
Financial Sustainability Strategy Group (FSSG)

Chris Cobb

Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Operations) and Chief Operating Officer
University of London

FSSG

Chair

Professor Mark E. Smith, Vice-Chancellor, Lancaster University

Aim

To contribute to the higher education sector by improving its understanding, management and communication of its sustainability. It will also support and enhance the understanding and development of management, governance and risk processes in the new regulatory and funding environment for higher education

FSSG Terms of Reference

- To support higher education institutions in understanding their income and cost relationships, managing sustainability and enabling efficiency through the provision of relevant tools and methodologies.
- To provide independent and evidence-based strategic policy advice to the sector, funders and government in matters concerned with sustainability and funding, in recognition of the changing and diverse funding environment for the higher education sector.

Sustainability is a broad subject that has many elements. In the context of FSSG's role, sustainability has been defined to encapsulate the academic and financial sustainability of an institution's operations.

Understanding income cross flows in the HE sector

Aim:

- To understand the cost of key activities and the extent to which different income streams enable the sustainability of activities
- To consider the risks and issues that could affect the sustainability of subjects, activities and institutions as a whole

Approach:

- Oversight group in place to guide the review
- Two phases of work
 - Discovery phase
 - Case studies of different practices

Funding and sustainability of Research Facilities

Aim:

- To research and identify how institutions plan to operate and sustain research facilities and equipment
- To identify the role of 'sharing' as an enabler of sustainability

Approach:

- Oversight group in place to guide the review
- Two phases of work
 - Discovery phase
 - Case studies of different approaches
- Good practice guidance

FSSG Event

A seminar to listen to your views on the work of FSSG to shape our current projects.

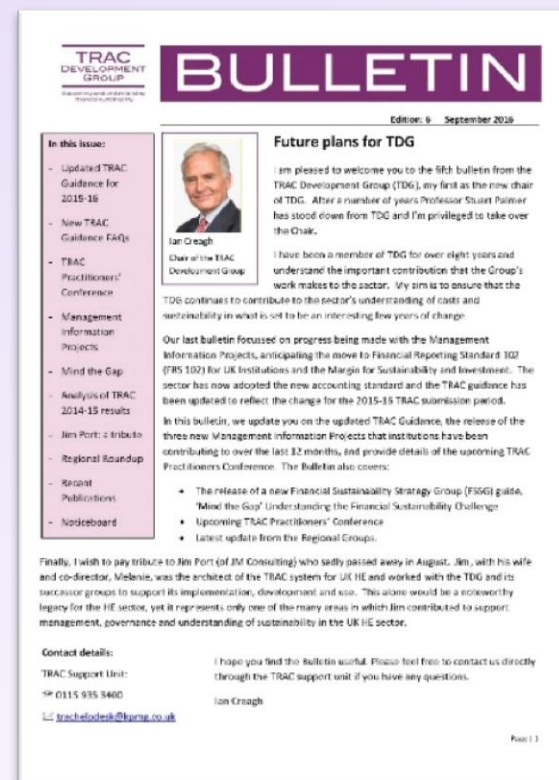
- Deputy and Pro-Vice-Chancellors, and Heads of Administration
- Tuesday 23 May 2017 – save the date
- Central London venue

More information will be available before Easter.

TRAC Development Group - current work

- Focus on supporting the sector through working with TRAC regional groups and sector professional groups
- New projects:
 - Understanding different types of delivery for UG courses
 - Workload planning
- Recent management information projects
 - Enhanced benchmarking from TRAC data
 - Improving the efficiency of the TRAC process
 - Costing postgraduate teaching

Keeping up to date - FSSG Newsletters & TDG Bulletins



www.hefce.ac.uk/funding/finsustain