

Economic Affairs Committee Report: *Treating Students Fairly* Debate on 16 January 2019

This briefing identifies relevant reports and useful documents, including recent parliamentary materials and press articles, which may be of assistance to Members in preparing for the following debate:

Lord Forsyth of Drumlean to move that this House takes note of the report from the Economic Affairs Committee: *Treating Students Fairly—The Economics of Post-School Education* (2nd Report, HL Paper 139).

Copies of the materials are available for collection from the Library.

Key Information

- House of Lords Economic Affairs Committee, [Treating Students Fairly: The Economics of Post-school Education](#), 11 June 2018, HL Paper 139 of session 2017–19, pp 5–14

Summary, conclusion and recommendations from the Committee's report on post-school education. The Committee recommended that there should be a single regulator for all higher education and a single regulator for other post school education.

- Department for Education, [Government Response to the House of Lords Economic Affairs Committee Report: Treating Students Fairly—The Economics of Post-school Education](#), August 2018, Cm 9689

Response by the Government to the House of Lords Economic Affairs Committee's report. In the response, the Government detailed that it would cover both funding arrangements for students and access to learning in its review of post-school education, which launched in February 2018.

- Prime Minister's Office, '[The Right Education for Everyone](#)', 19 February 2018; and '[Prime Minister Launches Major Review of Post-18 Education](#)', 19 February 2018

Speech by the Prime Minister, Theresa May, launching a review of post-18 education and funding. Mrs May announced that it would focus on the accessibility of tertiary education and whether the current funding system provides value for money. The accompanying press release provides further information on the Government's review.

- Department for Education, [Education and Training Statistics for the United Kingdom 2017](#), 9 November 2017, pp 1 and 6–9

Statistics on post-school education and training, including data on full-time and part-time students in higher education in the United Kingdom.

Parliamentary Debate, Statements and Questions

- House of Commons, '[Written Statement: Student Finance Update](#)', 19 November 2018, HCWS1091
- A selection of written questions from both Houses: [HL12385](#) (20 December 2018); [HL12384](#) (20 December 2018); [196290](#) (4 December 2018); [192124](#) (21 November 2018); [170759](#) (14 September 2018); and [154145](#) (25 June 2018)
- [Oral Question on 'Tuition Fees: Social Mobility'](#), HC *Hansard*, 12 November 2018, cols 10–11
- [QSD on 'University Admissions: Equality'](#), HL *Hansard*, 7 June 2018, cols 1462–78

Press Articles and Comment

- National Union of Students, '[NUS Responds to House of Lords Report on Education Funding](#)', 12 June 2018
- MillionPlus, '[MillionPlus Comment on the Lords Economic Affairs Committee's Treating Students Fairly Report](#)', 11 June 2018
- Sean Coughlan, '[Student Loans 'Heading for Trillion Pounds'](#)', BBC News, 11 June 2018
- Eleanor Busby, '[Student Loans System Forces Nurses to Pay Back £19k More Than Lawyers, Say Peers](#)', *Independent*, 11 June 2018

Further Information

- House of Commons Library, '[Review of Post-18 Education and Funding](#)', 18 December 2018
- House of Commons Education Committee, '[Value for Money in Higher Education](#)', 24 October 2018, HC 343 of session 2017–19
- House of Commons Library, '[Returns to a Degree](#)', 19 September 2018
- House of Commons Library, '[Higher Education Funding in England](#)', 25 June 2018
- Chris Belfield et al, '[The Relative Labour Market Returns to Different Degrees](#)', Department for Education and Institute for Fiscal Studies, June 2018

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