

Rt Hon Maria Miller MP
Chair, Women & Equalities Select
Committee
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Dear Ms Miller

Office for Students funding to tackle sexual harassment in higher education

Thank you for the opportunity to give evidence as part of the Select Committee's important inquiry into the sexual harassment of women and girls in public places on Wednesday 27 June 2018. At the evidence session, I described the innovative projects being funded by the OfS in universities and colleges across England to tackle sexual harassment and undertook to follow up with more details to the committee.

A total of £5 million (plus a further £5 million in matched funding) has been invested in projects in the HE sector in England (HE institutions as well as FE colleges) in response to the Universities UK Task Force's reporting 'Changing the Culture', published in 2016. The funding was designed to directly support the Task Force's recommendations to the HE sector, and offered a timely injection of investment for infrastructure (e.g. 'report and support' systems), training (e.g. bystander interventions) and better partnership working with the police, local authorities, sexual violence support services and the NHS.

There were three funding calls in total, through the Higher Education Funding Council for England's Catalyst Fund¹ (which, since the end of HEFCE on 31 March 2018 is under the management of the Office for Students). The funding calls aimed to identify and support good

¹ The Catalyst Fund enables HEFCE to deliver strategic aims for higher education, further information about the Fund is available at: <http://www.hefce.ac.uk/funding/catalyst/>.

practice to improve and enhance student safeguarding on campus, looking specifically at tackling sexual misconduct, hate crime and online harassment:

- The first call provided 1:1 matched funding to 63 providers addressing **safeguarding students on campus – primarily with regard to sexual violence and harassment**, which are being delivered between April 2017 and March 2018 (with some extensions).
- There was a gap identified in the first set of bids hence a second round of funding for 45 providers was issued tackling **hate crime and online harassment** on campus. These projects commenced in October 2017 and are due for completion in December 2018, or shortly thereafter.
- A third round in March 2018 is bringing together 11 projects to form a collaborative, nationwide network of specialist knowledge and leading practice in **addressing hate crimes directed at students on the grounds of religion or belief**.

I have attached to this letter a full list of the funded projects under the first round, which have the greatest relevance to the Select Committee's inquiry. The details of the projects focussed on tackling hate crime and online harassment can be found on the OfS website at www.officeforstudents.org.uk under 'promoting equality and diversity'.

We are supporting an active evaluation of the programme and will be publishing the findings of this over the next two years. We are also engaging with the Equality and Human Rights Commission in July over the work we might take forward in partnership on this, and other, shared agendas.

Yours sincerely



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List of HE institutions and projects funded by the Office for Students to tackle sexual violence and harassment

Institution	Project Title
Blackburn College	UCBC Safeguarding Hub
Blackpool and the Fylde College	(HESE) HE Safeguarding Enrichment
Brunel University London	Respect @ Brunel
Buckinghamshire New University	NeverOK: Sexual Harassment, Assault and Violence on Campus Intervention Project
Bury College	All Part of the Solution
Canterbury Christ Church University	Student Peer to Peer Bystander Training
Cleveland College of Art and Design	CCAD Prevents and Safeguards
Coventry University	University Challenge
De Montfort University	Safe Campus Initiative
Goldsmiths' College	Sexual Violence & Harassment: changing the culture and preventing harm.
Havering College of Further and Higher Education	Mechanisms to raise awareness and support HE students facing mental health issues and domestic abuse
Imperial College London	To develop an integrated bystander intervention initiative and sexual violence support programme at Imperial College London
King's College London	It Stops Here - Training Strategy
Kingston University	ME & (K)U – Creating Healthy Relationships
Leeds Beckett University	Developing a Cross Campus Zero Tolerance Approach
Leeds City College	Safeguarding Awareness
Lincoln College	Safeguarding for HE in FE
Liverpool John Moores University	Safer Student Communities
London South Bank University	Stand up, speak out
Loughborough University	Challenging the Culture of Sexual Violence
Manchester Metropolitan University	Raising awareness and stimulating positive cultural change to prevent or reduce sexual violence and harassment within the Manchester Metropolitan University student community

Institution	Project Title
Middlesex University	The Development, Implementation and Evaluation of a Safeguarding Toolkit Designed Specifically for the HE Sector
Nottingham Trent University	<i>We want to know: enabling and responding to disclosures of sexual violence and sexual harassment affecting students.</i>
Oxford Brookes University	Improved safety through better awareness
Queen Mary University of London	Zero-tolerance
Roehampton University	UR Prevention and Protection
Sheffield Hallam University	Supporting the development of ethical behaviour in transitioning students
St George's, University of London	'Consent for all: within healthcare <i>and</i> outside it'
Teesside University	Multi-Agency Student Safeguarding Model
The Bournemouth and Poole College	Speak Out and Step Up Project
The London School of Economics and Political Science	Changing the culture: training based responses to the UUK Taskforce's recommendations
The Open University	Student Safeguarding Training Development
The University of Bath	A university community approach to preventing sexual harassment and assault
The University of Birmingham	CUUB: Creating the Culture
The University of Chichester	STEP IN
The University of East Anglia	A Student Community Safeguarding Partnership
The University of Hull	Creating a campus culture; "Safe and healthy relationships at the University of Hull"
The University of Kent	Violence against Wo/men on Campus Project
The University of Lancaster	Safeguarding Project
The University of Leicester	Safeguarding by Standing Together
The University of Liverpool	Changing campus culture through student leaders
The University of Northampton	New Spaces: Safeguarding Students from Violence and Hate
The University of Sheffield	Empowering students to take an active role in the University community - combatting sexual violence, harassment & hate crime

Institution	Project Title
The University of Warwick	Respect for all at Warwick
The University of Westminster	Development of a bystander intervention for safeguarding in UK universities
University College London	Resilience of International Students to Sex Crime (RISSC)
University of Bristol	Student safeguarding on campus
University of Cambridge	Sexual misconduct prevention and victim support
University of Chester	Leading Behavioural Change for Sexual Consent
University of Derby	It Takes A University
University of Exeter	Safeguarding Against Sexual Violence
University of Gloucestershire	What is our Campus Culture?: Understanding the concerns and attitudes of our students
University of Keele	Taking Responsibility - Ensuring Effective Prevention, Support and Response to Sexual Violence on Campus
University of Lincoln	Building Respect and Changing Cultures in the University Community
University of Portsmouth	Developing a best practice for staff-student sexual misconduct through the establishment of an active bystander culture of citizenship.
University of Sunderland	Embedding Bystander interventions in University life
University of the West of England, Bristol	Creating an Inclusive Campus Culture
University of Worcester	Bystander Intervention Development (BID)
University of York	Cascading training to change culture: an institution wide approach to prevention, intervention and response to sexual violence
Walsall College	Challenging the Culture of Sexual Violence
West Nottinghamshire College	SOS: Safety of students
Wirral Metropolitan College	Safety Through Empowerment
York St John University	Student Safeguarding: Building Healthy Relationships