

Progress against circular [W14/08HE: Strategic Approach to the Student Experience 2013/14 to 2015/16](#) (extended to 2016/17)

Encourage institutions to continuously enhance the student experience for the diverse student population including through listening to the student voice		
A1	Provide funding for Wise Wales, to be match funded by the sector from 2014/15, in order to achieve the Wise objectives	Completed. £20k funding provided from HEFCW annually, match funded by the sector.
A2	Develop an impact plan to underpin and strengthen Wise Wales and clarify the outcomes;	Completed. The steering group of Wise Wales was strengthened, and increased emphasis placed on impact.
A3	Work with the Wise Wales partners to develop a statement on partnership, in order to agree what can be achieved pan-Wales;	Completed. Statement developed.
A4	Ask the QAA to introduce an increased focus on partnership in the IRW, in order to embed the partnership statement in institutions.	Completed, as part of the Higher Education Review: Wales method .
A5	Encourage institutions continuously to enhance the student experience for the diverse student population;	Completed: through the Higher Education Review: Wales method , Wise Wales , student charter guidance , and relationship agreement guidance . HEFCW's student charter guidance was updated in July 2017 .
A6	Support the participation of Wales in the National Teaching Fellowship Scheme, to recognise and reward excellent learning and teaching;	Completed. 20 National Teaching Fellowships in Wales since 2011/12.
A7	Monitor the impact of student charters, and the implementation of HEFCW's guidance on good practice in the funding of effective, democratic students' unions, in collaboration with NUSW and institutions, and report to Welsh Government;	Monitoring completed ; revised guidance on student charters and funding of effective, democratic student unions published. HEFCW's

		student charter guidance was updated in July 2017.
A8	Liaise with UK-wide agencies to promote good practice in relation to the NSS;	Completed; participation in the Higher Education Public Information Steering Group and Student Information Advisory Group; also joint working with Higher Education Academy.
A9	Follow up on outcomes against our Corporate Strategy measure relating to the NSS and take action to ensure institutions address poor outcomes, including at subject level;	Completed; annual analysis of outcomes, and follow-up with institutions at both institutional and subject level.
A10	Encourage institutions to collaborate on quality enhancement including through the 'Future Directions' themes;	Completed. Two Future Directions Themes completed, Graduates for our future , and Global Graduates: Enabling Flexible Learning . Now replaced by Transition, Retention and Attainment enhancement theme .
A11	Keep support of external agencies under review to ensure the most effective, value for money support that meets the needs of Wales, and encourage institutions to analyse the use they make of these agencies to enhance the student experience.	Completed. These are now being considered as part of the Universities UK review of sector agencies .
Deliver our statutory responsibilities for quality assessment		
A12	Work with the QAA to discharge our statutory duties regarding quality assessment;	Completed on an annual basis, as evidenced through reports to Council.
A13	Monitor the outcomes of institutional reviews against our Corporate Strategy target for all institutions to meet the UK thresholds for quality and standards in the IRW	Completed.

Work with higher education providers to ensure that they engage effectively with the UK Professional Standards Framework and the UK Quality Code for Higher Education		
A14	Encourage institutions to engage with the updated UKPSF;	Completed.
A15	Discharge our statutory responsibilities for quality assessment via the QAA, using the institutional review process to evaluate whether institutions are engaging effectively with the quality code.	Completed. All institutions have been reviewed in the last six year period.
Work with partners to ensure that prospective and current students have appropriate information about higher education		
A16	Provide timely information on Key Information Sets for Wales, which contain richer information for prospective students;	Completed. The Key Information Set was published for a number of years, and information is now presented on institutional websites as well as Unistats.
A17	Support institutions in their introduction of the Higher Education Achievement Report.	Completed.
Review our strategy for enhancing learning and teaching through technology to reflect new and innovative forms of learning		
A18	Undertake a further evaluation of our strategy for enhancing learning and teaching through technology;	Completed. A further evaluation was carried out, and an updated version of the strategy published . It is now in the process of being evaluated, having reached the end of its 10 year period.
A19	Provide pump priming funding to the HEW group leading on the development of Wales as an OER/OEP nation, to encourage institutions to engage with open educational practices and ensure that all students in Wales benefit from the enhancement of their learning experience;	Completed. Funding was provided and activity resulted in the declaration of Wales as an OER/OEP nation; the national OER15 conference being

		held in Wales in 2015; production of a website , case studies, and a MOOC.
A20	Take account of the recommendations from the Online Digital Learning working group in policy developments related to enhancing learning and teaching through technology.	Completed. Recommendations were taken into account in the revised ELTT strategy , published in 2014.
Support Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship (ESDGC) through sector networks		
A21	Take account of the Future Generations (Wales) bill when it is published, in developing policies, procedures and guidance, in order to ensure that institutions can demonstrate a commitment to sustainability and global citizenship;	Completed. This has been built into HEFCW impact assessment of new policies and procedures, to ensure it is fully embedded. Committee Terms of Reference have been updated where appropriate to take account of the Act.
A22	Ask the HE Academy to participate in the ESDGC network for Wales, ensure links are made with the Academy's work on sustainability, and work with the sector to enable it to deliver the Welsh Government's ESDGC ambitions in the HE context.	Completed. HEA continued this work through to the end of the HEFCW grant period.
Work with providers to be innovative in increasing the flexibility of provision, building on the advantages of the Credit and Qualifications Framework for Wales (CQFW)		
A23	Commission an event to share the outcomes from the developmental review of foundation degree programmes;	Completed. Report published and event held on 27 November 2013.
A24	Contribute to the review of the CQFW.	Completed. Report published .
Support Y Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol to extend the range of Welsh medium provision and increase student participation in Welsh medium higher education, including in more vocational subjects		
A25	Support the work of the Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol;	Completed. Responsibility for the Coleg has been moved to Welsh Government as of April 2017.

		HEFCW continues to liaise with the Coleg.
A26	Undertake an evaluation of the outcome of the activities of Y Coleg;	Completed. Report published .
A27	Work with the Coleg and the sector to ensure that our Corporate Strategy target for those undertaking at least 5 credits, and at least 40 credits, through the medium of Welsh is met.	Completed. The 5 credit target was exceeded in 2015/16 at 6784 (against a target of 5600); the 40 credit target was close to being met, at 2860 (against a target of 3030).
Work with the Welsh Government and our partners to support the sector's delivery of the Higher and Further Education International Action Plan for Wales		
A28	Work in partnership with HEW, Welsh Government, Colegau Cymru and British Council Wales in supporting the implementation of the International Action Plan for Wales;	Completed. HEFCW is an active member of the Global Wales initiative.
A29	Monitor progress of the measure in our Corporate Strategy on the number of overseas students attending HE courses in Welsh HEIs;	Completed. Monitored using HESA data on an annual basis.
A30	Monitor the numbers of TNE partnerships/campuses and proportion of international staff in institutions;	Completed. HEPs are required to provide information on TNE partnerships in Fee & Access Plan applications (Table F). Some providers provide the proportion of international staff as measure in their SPED submissions.
A31	Encourage institutions to continue to participate in overseas student exchange programmes.	Completed. HEPs are encouraged in their F&APs to retain and enhance approaches which increase access to, and widen participation in, internationalisation opportunities, including international study

		placement and volunteer experiences.
Fund and accredit initial teacher training and work with partners to secure high quality provision to meet Welsh Government targets		
A32	Set targets and monitor the intake for ITT undergraduate primary, postgraduate primary, undergraduate secondary, postgraduate secondary priority and postgraduate secondary other subjects to ensure that Welsh Government targets are met annually;	Completed. This will continue until the HEFCW-accredited provision ceases. Problems have been experienced with under-recruitment, rather than over-recruitment, and HEFCW has liaised with institutions to ensure they have plans in place to address this.
A33	Work with Estyn to address the outcomes of the inspections of ITT to ensure a high quality student experience;	Completed. All centres providing initial teacher training have successfully completed inspection (including any post-inspection action plans).
A34	Work in partnership with Estyn, Welsh Government and the ITT centres to implement agreed recommendations of the Welsh Government Tabberer review.	Completed. Working in partnership on a transition plan which will move responsibility for accreditation to EWC.