



Redesigning the information landscape

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“Redesign the information landscape...”

- ▶ Reduce burden on HE providers
- ▶ Improve quality,
- ▶ Improve timeliness,
- ▶ Improve accessibility

....of data and information about HE

Students at the heart of the system (BIS 2011)
paragraph 6.22

The symptoms



- ▶ Burden
 - ▶ 525 HE data collections
 - ▶ 93 organisations collecting student data
- ▶ Lack of coherence in published information
 - ▶ Different definitions and timescales
- ▶ Issues of data quality and consistency across the landscape

The causes



- ▶ Lack of co-ordination amongst data collectors
- ▶ Lack of co-ordination in responding to data requests
- ▶ Data capability across HE providers and data collectors

....and by the way

- ▶ This is a UK-wide issue
- ▶ This is not a technology problem!

Vision for a new landscape



- ▶ Collective governance function and common data principles
- ▶ Standard dataset with agreed definitions
- ▶ Rationalisation of data collections through HESA
- ▶ Enhanced data capability

(HEDIIP New Landscape report – KPMG 2015)

1. Collective governance



- ▶ New Landscape report describes approach to landscape governance
 - ▶ Collective and consensual
 - ▶ Transparent and working for the common good
 - ▶ Balancing the needs of data collectors and HE providers
- ▶ Now working through the detail and establishing the governance structure
 - ▶ Board supported by technical advisory group(s)
 - ▶ Equal number of nominees from data collectors and HEPs
 - ▶ Hosted by HESA



1. Collective governance

- ▶ Own and support a set of principles for the information landscape
- ▶ Oversee the management and adoption of standards
 - ▶ Data specifications
 - ▶ Analysis standards
 - ▶ Process standards
- ▶ Act as forum for the discussion and resolution of issues
- ▶ Inventory of data collections – review and update



2. Standard datasets and definitions

- ▶ Initial focus on student data
- ▶ Standard student dataset
 - ▶ Form the core of future (rationalised) data collections
 - ▶ Standard entities and concepts (and language)
 - ▶ Standard data field definitions
- ▶ Building on previous lexicon/thesaurus analysis
- ▶ Delivery July 2016

2. Standard datasets and definitions



- ▶ ULN
 - ▶ Roadmap to adoption (published this summer)
 - ▶ Phase 1 - Adoption management group
 - ▶ Improved harvesting and sharing of ULNs where they exist
 - ▶ Establishing a link between the ULN and the SCN
 - ▶ Communications and awareness raising
 - ▶ Benefits
 - ▶ Qualification verification
 - ▶ Data linking (especially widening participation)
- ▶ Later phases extend coverage and deliver greater benefits

2. Standard datasets and definitions



- ▶ Subject coding – deliver before Christmas
 - ▶ New subject coding system (HECoS)
 - ▶ Non-hierarchical coding system – 6 numeric characters
 - ▶ Management/governance plan
 - ▶ Standard approach to analysis
 - ▶ Common approaches to aggregation for analysis to be developed
 - ▶ Approach to adoption
- ▶ Next steps
 - ▶ Agree adoption timetable
 - ▶ Extensive training and comms

3. Rationalisation of data collections



- ▶ HESA Data Futures programme (formerly CACHED)
 - ▶ A more frequent, timely approach to HE data collection
 - ▶ To meet the requirements of more stakeholders
 - ▶ Reduce the need for duplication in data collections
- ▶ Sector-wide consultation
 - ▶ Running until 18 December
 - ▶ Consultation events across the UK

4. Enhanced data capability



- ▶ Emerging agenda
 - ▶ BIS Data Capability strategy (2013)
 - ▶ NESTA and UUK reports (2015)
- ▶ HEDIIP Data capability toolkit
 - ▶ Management and governance of data assets
 - ▶ Self-assessment of capability maturity
- ▶ Building a community of practice
 - ▶ Data capability seminars – 150 delegates to date
 - ▶ Conference in 2016
- ▶ Analysis of sector data capability (November)