

## **International Education Council**

**Note from the meeting on 3 December 2015, 3-4pm**

### **Present**

#### Co-chairs:

Jo Johnson MP – Minister of State for Universities and Science

Prof. Dame Julia Goodfellow – University of Kent/Universities UK

#### Members:

Rod Bristow – Pearson

Sir Ciaran Devane – British Council

Martin Doel – Association of Colleges

Claire Durkin – BIS/UKTI Education (secretariat)

Prof. Jane Elliott – Research Council UK

Peter Horrocks CBE – Open University

Chris Jones – City & Guilds

Alex Proudfoot – Study UK

Prof. Colin Riordan – Cardiff University/HE International Unit

Dominic Savage – British Education Suppliers Association (BESA)

### **Apologies**

Simon Lebus – Cambridge Assessment

Note. The Council representative for Schools had not yet been appointed.

### **1. Terms of Reference**

The terms of reference were agreed.

### **2. Education Exports**

The Council discussed the current position on education exports and export data. They agreed that more up to date data on education exports was needed urgently to enable trend tracking. This included more granular data on export activity within each sub-sector to inform thinking and linkage with growth being experienced by Council members' organisations. Members provided high-level views on growth in their part of the education sector. It was noted that:

- Understanding about how students progressed to higher education through other UK education provision could aid targeting of UK marketing activity.
- There was a need for greater analysis of markets and demand, for example to support growth in technical and vocational education and training.

### **ACTIONS:**

The Council Secretariat to:

- Engage Council members, and the wider sector, to determine what data sets are available and appropriate to use in the calculation of export figures.
- To produce updated export figures for the next Council meeting.

### **3. International Higher Education**

Colin Riordan led a discussion on international higher education. He highlighted the importance of good market intelligence and opportunity scoping as well as more collaboration and coherent country engagement. Suggestions on potential joint HE sector activity to increase growth included:

- Identifying key markets to provide tailored sector to sector support.
- A doctoral level training package for markets where research skills were in demand.
- Encouraging university consortia to work together on overseas opportunities.
- Support for the HE International Unit to help deliver these opportunities.

It was agreed that the British Council, the International Unit (IU) and the Open University would identify where a coherent approach to HE sector market intelligence could make a difference.

The opportunity for cross-disciplinary partnerships between universities, colleges and business was discussed, and the Council agrees to explore further the interaction between sectors, and to consider linking more strongly with UK business overseas.

#### **ACTION:**

- The IU, British Council and Open University agreed to scope opportunities to target and share sector-held market intelligence.

### **4. AOB**

It was agreed that the next meeting would be in March 2016.