Review of HE-BCI Survey for 2013/14

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About HESA

- Established in 1993
- The central data collection and provision agency for UK HE, owned by the sector for the sector
- What data do we collect:
  - HE Student record
  - HE Aggregate Offshore record
  - HE Initial Teacher Training record
  - Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education
  - Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education Longitudinal Survey
  - Higher Education Campus record
  - Higher Education Finance Statistics record with Higher Education Business and Community Interaction Survey
  - Higher Education Staff record
  - Higher Education Estates management record

Purpose of the HE-BCI Survey

- The survey is in its eleventh year
- The main vehicle for measuring the volume and direction of interactions between UK HEIs and business and the wider community
- Data is invaluable as management information, in policy development
- Also important as metrics driving the allocation of public funds to further develop HEIs' infrastructures in this area
- Informs funding of Knowledge Transfer

Business and Community Interaction

- Business = private, public and third-sector partners of all sizes and sectors

- Community = society as a whole outside of the HEI including all social, community and cultural organisations and individuals

HE-BCI Survey at HESA

- HESA took on responsibility for collecting HE-BCI information in 2008/09

- Aligned with other UK-wide collections

- Became a formal part of the HESA Finance Statistics Return (FSR)

- Aim was to reduce burden through use of a common process

- Also allow for cross-checks to be made between the two returns during data collection

HE-BCI Survey at HESA (continued)

- Benefits from HESA's data collection and management processes

- Compulsory for HEIs in England, Northern Ireland and Wales

- Had been optional for Scotland until 2011/12 but is now compulsory

- Data submitted December each year

- Publication of the full set of data in May

Part A

- Qualitative questionnaire

- Web form

- Collects information on the infrastructure, capacity and strategy of HEIs

- Data captured not likely to be considered as potential funding metrics…

- …but provides invaluable information (at HEI and regional and national levels) for HEIs and policy-makers

Part B

- Quantitative data
- Five Excel tables
- Primarily concerned with gathering numeric and financial data about third stream activity
- Tables:
  - Research-related activities
  - Business and community services
  - Regeneration and development programmes
  - Intellectual property (IP)
  - Social, community and cultural engagement

The review

- First major review since HESA took on the responsibility for the collection

- Commenced April 2012

- Due to be completed January 2013

- The changes will be implemented for 2013/14

Review Group

- Review Group includes representatives from:
  - HEIs
  - UK Governments
  - Technology Strategy Board (TSB)
  - Research Councils
  - AURIL and PraxisUnico
  - Universities UK (UUK)
  - GuildHE
  - Council for Industry and Higher Education (CIHE)

Review process so far…

- April – Review Group met to identify issues with the HE-BCI Survey

- Electronic forum set up to discuss issues and work towards recommendations for change

- Review Group met again in August to finalise proposals ready for consultation with the sector

- Consultation period – 17 September – 12 October

- HESA impact analysis running in parallel to ensure any proposed changes are technically feasible and are compatible with HESA policy and products.

HIGHER EDUCATION STATISTICS AGENCY

Review of Part A

- The proposed changes consist mainly of updates to answer options to ensure that they are relevant, provide useful data and better information

- Some questions removed

- Supporting guidance will be reviewed following confirmation of the revised content

- The highlights are…

Q1. In which areas do you see your HEI as a whole making the greatest contribution to economic development? *Please tick ALL of the areas that apply and then indicate which are the three key areas.*

	Areas	Key contribution areas
Widening participation/access	☐	☐
Graduate retention in local region	☐	☐
Knowledge exchange	☐	☐
Supporting small and medium size enterprises (SMEs)	☐	☐
Helping with student and graduate enterprises	☐	☐
Provision of incubator support	☐	☐
Attracting inward investment to region	☐	☐
Research collaboration with industry	☐	☐
Attracting non-local students to the region	☐	☐
Support for community development	☐	☐
Developing local partnerships	☐	☐
Management development	☐	☐
Meeting regional skills needs	☐	☐
Meeting national skills needs	☐	☐
Spin-off activity	☐	☐
Facilitating networks	☐	☐

HIGHER EDUCATION STATISTICS AGENCY

Q3. Please indicate how your institution selects the sectors that it works with. (Tick all that apply)

Currently…
- The HEI is a specialist institution focused on sector-specific areas
- The HEI took its cue from priorities in RDA regional strategies
- Response to demand from companies in these sectors
- The HEI identified important business clusters in its region
- These sectors had best fit with the HEI's strategy
- The HEI focused on a 'gap in the market' left by other HEIs
- Other - please specify

Proposed answer options…
- Best fit with the institution's strengths
- Focus on the institution's future strategy
- Existing collaborations (including those via staff and students)
- Response to demand from external partners
- Response to Government (local, national, devolved) policy
- Other (please specify)

New answer options to make clear the distinction between supply, external collaboration and demand-led strategies

Q6. Which of the following areas is of greatest priority in your HEI's mission? *Please tick ALL of the areas that apply and then indicate which the key area is.*

	Areas	*Key contribution area*
• ~~Regional Development Agency (RDA) area~~		
• Locality	☐	☐
• Local authority area	☐	☐
• **English region**	☐	☐
• **Devolved Government/Administration region**	☐	☐
• **International EU**	☐	☐
• **Other international**	☐	☐
• Area defined by the HEI	☐	☐

Q11 Does your HEI have a central dedicated unit which provides the following?

- Proposed change of 'central dedicated' to structured system'

- Change proposed as it is not the location of the provision but the existence of a system that is important

- No proposed changes to answer options

Q12. Does your HEI have any subsidiary companies or distinct departments of the organisations responsible for Business and Community interactions and what are they? (Tick all that apply)

Previously

- No
- Yes, exploitation company
- Yes, internal department
- Yes, both

Proposed

- No
- Yes, exploitation company wholly owned
- Yes, exploitation company majority owned
- Yes, exploitation company minority owned
- Yes, internal department

Restriction on the number of options that can be selected is proposed for removal (previously 'Select one only')

Q18. Is there a requirement within the HEI to report or disclose (internally) the creation of the following types of intellectual property to the disclosure (external relations etc.) company or department?

- Select one response for each row:

- Always (1); Usually(2); Rarely/Never (3)

- changed to (Select one response for each row: yes or no)

- Change proposed in order to provide better capture of information

Q22. What, if applicable (i.e. written into staff regulations or institutional policy for external engagement), is the maximum number of days per year a member of staff is permitted to devote to providing expertise and/or services for social and community groups, civic authorities, broadcast media and cultural events?

- Wording changed to "In academic staff contracts - what is the maximum number of days per year that academics may carry out private activities of engagement with business and the community (i.e. not recorded elsewhere in this survey)?"

- Change proposed in order to clarify exactly what information is required.

Q27 If engaged in regeneration programmes, which roles, if any, do funding from regeneration programmes play for the HEI?

Previously

- Additional funds for teaching, training
- Additional funds for research
- Enabling capital projects – new building/accommodation
- Acquiring research equipment (used also by external partners)
- Building strategic links with local external partners
- Fulfilling regional mission through new services to external partners
- Facilitating partnerships
- Enhancing knowledge of labour market needs

Proposed

- Adding/improving capability for teaching and learning (resource)
- Adding/improving capability for research (resource)
- Strengthening/Facilitating links with the non-academic community
- New/additional funds for teaching capital (buildings)
- New/additional funds for teaching capital (equipment)
- New/additional funds for research capital (buildings)
- New/additional funds for research capital (equipment)
- Not engaged in any regeneration programmes

The options have been replaced with more generic options and new responses for capital.

Summary of changes to Part A

- Currently there are 35 questions
- Number of questions with changes proposed – 14
- Number of questions with no changes proposed – 16
- Number of questions proposed for removal from the Survey - 5
- No new questions proposed

Review of Part B

- Focus of the proposed revisions on the design and structure of the five tables

- Work on supporting guidance, including adding more examples and good practice will take place following the consultation

- Following the closure of the RDAs it is not proposed that any regional data be collected in Part B

Table 1 Research related activities

- Just one change proposed…

- …the removal of the 'subtotal Regions' (formerly RDA) column

Table 2 Business and community services

- Proposed change of Head 1 from 'Consultancy contracts' to 'Consultancy'

- Removal of the 'subtotal Regions' (formerly RDA) column

Table 3 Regeneration and development programmes

- Removal of the 'subtotal Regions' (formerly RDA) column

- Capital is currently not captured in Table 3 – consulting on whether or not it would be useful to capture capital

- Two options being consulted on:
  - Add one row to capture capital (leaving the other options to capture revenue only); or
  - Add a new column in order to capture capital from each funding source

Table 4 Intellectual property (IP)

- Removal of the 'subtotal Regions' (formerly RDA) column

- Addition of sub-head 'Number of patents filed by an external party naming the HEI as an inventor' added under Head 1

- Heads 2 and 3 amended to include 'patents, copyright, design registration and trademarks'

- Two new sub-heads, 2av and 2bv to capture total number of non-software/software licenses generating income

Table 4 Intellectual Property (continued)

- Re-ordering of Head 4 so that it shows the current year before the previous year – consistent with the other tables

- Addition of sub-heads 4av and 4bv social enterprises

Table 5 Social, community and cultural engagement

- Re-ordering of the year of collection above the previous year's data to bring in line with the other tables
- Also consulting on whether or not it would be useful for HEIs to indicate whether their counts for visitors to events are accurate or estimate
- This will assist users of the data

Review process…next steps

- Analysis of consultation responses and HESA impact analysis

- Review Group to review guidance to Part A and the Tables in part B – examples and good practice to be added

- Third meeting of the Review Group

- Recommendations for change presented to HESA Board in December

- Resulting HE-BCI Survey manual for 2013/14 published in January 2013

Any questions?

- consult@hesa.ac.uk
- http://www.hesa.ac.uk/content/view/2603/