

Teaching Excellence Framework: review of data sources - ONS' interim report

UKPITG 16/04

Issue

1. To understand the progress of work to develop the Teaching Excellence Framework in England, and any implications of review work undertaken by BIS and the ONS for the UK Performance Indicators.

Recommendations

2. It is recommended that UKPITG consider the ONS' interim report on their review of TEF data sources, and identify any implications for existing UKPIs or their future development.

Discussion

3. In support of their development of the TEF, BIS commissioned the ONS to undertake a review of data sources that the TEF intended to draw upon. The ONS' interim report was published in May 2016. The report is available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/teaching-excellence-framework-interim-review-of-data-sources> . The Government's technical consultation on the TEF is available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/teaching-excellence-framework-year-2-technical-consultation> .
4. On the basis that the data sources and methodologies intended for use in the TEF overlap significantly with those used in the UKPIs, members are invited to consider ONS' interim report and any potential implications for existing UKPIs or their future development. In particular:

“Recommendation 3: Further analysis of the characteristics of responders and non-responders should be carried out. If differences are found, determine weights to adjust for the differences. One way of exploring this is to follow-up on non-responders and to persuade them to fill-in the questionnaires; this is usually not easy. However, with HESA student record data, there is already a rich source of student data available to use to identify whether characteristics differ between responders and non-responders.

Traditionally, weights can be used to adjust for differences between responders and non-responders.”

5. Therefore the provision of further information to UKPISG on suppression and/or imputation approaches within the UKPIs may be an area worthy of UKPITG's particular consideration.
6. Members are invited to note that paper UKPITG 16/06 acknowledges the developing overlap between the ONS' review of TEF data sources and UKPITG's requirements for an independent assessment of the statistical approach to the benchmarking.

Further information

7. For further information contact Alison Brunt (Phone: 0117 931 7166; e-mail: a.brunt@hefce.ac.uk) or Mark Gittoes (Phone: 0117 931 7052; email: m.gittoes@hefce.ac.uk).