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Licensing access for TNE learners: A centralised approach

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Jisc Collections negotiates with publishers at a national level to procure and license affordable digital content for the UK education and research community.

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Parity of Access

- Establishing students as Authorised Users in the UK licence agreement
- Establishing Additional Authorised Users, so excluded from the main agreement
- Is an additional fee required and how much would that be?
- Managing access and authentication
- Librarian is the signatory on the licence agreement

- Communicating this within the organisation
- Local time, cost and duplication of effort due to local negotiations with publishers
- Inconsistent local approaches

Part of Jisc's TNE support programme

TNE licensing pilot

Improving the parity of access to library resources for offshore learners

A centralised consortium approach managed by Jisc Collections

- Community engagement to understand current complexity and differences of local activities
- Engagement with libraries and sector bodies to support and develop a common TNE nomenclature and licensing approach
- To establish how an official TNE data source – the HESA Aggregate Offshore Record can support a centralised TNE licensing approach:

  [1] A common process and terminologies for defining the status of offshore students. Authorised Users or Additional Authorised Users?

  [2] The circumstances under which UK HEIs would be expected to pay a Fee for extending their licence agreement to include identified Additional Authorised Users.

  [3] A relevant consortium pricing model in cases where UK HEIs are expected to pay a Fee for extending their licence agreement to include identified Additional Authorised User access.

What is the HESA Aggregate Offshore Record?

› Companion to the HESA Student Record

› The full and formally reported equivalent to numbers shared by UK HEIs

› The only centrally reported snapshot of UK HEIs offshore provision scenarios
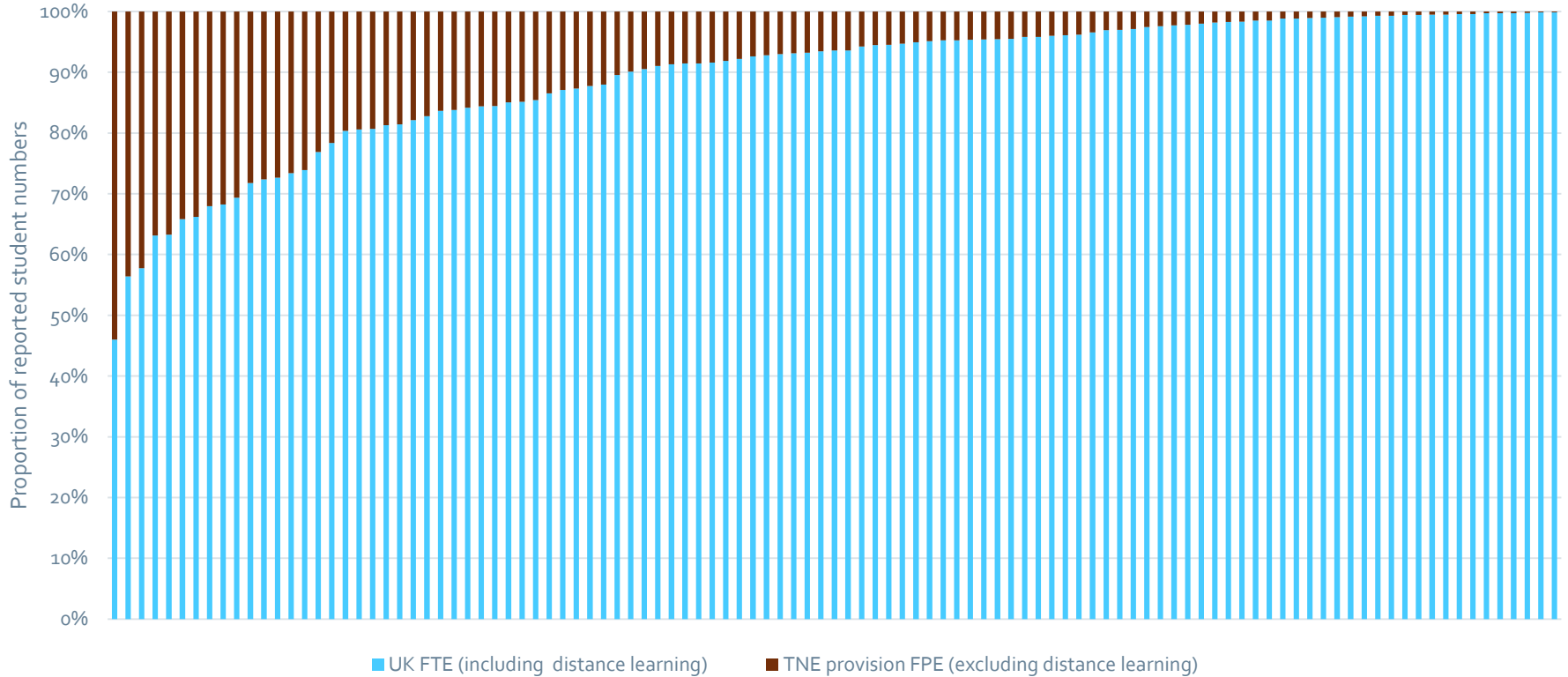
› Returned annually to HESA by UK HEIs

› A common authoritative source of UK HE TNE activity?

FY 16/17:   2,280,840 UK FPE reported

› Three institutions make up ~400k of these numbers:
  – Oxford Brookes University - 315,710
  – University of London International Programmes - 42,530
  – Open University - 30,975
  (17.5% of total)

» These are not typical!

Proportion of UK HEI and their TNE

Proportion of reported student numbers

■ UK FTE (including distance learning) ■ TNE provision FPE (excluding distance learning)

» Headcounts of students studying offshore for UK HEI awards, in a variety of provision scenarios

> Branch campuses

> Various UKHEI scenarios of both Independent and Collaborative Provision

> Distance learning

> Partnerships

» Clear indication of student affiliation, with the UK HEI in terms of formal registration status via entry coding

Code 1:	Code 2:	Code 3:	Code 4:	Code 5:
Registered at reporting provider - studying overseas for UK HEP* award at overseas campus of reporting provider	Registered at reporting provider - studying overseas for UK HEP award other than at an overseas campus of reporting provider	Registered at reporting provider - distance, flexible and distributed learning for UK HEP award where the location of the student is known to be overseas	Registered at overseas partner organisation - studying overseas for an award of the reporting provider	Any other student studying overseas for an award of the reporting provider

Registration Status: Those overseas users that are '**registered at reporting provider**' are registered with the UK HEI in the same way that home students are registered, or students who come to the UK to study are registered.

'Registered' used in the HESA AOR is a term defined by the English, Scottish and Welsh funding councils. Although each funding body uses a different definition of meaning currently, the funding bodies have agreed to adopt a common definition in future, from the HESA Data Futures Project:

'A student registration is a binding agreement between a student and an organisation for the delivery of educational services, within the meaning of "Stage 3: enrolment stage" in the Competition and Markets Authority's advice for HE providers on consumer protection law.'

HESA AOR Licensing Conclusions

» HESA AOR can support a centralised licensing approach

» Offshore users (students) should be considered Authorised Users in the Licence if the learners are reported into the HESA AOR under Codes 1, 2 and 3 definitions, as 'registered at the reporting provider', i.e. registered with the UK HEI. *Publishers may challenge the size and location of some TNE provisions*

» Offshore users (students) should be considered Additional Authorised Users when learners are reported in partnerships relating to Codes 4 and 5 of the HESA AOR.

› **However**, **for Code 4,** the nature of the provision reported, the numbers involved at any single site, and the location of the partner needs to be assessed concerning the relevance of an additional fee.

What are the current HESA AOR limitations?

» Relies on correct data entry by UK HEIs.

» Defining TNE Provision scenarios and working with the associated language is complex, and prone to interpretive errors.

» Entries into the report itself are not easily associated with the Codes and definitions

» The scale of effort involved with reporting means that it is an annual process. There is therefore a lag in data, as there is with the HESA Student Record, but this lag is no different from other HESA reports informing licensing

» Report is not easily accessible to librarians

» Testing the common licensing approach: utilising the HESA AOR and common terminologies with identified key publishers

» Communicating the common licensing approach to all stakeholders

» Developing the Jisc 'Decision Tool'

» Developing an authentication and security tool kit for librarians and publishers

Thank you

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