UK Higher Education Regulators and Funders (Financial Sustainability) Group

Statement on taking forward the review of TRAC, January 2023

The Regulators and Funders Group (RFG) has agreed the areas of work arising from the review of TRAC. We have invited the TRAC Development Group (TDG) to undertake further work and to provide advice to the RFG on taking forward the recommendations.

The items identified for the TDG to lead form part of a wider plan overseen by the RFG collectively. We are asking the TDG to evaluate the recommendations from the review identified in the table below, and provide advice on:

- opportunities for burden reduction and simplification
- the implications and impact of the changes on the TRAC data and its use
- prioritisation and timescales for implementation of proposed changes
- how proposed changes could be taken forward and implemented.

TDG-led work streams to advise RFG	Review of TRAC recommendation
Clarification of data quality requirements for time allocation	12
Evaluation of options for simplification and standardisation of	
 cost drivers for allocation of some cost pools within TRAC 	4
estates weightings	5
 annual indexation rates 	5
Review and define levels of reporting, sub-categorisation and definitions; and TRAC terminology/naming conventions	8e,14b-14f

We have asked the TDG to develop plans to take forward this work which we envisage will commence in early 2023. We anticipate the work will draw on expertise and evidence from institutions and sector professional bodies to contribute to the advice TDG provides. Further information about how to get involved in this work will be provided as these plans are developed.

We are also asking the TDG to advise the RFG on some technical issues arising from its review of the Margin for Sustainability and Investment. Further information about this work will be made available in due course.

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¹ See Review of TRAC 2021 - Office for Students