

Performance Indicators contextual information and commentary

PITG 11/09

Issue

1. Action from PISG for PITG to provide initial advice to the PISG on the potential improvements to be made to the contextual information and commentary published alongside the PIs on HESA's website.

Recommendations

2. **Recommendation:** PITG to discuss the suggestions below.

Suggestions

3. HESA to make the following modifications to the existing PIs website:
 - Re-structure the introductory pages creating an initial basic introduction page explaining what the PIs are and how they should be interpreted.
 - Have a separate FAQ section to replace the existing "guide to PIs".
 - Have a separate page about PISG and the PITG sub-group with papers from PISG meetings.
 - Re-work the definition sections making them more accessible with plain English text followed by additional information referencing the relevant HESA fields. For example, a simple definition explaining the various levels of study followed by a list of COURSEAIM codes applicable to each category.
 - Simplify the technical documents explaining them in more straightforward terms with examples followed by formulae and references to the relevant HESA fields.
 - Add a basic feedback form to the site with comments being sent to the HESA PI team for action.
 - Include a short survey on the website allowing users to comment on the individual tables, their usage and possible improvements. In the first instance, an e-mail could be sent to all institutional PI contacts at institutions encouraging them to complete the survey. The survey could remain on the site long-term with any key messages and suggestions being fed-back to the steering groups.
 - Extend the PIs tables (excluding T6 which is Welsh institutions only) to include the full list of UK HEIs making table comparisons between tables more straightforward.

Further information

4. For further information contact Suzie Dent (Phone: 01242 211109; e-mail: suzie.dent@hesa.ac.uk).