HEIDI Stakeholder Group
Wednesday 15th October 2014
HESA, 95 Promenade, Cheltenham

Current issues   HSG/14/02/04

The heidi Stakeholder Group is invited to provide feedback on the following heidi current issues.

1. Unistats data

Following previous consideration by the Group regarding the inclusion of Unistats data within heidi, further work has been undertaken by HESA to look at how the data could be structured.

When planning resources for the coming year it has become clear that incorporating this new dataset prior to the release of the new heidi service in November 2015 would be very challenging. In addition, it is likely that a commercial BI tool will provide an improved user experience when analysing this data, due to greater flexibility in the way the data can be held and manipulated.

For consideration:

The group are asked to approve the deferral of the inclusion of Unistats data in heidi until after the new heidi service is released in November 2015.

2. Further Education (FE) student data

HESA has decided that Further Education data will no longer be included in tables within HESA publications from 2015. It is felt that the data is not representative of the complete population and therefore has little relevance. The heidi data usage statistics have also provided evidence of the lack of usage of this data (FE student data was viewed by 16 users at 14 organisations during the 2013 calendar year).

In heidi, FE data is shown at summary level by cost centre and mode of study (4 way breakdown). It is proposed that, in line with other HESA output, FE data is discontinued from heidi as of February 2015 (and therefore will not form part of the 2013/14 Student data release). It is noted that we are not applying the heidi data maintenance policy in this instance due to the wider nature of the change.

For consideration:

The group is asked to approve FE data being discontinued from heidi from February 2015.

3. Local administrators and granting access to folders to other roles

The topic for discussion below has been raised by Andrew McConnell.

Since the introduction of report folders within heidi 2.0 in 2008, local administrators have been devolved the responsibility for granting access to HESA standard report folders to roles (and therefore users)

within their organisation. A consequence of this is that non-administrative users are unable to view HESA standard reports automatically without requesting access from their local administrator.

The original idea behind this approach was to provide local administrators a method of structuring access to heidi within their organisation by granting access to folders to groups of users who would be specifically interested in the content of the folder (for example, EMR standard report folders may only be of interest to Estates staff).

It has been suggested that the reasons behind this process not being automatic are reviewed and a decision is made about whether this approach is still required.

For information, there have been 15 support requests received within the last 12 months relating to accessing folders or granting access to folders within heidi.

For consideration:

The group is asked to consider whether this approach is useful within their organisation. If the consensus is that it is appropriate to lift this restriction, is there enough of a requirement for this to be implemented on current heidi, or considered for the new version of heidi

Example of a HESA standard report folder within the Manage reports screen: