



LONDON  
HIGHER



# ANNUAL REPORT

---

2019-2020

# About London Higher

**London Higher is a regional and voluntary membership association. What unites our members - whether large or small, specialist or multi-faculty and whatever mission they have - is London.**

One of the most important things we all agree on is that London, our great capital and global city, is both different and unique. Located at the heart of our communities, and contributing to the city-wide and national economies, London Higher helps our members to thrive and meet both the challenges and opportunities of providing Higher Education (HE) in this vibrant but complex place.

London Higher provides a powerful advocacy and campaigning force that overlays HE Institutions' (HEIs') own efforts. To ensure London's universities can have the maximum impact, a unified voice is vital. Together we can ensure that each individual HEIs' messaging is heard, whilst also having a strong voice to showcase the range of impact that we collectively have on our city.

## **Our Aims and values:**

### **Campaign**

- Advocate, campaign for and lobby on behalf of the whole London HE cluster
- Monitor and respond to emerging priorities, including the position in regard to London Weighting and other funding that affects London's HEIs, and be ready to develop and present an evidence-based case to Government and funding bodies

### **Communicate**

- Demonstrate the impact London's HEIs have across the whole capital and ensure the value they add is not being overlooked by those inside and outside the city
- Showcase London's HE cluster and promote London as a destination of choice for students, staff and as an international powerhouse of research excellence and innovation

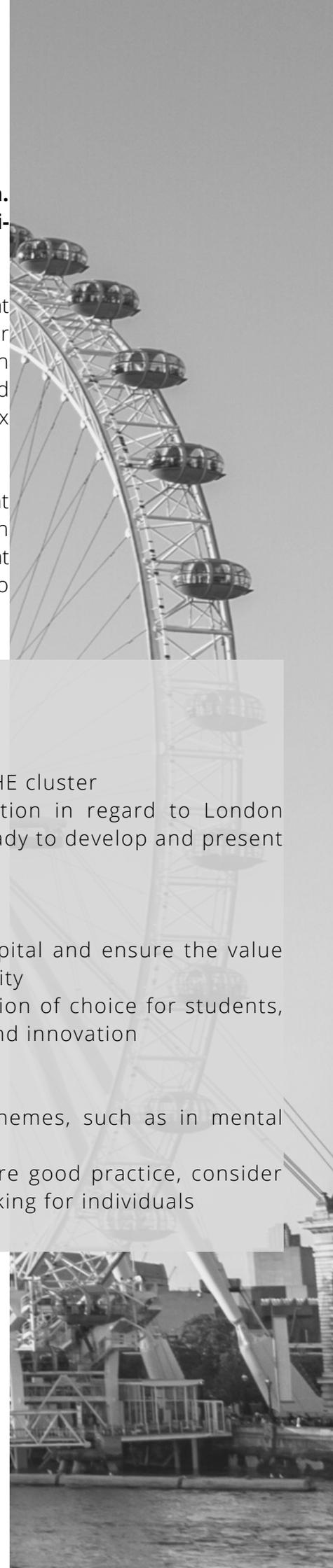
### **Collaborate**

- Convene and facilitate collaborations to help address priority themes, such as in mental health and wellbeing
- Bring together groups to discuss issues of common concern, share good practice, consider new ideas or collaborations and where appropriate enable networking for individuals

*'London Higher works with members by providing the networks, insight and expertise to help our members showcase their impact in London to partners, policy makers, and beyond.'*



Professor Paul Layzell,  
Chair, London Higher



## A critical mass of institutional variety and educational excellence

London's universities and HEIs' deliver ground-breaking research, contribute to the city's culture and economic performance, and attract a wide range of students from all backgrounds and cultures, at home and overseas.

### Collectively, HEIs in London:

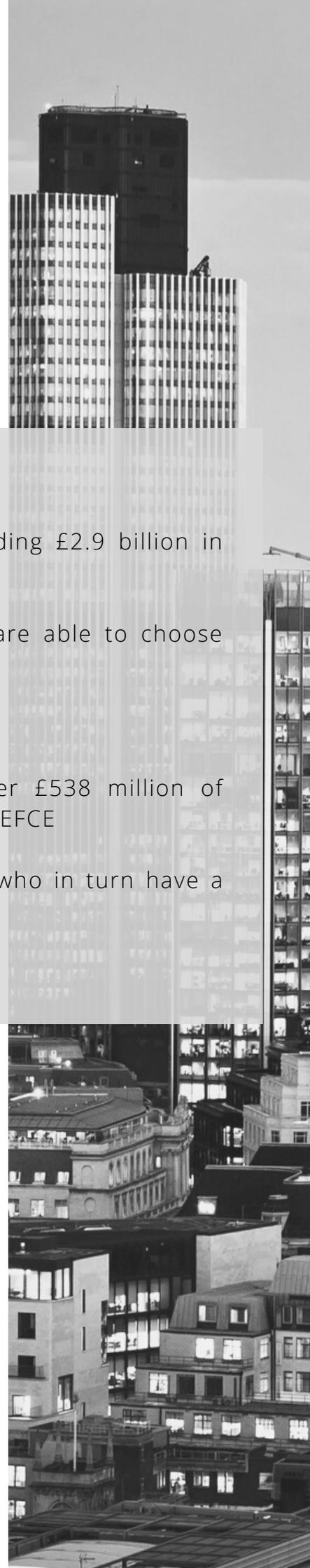
- Generate £17 billion each year in goods and services including £2.9 billion in export earnings, supporting 172,000 jobs at all skill levels
- Educate 386,000 students from the UK and overseas, who are able to choose from 30,000 undergraduate and postgraduate qualifications
- Employ 94,000 academic and non-academic staff
- Win over £368 million in Research Council grants and over £538 million of research funding as recurrent grants from Research England HEFCE
- Attract 122,000 overseas students from over 200 countries, who in turn have a net impact of £4.6 billion annually to the London economy
- Produce over 146,000 skilled graduates every year



Jane Glanville  
CEO London Higher

*'Through our collaboration and advocacy, London Higher harnesses the strength London's HE Sector to make a powerful case to Government and stakeholders.'*

We work with our members to maximise and champion the impact and benefit our members have on our city, to collaboratively overcome and embrace the challenges and opportunities they face.



# The Case for London

**Case for HE is a core work stream of London Higher and is resourced primarily by member contributions.**

In a constantly evolving and, at times, challenging sector, timely and accurate sector intelligence is important. Our networks and analysis of London data give members the chance to discuss the issues, backed by solid data analysis.

The programme creates an ongoing and robust evidence base that supports HE in the capital to thrive.

## Networks

- Research Directors Group
- Health and Wellbeing Network
- London International Directors Group
- London Communications Group
- London Medicine and London Healthcare Education Group
- HE Planners' Group
- HE Policy Network
- London Higher Visa Club
- London Centres Group
- London Weighting Task Group

## Research and Factsheets

London Impact Initiative.

- London's HEIs are not just dedicated to their research and teaching excellence but their impactful contributions to their local communities, the arts and heritage sectors, healthcare sector, creative culture, business and industry, skills development and the local economy
- Collating case studies from across our diverse membership we showcased the vast contributions London's universities make for, and to, the Capital in our impact catalogue and our event in the House of Lords

14 Factsheets on London's HE sector

- We regularly share our factsheets and resources with government, the GLA and key industry stakeholders. Most recently, we have shared information and statistics pertaining to the national impact of London's HEIs throughout the situation, as well as our position paper on the impact of coronavirus of London's HEIs

*"London Higher are mindful of the diverse range of HEIs in London and work on behalf of all with regards to the pan-London issues. They are also able to leverage staff from Government's offices to attend meetings where Planners discuss key policy issues."*



Dr Julie Leeming  
Member of London HE Planners'  
Group



# London Health HE

## Discussion and advocacy on the delivery of health education and training in London.

London Health HE brings together senior representatives from London's schools of medicine, dentistry, clinical academic disciplines, nursing, midwifery and the allied health professions.

### London Healthcare Education Group

- Regular advisory group meetings with invited guests, including individuals from NHS England and NHS BSA
- Continued to monitor recruitment to healthcare education programmes in London
- Updated and promoted 'Make it in London' course guide via social media channels and London networks, increasing online clicks and views
- Produced and distributed 'Never stop here' and 'Bridge into nursing' postcards
- Organised an 'Academic Workforce' workshop jointly with Council of Deans of Health, giving members the opportunity to discuss Academic Staffing Census findings and offer input into CoDH recommendations
- Launched CUREate project including building a website, producing four short videos and monitoring the engagement activity progress of partner universities
- Welcomed University of Roehampton as a new member
- Organised weekly meetings in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, producing up to date principles and guidance to those studying health courses at 16 universities in London

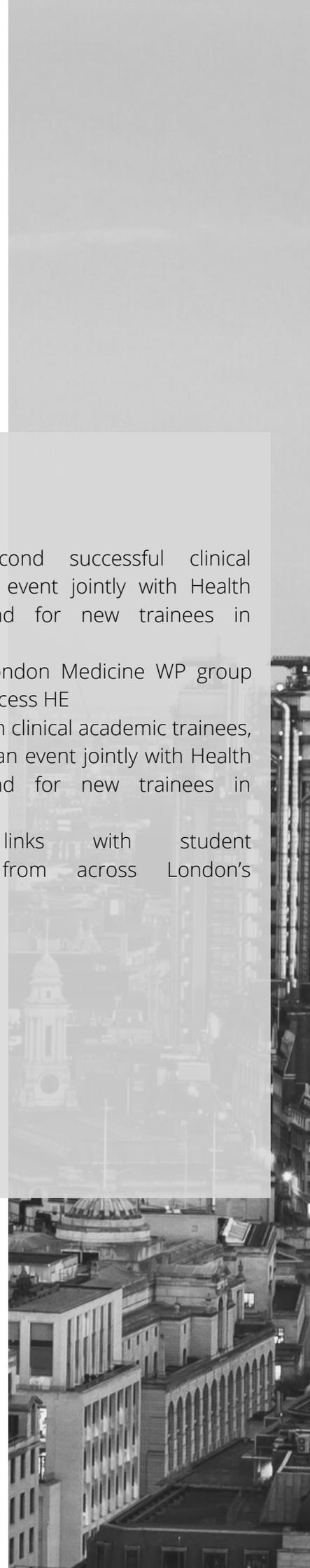
### London Medicine

- Delivered a second successful clinical academic trainee event jointly with Health Education England for new trainees in London
- Scoped a new London Medicine WP group initiative, led by Access HE
- Continued work on clinical academic trainees, including holding an event jointly with Health Education England for new trainees in London
- Strengthened links with student representatives from across London's medical schools



*'Universities in London offer unique opportunities for studying healthcare in one of the most vibrant and diverse cities in the world. In 2020 we have seen an extraordinary collective response to the Covid-19 emergency from our educational community in supporting the NHS.'*

Associate Professor Julie Attenborough,  
Chair of LHEG



# AccessHE and NEON

AccessHE is a member-led organisation aiming for social mobility through HE in London. Through collaboration with our members and key stakeholder links, we create opportunities to learn more about and support under-represented groups in accessing HE.

## Networks

- BAME Forum
- Care Experienced and Estranged Students Forum
- Creative Forum
- Disability Forum
- Evidence and Evaluation Forum
- Mature and Part-Time Students Forum
- Student Advisory Group
- Student Ambassador Forum

## Projects Events and Research

- Delivery partner in the London strand of the OfS-funded Uni Connect programme, working with over 270 schools
- Published a new and updated edition of the 'Creative HE Apply Guide', in collaboration with the UK Arts and Design Institutions Association (ukadia)
- Ran employability initiative for student ambassadors at five London HEIs

The National Education Opportunities Network (NEON) is the professional organisation supporting those involved in widening access to HE. NEON enables those working to widen access to HE at all levels and in all sectors to affect change in their own organisations and communities.

## Research and Advocacy

- Delivered research presentations and seminars on perceptions of degree apprenticeships and widening access and participation data: a scorecard
- Ongoing publication and dissemination of existing research in academic journals
- Accepting proposals and finalising publication details for upcoming NEON book
- Exploring widening participation initiatives among leading universities globally
- Exploring the impact of Covid-19 on HE admissions around the world
- Exploring the sector's approach to delivering outreach online
- Submission of evidence to government consultation on the impact of Covid-19 on HE, in light of findings
- Ongoing evaluation support to AccessHE
- Working with partnerships to explore and evaluate initiatives in engaging white working class learners, and parents

## Events

- 'Taking Outreach Online' event
- Access Academy Training Programme
- NEON Summits
- Eight National Working Groups
- The seventh annual NEON Awards
- Second World Access to Higher Education Day

*'Access to and success at university is what makes London the engine-room of social mobility.'*



Professor Peter John CBE,  
Chair of AccessHE



## Case study: Coronavirus

As the nation unites in the fight against coronavirus, London's HEIs are leading the way in working with each other, and across communities to ensure the health and well-being of their staff, students and each other.

London Higher is coordinating efforts to respond to the many challenges facing HEIs in London, and to make sure we celebrate our successes for the national and international efforts.

### Collaboration

- Task groups established to inform some of the collective agreements, code of conducts and sharing of resources
- Fortnightly all member meetings to raise concerns and share best practice
- Collaborations with key industry stakeholders such as London and Partners to establish strong foundations for promoting London as a destination

### Advocacy

- Joint statement of principles with London Health Education group, working with HCPC, NMC, NHS HEE and the Chief Nursing & Allied Health Officers for the four nations have worked with the Council of Deans of Health and members on statements concerning temporary changes to nursing, midwifery and allied health student education following the emergence of Covid-19
- NEON online seminars including, 'Taking outreach online: delivering widening access to HE work in the Covid-19 context' to look at how Higher Education providers and Uni Connect partnerships can plan to deliver their work online during this crisis, with speakers including the Shadow Universities Minister

### Promotion

- The London Impact pages to showcase and celebrate, in what is a challenging time the full range of activity, across all sectors, that London HEIs are undertaking to combat Covid-19 in this unprecedented situation
- Resources and information hub sharing resources, official advice and useful information on mental health and wellbeing

*"As London reopens, our higher education institutions are integral to reaffirming our place as a truly global city. Working with London Higher helps us to showcase our world-leading HE sector to the international audiences who contribute so much to it."*



Lalage Clay,  
Director, Education and Talent,  
London and Partners



## Spotlight on...

In addition to our core work we have run wide a variety of meetings and ad hoc projects this year. Here is just a selection:

### **Promotion**

London Impact initiative: London Higher released their London Impact Catalogue at its House of Lords Event. The catalogue is a collection of case studies from across their diverse membership, which showcases the vast contributions London's universities make for, and to, the capital. 'Impacting London – What London's Universities do for London' celebrated the outstanding contributions that London's HEIs make to their local communities, arts and heritage sectors, the healthcare sector, creative culture, business and industry, and the local economy.

### **Collaboration**

London Health and Wellbeing Week. This year we launched our newly developed London Health and Wellbeing Network aiming to bring together colleagues and students to discuss mental health, wellbeing and safety across the London HE sector. London Higher showcased member's events across their institutions and in the media. Next year we will launch our London Higher Referral toolkit at London Health and Wellbeing Week 2021.

### **Advocacy**

Coronavirus Impact policy paper outlining recommendations that government could adopt to ensure stability within the sector. This paper has been shared with UK Government, Parliamentarians, the GLA and key industry and sector stakeholders to inform thinking on the next stages of managing the impact of the outbreak.



# Financial report

## Our financial aim continues to be the fostering and expansion of London HEI network.

We achieve this, by periodically reviewing our offer to the members, and by always delivering in a cost effective and transparent mode.

During the first two quarters of 2019-20 London Higher has reinvested some funds in some brand new initiatives which have been very well received across the networks, from London HE week and the London Impact report, showcasing our impact on the city, to Mental Health and Wellbeing week, highlighting member initiatives in this important area.

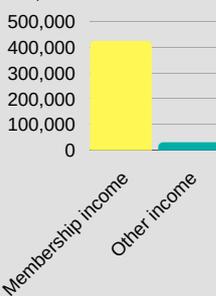
Like all organisations, we have had to adapt quickly to the ongoing global health crisis, resulting in the 3rd quarter seeing a noticeable decline in some income activities. Event income in particular has suffered due to government health guidance and social distancing restrictions.

London Higher has been very resourceful and still managed to deliver many of our programmes online, but nevertheless a negative financial impact has been inevitable.

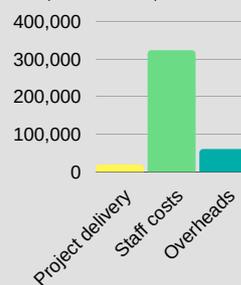
Taking all the above into consideration, London Higher foresee to close the financial year with a modest profit. This will be reinvested in extra topical activities and opportunities for members.

### London Higher Core

Forecast income (pre-audit)

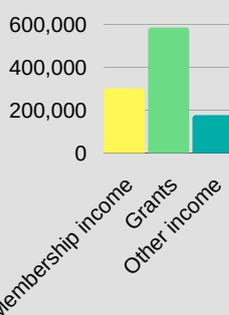


Forecast expenditure (pre-audit)

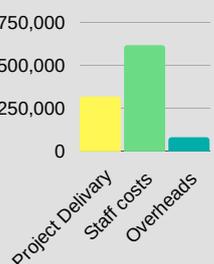


### Divisions and Grants

Forecast income (pre-audit)



Forecast expenditure (pre-audit)



London Higher 2020  
Company limited by guarantee, registered in England  
and Wales No. 05731255. Registered Charity  
No.1114873.

