



**Higher Education Statistics Agency**

# **Strategy**

## **2010 - 2014**

# HESA Strategy 2010-2014

## **Our Mission**

To support the advancement of UK higher education by collecting, analysing and disseminating accurate and comprehensive statistical information in response to the needs of all those with an interest in its characteristics and a stake in its future.

## **Our Vision**

The general public, prospective students, students, universities and colleges, government organisations, funding agencies, politicians and policy makers will have easy access via HESA to a comprehensive body of reliable statistical information and analysis about UK higher education. This resource will be maintained and developed to the highest standards and will be acknowledged in the UK and overseas as authoritative, useful and cost effective.

## **Our Values**

### **Excellence**

We serve higher education well and earn the trust of its stakeholders by striving for the highest quality in all our activities and nurturing our independence and impartiality.

### **Collaboration**

We work in partnership with organisations and individuals, making sure we understand their needs and responding in a supportive and professional manner.

### **Responsibility**

We welcome our duty to be accountable for all we do, to use our resources well, to value our staff and their expertise and to provide clear public benefit.

## Objectives

### **Increasing understanding**

Engage with a wide variety of stakeholders in higher education to increase our understanding of their needs and help us shape our services.

Meet with and listen to a broad range of people involved in higher education policy development and its implementation.

Translate the needs of data users into the provision of statistics and sector intelligence that support evidence-based policy- and decision-making.

Actively participate in relevant stakeholder conferences, working groups and initiatives.

Work in partnership with others to lead on the development of common standards and good practice in the field of data collection, analysis and dissemination.

Review the nature and timing of our collections to ensure the data are relevant and sufficiently broad in scope, to cut out duplication and to minimise the burden on the sector.

## Objectives

### **Collecting information**

Create an information resource by ensuring the right information is collected and managed in the right ways and at the right times.

Collect appropriate data in the most efficient and effective ways.

Ensure the data collected are fit for purpose.

Work with those delivering higher education to identify and spread best practice in the collection and management of data.

Provide individual institutions with the support and advice they need.

Deliver an effective programme of seminars, visits and bespoke training about data collection and management.

Fulfil our obligations to statutory customers and nurture our close working relationship with them.

Achieve more timely reporting across the academic year.

Carefully curate the information resource to safeguard future analysis and time series.

## Objectives

### **Disseminating information**

Use the information resource and HESA's expertise in responsible and insightful ways that benefit higher education and wider society.

Develop information provision and analysis services and products that satisfy the requirements of HESA's partners and customers.

Lead fresh thinking about potential applications of HESA information within and beyond the higher education sector

Further refine the HESA management information system (heidi) so that it gives increasing value to its subscribers.

Adhere to the highest standards in the production and dissemination of statistical outputs in accordance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

Ensure that users of the information resource are fully aware of how the data should be interpreted and applied responsibly.

Communicate effectively about HESA's role, services, products and plans.

## Objectives

### **Operating effectively**

Be a well-run organisation that people want to work with and for.

Operate in line with HESA's values and with appropriate leadership principles and management disciplines.

Review efficiency, value for money and business planning as part of a wider drive for financial sustainability.

Ensure that HESA functions in an ethically sound and socially and environmentally responsible manner.

Assess HESA's governance to make sure it accords with best practice and all relevant legislation.

Review the way staff are recruited, developed and rewarded to ensure they are well motivated and feel valued, and that HESA retains their expertise.

Maintain ISO Quality Management and Information Security accreditations.

Strengthen IT and other essential systems as necessary to improve their resilience and fitness for the future.

Review HESA's office accommodation and facilities in the light of the organisation's current and anticipated needs.

Work within a programme, project and change control framework.

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