
Committee Stage: Thursday 23 March 2023

Lifelong Learning (Higher Education Fee Limits) Bill

(Amendment Paper)

This document lists all amendments tabled to the Lifelong Learning (Higher Education Fee Limits) Bill. Any withdrawn amendments are listed at the end of the document. The amendments are arranged in the order in which it is expected they will be decided.

This document should be read alongside the Chair's provisional Selection and Grouping, which sets out the order in which the amendments will be debated.

Matt Western

3

Clause 1, page 2, line 5, at end insert "in consultation with relevant higher education sector stakeholders."

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would ensure that in determining whether the credit-based method or the fixed method is to be used, the Secretary of State will consult relevant higher education sector stakeholders.

Matt Western

4

Clause 1, page 2, line 10, at end insert—

"(1A) The definition of credit must follow sector-recognised standards."

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would ensure there is a sector-recognised, standard definition of credit, consistent with the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA) Higher Education Credit Framework.

Matt Western

5

Clause 1, page 2, line 34, at end insert—

“(3A) In determining which activity is to be regarded as a “credit-differentiated activity” under subsection (3), the Secretary of State must consult the relevant provider, relevant higher education sector stakeholders, and any other sector stakeholders relevant to the credit-differentiated activity in question.”

Member's explanatory statement

In determining the nature and extent of “credit-differentiated activity” and the number of credits associated to it, the Secretary of State must consult the provider in question, higher education stakeholders, and other stakeholders to which the credit-differentiated activity relates to, for example, NHS Trusts or other representative bodies.

Lloyd Russell-Moyle

2

Clause 1, page 3, line 16, at end insert—

“(4A) Regulations made under this paragraph must provide for the default number of credits to be no more than 10 credits.”

Member's explanatory statement

A probing amendment to ascertain the extent to which the Government is prepared to extend the lifelong learning entitlement to modules worth 10 credits.

Matt Western

6

Clause 1, page 3, line 16, at end insert—

“(4A) Regulations made under this paragraph must provide for the default number of credits to be no more than 20 credits.”

Member's explanatory statement

A probing amendment to ascertain the extent to which the Government is prepared to extend the lifelong learning entitlement to modules worth 20 credits.

Matt Western

11

Clause 1, page 3, line 18, at end insert—

- “(6) In determining the maximum number of credits for a course year, the Secretary of State must—
- (a) have regard to the impact on the variety of courses on offer from providers,
 - (b) prepare and publish an equality impact assessment, and
 - (c) have regard to the impact on student numbers.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would ensure that in setting the maximum cap of credits per course year, the Secretary of State takes a variety of steps to ensure there are no unintended consequences of setting the cap at a certain level.

Matt Western

9

Clause 1, page 4, line 33, after "course" insert "as specified in a standardised transcript."

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would ensure that there is consistency amongst the academic record of students wishing to transfer between providers through a standardised transcript.

Matt Western

7

Clause 1, page 5, line 3, at end insert—

"(4) When making regulations under paragraph 1B, 1C or 1F, the Secretary of State must have regard to the additional costs associated with the delivery of the course."

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would ensure that when exercising the powers granted in this Bill, the Secretary of State has regard to the additional costs associated with the delivery of modular study.

Matt Western

8

Clause 1, page 5, line 3, at end insert—

"(4) When making regulations under paragraph 1B, 1C or 1F, the Secretary of State must have regard to the financial sustainability of providers."

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would ensure that when exercising the powers granted in this Bill, the Secretary of State has regard to the financial sustainability of providers.

Andy McDonald

1

Clause 1, page 5, line 23, at end insert—

"(11A) The fee limit as determined under paragraphs 1D, 1E and 1I is to be indexed to any future increase in tuition fees"

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment is to ensure that should the Secretary of State or Parliament decide on any increase in the value of tuition fees, the fee limit is adjusted accordingly to 'future-proof' the value of the lifelong learning entitlement.

Matt Western

10

Clause 2, page 6, line 18, after “courses” insert “which are defined as modules under subsection (6A)”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would ensure that the Secretary of State is unable to treat modular courses and other modes of study or subjects differently from one another for the purposes of the fee limit.

Matt Western

12

Clause 3, page 8, line 36, after “may” insert “until 31 January 2024”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would ensure that the transitional or saving provisions available to the Secretary of State are only available until 31 January 2024.

Order of the House

[27 February 2023]

That the following provisions shall apply to the Lifelong Learning (Higher Education Fee Limits) Bill:

Committal

1. The Bill shall be committed to a Public Bill Committee.

Proceedings in Public Bill Committee

2. Proceedings in the Public Bill Committee shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion on Tuesday 28 March 2023.
3. The Public Bill Committee shall have leave to sit twice on the first day on which it meets.

Proceedings on Consideration and on Third Reading

4. Proceedings on Consideration shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion one hour before the moment of interruption on the day on which those proceedings are commenced.
5. Proceedings on Third Reading shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion at the moment of interruption on that day.
6. Standing Order No. 83B (Programming committees) shall not apply to proceedings on Consideration and Third Reading.

Other proceedings

7. Any other proceedings on the Bill may be programmed.

Order of the Committee

[21 March 2023]

That—

1. the Committee shall (in addition to its first meeting at 9.25 am on Tuesday 21 March) meet—
 - (a) at 2.00 pm on Tuesday 21 March;
 - (b) at 11.30 am and 2.00 pm on Thursday 23 March;
 - (c) at 9.25 am and 2.00 pm on Tuesday 28 March;
2. the Committee shall hear oral evidence in accordance with the following Table:

Date	Time	Witness
Tuesday 21 March	Until no later than 9.50 am	Universities UK
Tuesday 21 March	Until no later than 10.25 am	Liz Bromley, Newcastle and Stafford Colleges Group; Alun Francis, Oldham College; Ellen Thinnesen, Sunderland College
Tuesday 21 March	Until no later than 10.55 am	Julie Charge, University of Salford; Professor Edward Peck, Nottingham Trent University
Tuesday 21 March	Until no later than 11.25 am	Professor Sir David Bell KCB DL, University of Sunderland; Rachel Sandby-Thomas, University of Warwick
Tuesday 21 March	Until no later than 2.30 pm	Confederation of British Industry; Association of Employment and Learning Providers
Tuesday 21 March	Until no later than 2.45 pm	Sir Philip Augar
Tuesday 21 March	Until no later than 3.00 pm	Association of Colleges

Date	Time	Witness
Tuesday 21 March	Until no later than 3.30 pm	Dr Elizabeth Norton, Coventry University; Professor Sue Rigby, Bath Spa University

3. the proceedings shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion at 5.00 pm on Tuesday 28 March.