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Westward House
Lime Kiln Close
Stoke Gifford
BRISTOL
BS34 8SR

0117 931 7317

www.officeforstudents.org.uk

25 August 2023

Dear [Accountable Officer]

Changes to the sign-off deadline for 2022-23 Student Return

I am writing to inform you that the Office for Students (OfS) has decided to extend the sign-off deadline for the 2022-23 Student Return from 20 October 2023 to 3 November 2023. We have made this decision following advice from Jisc, the designated data body.

We have extended the deadline as we recognise this is the first year in which data will be submitted against the new data model and through the new platform developed by the Data Futures programme. We appreciate the considerable efforts of those of your colleagues involved in preparing for the new return.

In delivering the Data Futures programme, Jisc has been engaging with providers and monitoring their progress. We understand that providers raised concerns about submitting high quality data on time and, in light of these concerns, Jisc advised us that a two-week extension to the deadline would be appropriate to assist providers in making their returns. The Data Futures Programme Board (including representatives from the sector) supported this request for a two-week extension.

We have considered Jisc's advice and the implications for our regulatory activities and have decided to agree the extension for this first year of transitioning to the new data model. Jisc will also make changes to interim deadlines associated with this return and will be in contact directly with providers.

The initial sign-off deadline for this return was set out in the Notice issued under general ongoing conditions of registration F3: Provision of information to the OfS and F4: Provision of information to the designated data body, issued to all registered providers on 6 July 2023. For the avoidance of

doubt, this extension relates specifically to the 2022-23 Student Record, and not to any other deadline included in that Notice or elsewhere.

If you have any queries about Data Futures, please contact liaison@hesa.ac.uk. If you have queries about this letter, please contact Abi Coveney via regulation@officeforstudents.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

David Smy
Deputy Director of Enabling Regulation