

To interested parties

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Open letter consultation: proposed new legal name for the University of Greenwich

I am writing to inform you of a consultation about the University of Greenwich's proposal to change its legal name. You can find further information about the consultation below.

As part of the merger between the University of Kent, and the University of Greenwich, the University of Greenwich has applied to the Office for Students (OfS) to change its legal name to 'London and South East University Group' (abbreviated as 'LASEUG' and 'LASE') upon completion of the proposed merger. It is proposed this merger will complete on 1 August 2026. Following the proposed merger, and subject to approval from the Department for Education, the universities intend that London and South East University Group will use the existing legal names of the University of Greenwich and the University of Kent as the trading names for the two student-facing academic divisions corresponding to the current universities that will be operated by London and South East University Group.

We are inviting you to share your views on whether the proposed new name of 'London and South East University Group' for the merged university is, or has the potential to be, confusing or misleading. This letter sets out further information about the consultation process, and the questions we are seeking your views on.

We are not seeking views on the proposed merger between the two universities.

Rationale for the proposed new name

Professor Jane Harrington, Vice-Chancellor and Chief Executive Officer of the University of Greenwich, and Professor Georgina Randsley de Moura, Acting Vice-Chancellor and President of the University of Kent, have provided the following statement:

‘The University of Greenwich and the University of Kent intend to formally collaborate by bringing both universities together before the start of the 2026-27 academic year. Subject to due diligence and approval by our governing bodies, we intend to establish a multi university group which will combine the strengths of both institutions under a single legal structure, giving us a greater foundation to transform lives and unlock opportunity across London and the South East.

‘We are seeking to change the legal name of the University of Greenwich on completion of the merger to ‘London and South East University Group’, which will be the name of the multi university group. We will continue to use the names of the University of Greenwich and University of Kent for the student facing divisions corresponding to the current universities. Students will continue to apply to, study at and graduate from their chosen university, and current students and new students joining us will continue to study the courses which they applied for. The structure enables in the future other universities to become part of the group.’¹

The OfS’s role in approving the proposed new legal name

We have powers to approve the use of the word ‘university’ in a registered higher education provider’s name.²

We are inviting views on the following questions:

1. Considering the proposed new legal name of ‘London and South East University Group’, for the merged university from completion of the proposed merger between the University of Greenwich and the University of Kent, in your view is it, or does it have the potential to be, confusing or misleading?
2. Please explain why you think this and provide any evidence to support your view.

Who should respond to this consultation?

We welcome responses from anyone with an interest in the proposed new legal name for the University of Greenwich upon completion of its proposed merger with the University of Kent.

How to respond

The consultation closes at **midday on Wednesday 3 December 2025**.

¹ This statement is the view of the individuals representing the University of Greenwich and University of Kent and has not been verified by the OfS.

² See section 77 of the Further and Higher Education Act 1992 and section 39 of the Teaching and Higher Education Act 1998.

Please submit your response by completing the online form: [Consultation survey - Proposed new legal name for the University of Greenwich](#).

If you require this document in an alternative format, or need assistance with the online form, please contact Regulation@officeforstudents.org.uk. Please note: this email address should not be used for submitting your response.

How we will treat your response

We will process any personal data received in accordance with all applicable data protection laws (see our privacy policy).³ Further information is provided within the survey.

We may need to disclose or publish information that you provide in the performance of our functions or disclose it to other organisations for the purposes of their functions. Information (including personal data) may also need to be disclosed in accordance with UK legislation (such as the Freedom of Information Act 2000, Data Protection Act 2018 and Environmental Information Regulations 2004).

Yours sincerely

David Smy

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³ Available at: [OfS privacy - Office for Students](#).