

Anti-lobbying clause

A controversial piece of legislation that would have seen publicly-funded organisations prevented from lobbying the UK government and parliament has been revised to exclude academics and researchers. You can view Jo Johnson's statement [here](#).

Leaked document

Notes for a Number 10 meeting caught on camera reveal ministers believe there is a "problem" that some universities are charging the highest tuition fees rate despite not proving their worth. [Top universities not good enough to charge £9,000, ministers believe, according to leaked document \(The Telegraph\)](#).

Impact

A new discussion paper sets out to determine what works and what doesn't when researchers seek to make an impact on policy. The paper gives tips for engaging with policy-makers including a suggestion to "capture your audience mid-morning or after lunch, when some office workers are active on social networks". You can view the report [here](#).

HE White Paper

The White Paper is thought to have reached the stage of a "write round" – a consultation process in which Cabinet ministers are asked to give the views of their departments on potential legislation and grant clearance for it to go ahead. [White Paper could kill off Hefce quality plans. \(THE\)](#).

Social work

The Frontline social work training programme's shift to in-house rather than university-led education could harm the research base that underpins the profession, the Commons education committee was told. [MPs told to keep social work training in universities. \(Research Professional\)](#).

Office for Fair Access

The Office for Fair Access, which oversees progress in ensuring students from non-traditional backgrounds succeed at English universities, is to have its office staff cut from 18 to 6, according to Paul Blomfield, Labour MP for Sheffield Central, who chairs the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Students. The plans are reportedly contained in a confidential document entitled "BIS 2020 - Finance and Headcount outline". [Office for Fair Access to be cut. \(Research Professional\)](#).

NUS

Students at the University of Oxford are threatening to disaffiliate from the National Union of Students following the election of Malia Bouattia as its president. [Oxford threatens to dump student union in antisemitism row \(The Times\)](#).

EU Referendum

A House of Lords report has conceded that the UK science community draws vital benefits from EU membership and could lose influence in the event of Brexit. [Concern over Brexit's impact on science \(BBC\)](#).

A blog post on Global BUzz looks into the impact of leaving the EU for higher education. [What would be the impact of a vote to leave on Higher Education?](#)