved by the chief executive on 2 December 2019.
 - ii. Funding for Croydon College (£127,183) and Ealing, Hammersmith & West London College (£11,237), approved by the chief executive on 11 December 2019.
- b. Adjustments to high-cost subject funding for four providers arising from over-recruitment against medical or dental intake targets in academic year 2018-19 totalling -£5,717. The adjustments reflect the difference between the 2018-19 entrants originally reported on the Medical and Dental Students Survey 2018-19 (MDS18) and the confirmed entrants reported on MDS19. In addition, the director of resources, finance and transformation also agreed:
 - i. To mitigate an adjustment of -£19,475 for the University of Newcastle upon Tyne for over-recruitment against its dental intake target for 2018-19, because this reflected a data error in MDS19.
 - ii. Adjustments for eight providers to the full-time equivalent student numbers (FTEs) counted towards 2020-21 high-cost funding arising from net over-recruitment to medical or dental intake targets in the period 2015-16 to 2019-20, totalling -54.04 FTEs.
- c. Adjustments for two providers whose funding for 2019-20 was originally based on forecast FTEs for the year and has now been recalculated based on the Higher Education Students Early Statistics 2019-20 (HESES19) survey:
 - i. Funding adjustment to Easton & Otley College (now merged with City College Norwich) (-£112,725).
 - ii. Funding adjustment for University Centre Peterborough (-£13,093).
- d. Adjustments to providers arising from transfers of provision to newly registered providers:
 - i. Funding adjustment to Anglia Ruskin University (-£105,155).
 - ii. Funding adjustment to The University of East Anglia (-£221,255).
- e. Recalculation of 2019-20 recurrent grant for eight providers to reflect four provider mergers, totalling £30,219.

- f. Updates to allocations for seven providers to reflect transfers of students following the closure of GSM London, totalling £1,123,720.
- g. Changes arising from an approved data amendment panel submission in November 2019 to HESES18 data for one provider (University of East London), totalling £769,440.
- h. Adjustments to funding for the nursing, midwifery and allied health supplement for five providers that did not recruit to particular undergraduate or postgraduate courses in 2019-20, totalling -£130,600.
- i. An adjustment to FTEs and recurrent grant for University of Surrey relating to its School of Veterinary Medicine, totalling 98.34 FTEs and £44,375.
- j. Adjustments for ten providers arising from data audit and reconciliation, totalling £27,896. These providers are among fourteen that have changes to recurrent grant for 2017-18 and 2018-19 arising from data assurance work. Details of all these adjustments are provided in Table 1 below.

Changes to recurrent grant for 2017-18 and 2018-19

- 4. On 20 March 2020, the director of resources, finance and transformation agreed formulaic changes to recurrent grant for 2017-18 and 2018-19 for 14 providers arising from data audit or reconciliation. These changes are summarised in Table 1.

Table 1: Formulaic grant adjustments for 2017-18 to 2019-20 arising from data audit or reconciliation

Provider	Total adjustment to recurrent grant for 2017-18 and 2018-19	Adjustment to recurrent grant for 2019-20
University of Bolton	-£64,825	£30,842
University of Chester	-£555,071	
University of Hertfordshire	-£138,300	-£3,324
Leeds College of Building	-£14,256	£51
University of Leicester	-£277,094	£5,819
University of Liverpool	£1,292,927	£2,683
University of Manchester	-£147,410	-£9,397
Manchester Metropolitan University	£374,531	£1,060
North East Surrey College of Technology (NESCOT)	£17,476	£477
South Thames Colleges Group	-£107,822	
St. George's Hospital Medical School	-£25,164	
Staffordshire University	-£59,559	£1,395

Provider	Total adjustment to recurrent grant for 2017-18 and 2018-19	Adjustment to recurrent grant for 2019-20
The WKCIC Group	-£93,039	-£1,710
Yeovil College	-£15,529	
Total	£186,865	£27,896

Formula capital funding allocations for 2019-20

- On 20 March 2020, the director of resources, finance and transformation agreed changes to formula capital grant for financial year 2019-20 for 262 providers. Revised allocations for 2019-20 were included in an updated Annex A to 'Formula capital funding for 2019-20' (OfS 2019.13)², published on 27 March 2020. Changes since allocations were last published total £1,351,185 and have been met from the £2 million of formula capital grant originally set aside for allocation after March 2019.
- We do not provide capital funding for providers whose formula-based allocation would be less than £10,000. Most of the 262 providers had a change to funding because we have now allocated the full £90 million budget previously agreed. A small number had changes arising from data amendments, transfers and mergers, reflected in the changes to recurrent grant for 2019-20 described in paragraph 3. Of the three providers that were not registered in the Approved (fee cap) category in time for inclusion in our formula capital grant announcement in October 2019, only one (Croydon College) met the £10,000 minimum threshold for a formula capital allocation. Its allocation of £15,398 was approved by the chief executive on 11 December 2019.

Formula capital funding allocations for 2020-21

- On 20 March 2020, the director of resources, finance and transformation agreed initial formula capital allocations for providers for the financial year 2020-21. £136 million has been allocated to those that were on the Approved (fee cap) part of the register on 17 March 2020. The balance of £4M is set aside for allocation later in the year, including to other providers that join the Approved (fee cap) part of the register before the end of financial year 2020-21. 'Formula capital funding for 2020-21' (OfS 2020.17), published on 27 March 2020, shows this initial distribution to providers.³

Recurrent funding for 2020-21

- On 16 March 2020, the board agreed the approach to allocating recurrent grant for academic year 2020-21 totalling £1,255 million for providers registered in the Approved (fee cap) category.

² See www.officeforstudents.org.uk/publications/formula-capital-funding-for-2019-20/.

³ See www.officeforstudents.org.uk/publications/formula-capital-funding-for-2020-21/.

9. On 20 April 2020, the director of resources, finance and transformation agreed the approach to allocating recurrent grant in May 2020 to providers registered in the Approved (fee cap) category on 14 April. Specifically, these approvals were that:
- a. The scaling factor for high-cost subject funding for 2020-21 should be set at 0.972. The scaling factor is a feature of the method which, when multiplied by the standard rates of grant and student numbers for each price group, ensures allocations come within the budget available. The scaling factor of 0.972 compares with 1.025 for 2019-20, and means a cut to the rate of funding through the high-cost subject budget of 5.2 per cent.
 - b. We should make total provision of £2 million for allocation after May 2020 to providers that subsequently join the OfS Register in the Approved (fee cap) category after 14 April and by the end of the academic year, drawn from the budgets for the student premiums and the targeted allocation for students attending courses in London. We believe this overall amount of money to be set aside to be a reasonable estimate of future requirements.
10. On 30 April 2020, the director of resources, finance, and transformation agreed the initial allocations of recurrent grants for academic year 2020-21 to 327 providers that were registered in the Approved (fee cap) category by 14 April 2020. These allocations reflected the board's decisions on funding taken at its meeting on 16 March 2020 and the further decisions taken on 20 April 2020 as described above.
11. Following the government's announcement on 4 May 2020 about the package of measures to support higher education providers and students⁴, on 6 May we published 'Funding for academic years 2019 20 and 2020-21: OfS board decisions and outcomes of consultation' (OfS 2020.21).⁵ The director of resources, finance and transformation also wrote that day to providers in the Approved (fee cap) category about how we are adapting our approach to the allocation, monitoring and review of funding in response to the coronavirus pandemic.⁶
12. The initial recurrent grant allocations for 2020-21 were announced under embargo to providers on 12 May 2020 and published on 13 May.⁷

Competition Funding

13. On 23 March, the Chief executive agreed funding of £5,064,922 from the Challenge Competition budget to support 20 projects across the country that will trial innovative approaches to engaging students in knowledge exchange with business, public services and local communities.
14. On 24 March, the Research England Executive Chair agreed the same amount of matched funding, confirming a total award of £10,129,844. The programme is designed to influence future approaches to understanding and supporting student involvement in knowledge exchange, so will be influential for the reviews of Higher Education Business Community

⁴ See <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-support-package-for-universities-and-students>.

⁵ www.officeforstudents.org.uk/publications/funding-for-2020-21-ofs-board-decisions/

⁶ www.officeforstudents.org.uk/publications/implications-of-the-coronavirus-pandemic-for-ofs-funding/.

⁷ See www.officeforstudents.org.uk/advice-and-guidance/funding-for-providers/annual-funding/recurrent-funding/.

Interaction (HEB-CI) data and of Higher Education Innovation Funding (HEIF) in which we are also closely involved.

15. The awards were published on our website on 20 April.⁸ Both organisations are continuing to work closely together to ensure that these projects can start delivering as soon as is practicable, in keeping with our wider work to support the HE sector during the pandemic.

Uni Connect Partnerships

16. Following the board's confirmation that the 2020-21 budget for the Uni Connect programme was £60 million, the director for fair access and participation approved letters to Uni Connect partnerships notifying them of their allocations. The letters, sent on Monday 27 April, confirmed the indicative allocations as detailed in the original grant letters to partnerships in April 2019.

Terms and conditions of funding for 2020-21

17. On 29 April 2020, the director for resources, finance, and transportation approved the publication of the Terms and conditions of funding for 2020-21, following a consultation held on the proposed changes.⁹ They were published on 6 May 2020.¹⁰

⁸ See www.officeforstudents.org.uk/news-blog-and-events/press-and-media/funding-boost-for-students-to-work-with-business-and-communities/.

⁹ See www.officeforstudents.org.uk/publications/changes-to-terms-and-conditions-of-funding/.

¹⁰ See www.officeforstudents.org.uk/publications/terms-and-conditions-of-funding-for-2020-21/.

Annex F – Board forward look

2 July

Report from the Risk and Audit Committee
Report from the Horizon Scanning Panel
Finance report
OfS People update
Report from the Remuneration and Nominations Committee including periodic “focus on” the committee
PGT survey options and the next stages for NSS
EDI report (which is broader than just the People report)
the committee
Update on Data Futures

22 September

Report from the Provider Risk Committee
Report from the Quality Assessment Committee including periodic “focus on” the committee
Report from the Risk and Audit Committee
Finance report
OfS annual review
TEF
Review of admissions systems
TEF update
Follow up on freedom of speech and academic freedom

1 December

Report from the Provider Risk Committee
Report from the Horizon Scanning Panel
Finance report
OfS annual review