



Where are we heading with access and participation?

HELOA National Conference, January 2023

Dr Kate Wicklow | Kate.Wicklow@guildhe.ac.uk

Policy Context

- Historic 50% target
- Now too many graduates?!
- What is higher education for?
- Strengthening technical education offer
- LLE
- Culture wars
- What does social mobility mean?
- Autonomy in admissions
 - Student Number Controls
 - Minimum Eligibility Requirements
 - Unconditional Offers
- Youth Mental Health Crisis
- Cost of Living Crisis
- Universities can fix everything

Regulatory Context

- OfS Director for Fair Access
- Access and Participation Plans
- Plug lost learning/school performance
- Evaluation
- B3 quality conditions
- Equality and diversity work:
 - Harassment
 - Free Speech

Civil Imperative

- HEIs mission for social inclusion & mobility

<i>Anti-Racism</i>	<i>Educational background</i>	<i>Gender</i>	<i>Disability</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Class</i>
<i>Care experienced</i>	<i>Military</i>	<i>Prisoner</i>	<i>Commuter</i>	<i>Distance learner</i>	<i>Subject disciplines</i>

- Levelling up & regional skills needs
- Universities are a public good and contribute to the culture and prosperity of their town/city

Impacts on Practice

- Whole institution approach
- Need to connect research to practice and gather evidence of our impact
- Work collaboratively with schools, colleges and third sector organisations
- More flexible curriculum
- Renewed focus on student services
- Recognise increased competition for places
- 'Own' your institutional narrative

Thank you for listening,
any questions?