



Professional Development Conference

Supporting students through their HE journey, during the cost of living crisis

3rd May, 10-4.15 Online

- 10am** **Welcome and introduction**
- 10.10am** **'Learning with the lights on'** *Dr Andrew Jones, Head of Policy and Research, Million Plus*
- Dr Andrew Jones will set the scene on how the cost of living crisis is impacting students at University, who is most at risk and current best practice in supporting students.
- 10.50- 11.30** **How is the cost of living impacting student views towards HE?** *Paul Cernicharo-Terol, The Student Room*
- The Student Room will share findings from their recent student surveys on how prospective 2023 undergraduates are feeling post-application and some of the conversations and worries they are seeing on their community forums. They will also look at how students are coping amidst the cost of living crisis and what impact this is having on their university decisions.
- 11.30-11.40** **Comfort Break**
- 11.40- 12.10** **How are students coping with the cost of living?** *Tom Allingham, Save the Student*
- "Tom Allingham from Save the Student shares insights from their latest nationwide surveys, including the challenges students are facing and what more can be done to support them at this time."
- 12.10-1.10** **Advising students on finance and where to find support,** *Lesley McDowell, Stephen Jones, Kevin McMullen, Student Loans Company*
- In this session, Leslie, Stephen and Kevin from the Student Loans Company will share an update on student finance applications for 2023/24 and lead regional breakout sessions to discuss trends in each area and where to signpost for support.

1.10-2pm **Lunch**

2-3pm **Bitesize best practice panel**

In this session we'll hear from a panel of Universities who will sharing best practice on how they've been supporting their students struggling financially.

3-3.10pm **Comfort break**

3.10-3.40pm **Student panel discussion**

In this session, students from across the UK will share their experiences of managing their studies around the cost of living, and how universities can support them.

3.40-4.10 **Recession, graduate employability, and value of HE, *Charlie Ball, Prospects Luminare***

In this session, Charlie Ball will share the most recent graduate labour market information, explore whether a recession will impact the perceived value of HE and how we as university staff can share this information to prospective students.

4.10-4.15 **Final thoughts and closing remarks**