London’s universities and higher education colleges are a powerhouse of research, teaching and technology transfer unrivalled anywhere in the UK, Europe and beyond. Collectively, higher education institutions (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 377,000 students from the UK and overseas, who are able to choose from 30,000 undergraduate and postgraduate qualifications;
- Employ 93,800 academic and non-academic staff;
- Win over £417 million in Research Council grants and over £480 million of research funding as recurrent grants from HEFCE;
- Attract 108,500 overseas students from over 200 countries, who in turn have a net impact of £4.6 billion annually to the London economy;
- Produce over 137,000 skilled graduates every year, nearly 70% of whom work in London.

“Our work is important because…
With many challenges and opportunities for London’s higher education institutions, London Higher is well placed to work with its members and other London-wide bodies to maximise impact and the benefits of our city.

“...the Board and Executive will be developing a new business strategy to focus London Higher’s activities and add maximum value for our members.”

Professor Paul Layzell, Chair of London Higher
London Higher is the place where universities and higher education colleges come together to identify the opportunities and address the challenges of working in London.

We are a not-for-profit charity and company limited by guarantee established in 1999 by over forty higher education institutions (HEIs).

We run four core collaborative programmes, each with its own stream of advocacy, promotion and research activities:

1. **Case for HE**, creating a robust evidence-base pertaining to, and in support of, HE in London
2. **London Medicine & Healthcare**, bringing together London’s schools of medicine, dentistry, healthcare and clinical academic disciplines
3. **AccessHE & NEON**, the largest network of HEIs working together to widen access to HE in England
4. **London Higher Europe & International**, consortia of universities seeking to promote London HE beyond the UK

In addition, we manage a number of special projects some of which will become the collaborations of the future.

“Our professional team work hand-in-hand with university staff at all levels and across all roles; few better understand the history, scope and feeling within London HE.”

Jane Glanville, CEO of London Higher

Our work is important because...
There is no other body or agency that embodies higher education in London to the same extent and breadth as London Higher.
Case for HE is a core work stream of London Higher, resourced primarily by member contributions in association with HEFCE.

The programme aims to create an ongoing and robust evidence-base in support of higher education in the capital.

**Networks**

- Brexit Task Group
- Commuter Student in London Task Group
- Directors of Marketing Group
- GLA Student Housing Group
- Heads of Student Entrepreneurship Group
- HE Planners’ Group
- London Higher Visa Club
- London Centres Group
- London International Directors Group
- London Urban Research Network
- London Weighting Task Group
- Research Directors Group

**Advocacy**

- Member meeting with Nicola Dandridge, CEO, OfS (Jun 18)
- Member meeting with Chris Millward, OfS (Apr 2018)
- Member meeting with London Councillors (Mar 18)
- Member meeting with David Sweeney, Research England (Mar 2018)
- Meeting HEFCE on London Weighting (Feb 2018)
- LEAP Regional Meeting (Jan 18)
- Member meeting with Madeleine Atkins, CEO of HEFCE (Jan 18)
- House of Lords Reception (Dec 2017)
- Meeting with CBI (Nov 17)

**Consultations**

- Student housing, London Plan (Dec 17)
- OfS regulatory framework (Nov 17)
- HEFCE performance indicators (Jun 17)

**Research**

- Commuter students in London
- Mapping HE estates for regeneration
- Compass Report

Our work is important because...
The key to thriving in a challenging HE environment is timely and accurate intelligence. Our networks and analysis of London data give members this edge.
Our work is important because...
Maintaining dialogue between our members and health policy leaders we are able to help London HEIs plan the health training needs for the country.

“The diversity of London’s population and services provides health students in the city with unparalleled learning experiences.”

Professor Warren Turner, Chair of Healthcare Education Group
AccessHE is a member-led organisation aiming for social mobility through higher education in London. Through collaboration with our members and key stakeholder links, we create opportunities to learn more about and support under-represented groups access Higher Education.

Being part of AccessHE enables its members to develop deep collaborative working relationships in London and to participate in joint activities.

AccessHE Forums and Groups
- The Arts and Design Forum
- BAME Forum
- Care Experienced and Estranged Students Forum
- Disability Forum
- Evidence and Evaluation Forum
- Mature and Part-Time Students Forum
- Student Advisory group
- Student Ambassador Forum

AccessHE projects, events & research
- Key delivery partner in the London National Collaborative Outreach Programme (NCOP)
- AccessHE Online
- London Student Outcomes briefing events
- AccessHE Week 2018
- Impact London

NEON Events
- Sixth Annual NEON Summer Symposium “Widening Access – Who Cares?”
- Fifth Annual NEON Awards
- Access Academy Training Programme
- NCOP Practitioners Conferences
- Seven National Working Groups

NEON Research and Advocacy
- Launch of NEON’s first book on ‘Widening Access throughout the Student Lifecycle’

£25m Anticipated expenditure in outreach activity by AccessHE members with Access Agreements, 2018-19 www.accesshe.ac.uk

“London leads the UK on widening access to higher education.”
Professor John Raftery, Chair of AccessHE

Our work is important because...
London institutions continue to learn how to adapt the way they deliver higher education in an environment where diversity is the norm and not the exception.
We work to promote London HE outside the UK and to add capacity to members’ overseas activities.

London Higher Europe supports 11 London HEIs to increase their capacity and experience of European engagement and funding programmes; London Higher International seeks to open up relationships with international partners.

### Technical Support
- Two study trips to Brussels for Early Career Researchers (Dec 17 and Jun 18)
- Study trip for academics at the ‘EU Design Days’ conference in Brussels (Sep 17)
- ‘Project Coordinators’ workshop (Oct 17)
- ‘Commercialising Research’ workshop (Nov 17)
- ‘Working with SMEs and Corporates’ workshop (Feb 18)
- Two ‘Brexit Briefings’ (Sep 17 and Apr 18)
- Ad hoc funding support and consortium advice.

### Advocacy
- Delegations to UKREP and EU Commission
- Meetings with British Council, The Foreign & Commonwealth Office and UK Export Finance, UUK
- Brexit Task Group
- Meeting with embassy education attachés
- Published articles on Brexit in EARMA newsletter
- House of Commons breakfast on international engagement (Jun 17)

### Promoting London HE in Europe and internationally
- Project to forge academic links with other European cities (with FCO)
- 26 meetings with EU universities and networks to forge London HE links
- Arranged for London HE academics to speak at EU conferences
- Project to create a London HE presence at international conferences like EAIE (Sep 18) and NAFSA (Apr 19) in partnership with London & Partners

£250,000,000

The value of funding from EU sources in 2016/2017

www.londonhigher.eu

“Strong partnerships with European Partners are one of the pillars of continued success and excellence at our institutions.”

Silke Blohm, Chair of London Higher Europe

Our work is important because...

London HEIs will continue to conduct research in partnership with the EU and European partners long after Brexit Day on 31 March 2019, and the partnerships they build now will continue to pay dividends after we leave.
In addition to our core work we have run a wide variety of meetings and ad hoc projects this year. Here is just a selection:

**Advocacy**

*London Weighting Task Group.* The group met several times this year with HEFCE as they conducted research into geographical variations in costs and benefits. We are delighted to see that the £65m for London HEIs has been preserved again this year.

**Collaboration**

*Commuter Students in London.* A pilot study on whether travel time and other factors affect undergraduate retention. The work encompasses both quantitative data analyses and student focus groups with 16 of our member HEIs.

**Promotion**

*Mapping of HE estates for regeneration partnerships.* A set of detailed digital maps have been produced identifying the buildings used by the HE sector across London. The maps are intended to help with decision making in relation to regeneration partnerships and strategic locations of new developments. The work was carried out by the University of London with support from London Higher and the GLA.

**Meetings**

*Roundtable Discussion Series.* In the challenging policy climate we hosted a series of Roundtable Discussion meetings with senior HE stakeholders:
- Jan 2018 – Madeleine Atkins CEO of HEFCE
- Feb 2018 – David Sweeney, Executive Chair, Research England
- Apr 2018 – Chris Millward, Director for Fair Access and Participation, Office for Students

**Find out more about our work...**

You can find out about all our activities and initiatives on our website at: [www.londonhigher.ac.uk](http://www.londonhigher.ac.uk)

"Universities are long term partners in regeneration projects and contribute £17bn to London's economy”

Dr Ghazwa Alwani-Starr, Member of GLA Academic Forum
This year we have published fifteen reports, briefings, written responses and factsheets and convened 130 major meetings, conferences and workshops.

The timeline below highlights our main publications and events from July 2017 to July 2018.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NOVEMBER</th>
<th>DECEMBER</th>
<th>JANUARY</th>
<th>FEBRUARY</th>
<th>MARCH</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>AccessHE</strong>: Mature and part-time students Forum</td>
<td><strong>NEON Summit</strong>: Primary Age Outreach and Evaluation to Secure Fair Access</td>
<td><strong>Case for HE</strong>: London Works student panel</td>
<td><strong>Centres Group</strong>: Discussion meeting with campus branches</td>
<td><strong>NEON</strong>: University Development Plans in London, Built Environment conference</td>
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<td><strong>AccessHE</strong>: University Information day for disabled learners</td>
<td><strong>Joint AccessHE &amp; NEON</strong>: Response to Poverty Commission Consultation</td>
<td><strong>AccessHE</strong>: Care experienced and estranged students Forum</td>
<td><strong>Case for HE</strong>: London Europe: Working with SMEs workshop</td>
<td><strong>AccessHE</strong>: Student Ambassador Forum</td>
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<td><strong>AccessHE</strong>: Student Ambassador Forum</td>
<td><strong>AccessHE</strong>: Board Meeting</td>
<td><strong>London Higher</strong>: Discussion meeting with David Sweeney, Research England</td>
<td><strong>AccessHE</strong>: Mature and part-time students Forum</td>
<td><strong>NEON</strong>: Student Ambassador Forum (Brussels)</td>
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<td><strong>AccessHE</strong>: London NCOP Launch event</td>
<td><strong>NEON</strong>: Access Academy Training - Evaluating Outreach (Work 1)</td>
<td><strong>London Higher</strong>: Discussion meeting with HESA staff numbers for 2016/17</td>
<td><strong>Case for HE</strong>: London Europe: Student Performance briefing - Student success</td>
<td><strong>AccessHE</strong>: BAME Forum</td>
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<td><strong>AccessHE</strong>: Briefing event - Student retention: Challenges and innovation in London</td>
<td><strong>AccessHE</strong>: Roundtable meeting with DfE, HEFCE and HESA</td>
<td><strong>London Higher</strong>: London Medicine &amp; Healthcare Education Group meeting</td>
<td><strong>AccessHE</strong>: London Europe: Discussion Meeting with HEE on primary care tariff</td>
<td><strong>AccessHE</strong>: Disability Forum</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>AccessHE</strong>: Student Advisory Group</td>
<td><strong>NEON</strong>: Access Academy Training - Evaluating Outreach (Work 2)</td>
<td><strong>Case for HE</strong>: HESA students at alternative providers for 2016/17</td>
<td><strong>AccessHE</strong>: London Europe: Enabling Access to Higher Education - Access Work With Disabled Learners</td>
<td><strong>AccessHE</strong>: Student Ambassador Forum (Brussels)</td>
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<td><strong>NEON</strong>: Access Academy Training - Building effective partnerships with schools</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Case for HE</strong>: Research Excellence Group meeting with Innovate UK</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>AccessHE</strong>: Student Ambassador Conference 2018</td>
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- **London Medicine & Healthcare**: Response to Health Committee Inquiry into the Nursing Workforce
- **NEON**: Launch of NEON’s first book ‘Widening Access Throughout the Student Lifecycle’
Our financial aim is to maintain and, if possible, expand member services whilst overseeing an efficient and transparent financial regime.

We forecast a positive out-turn for 2017-18. The year has been spent restructuring the accounts and improving internal budget controls with a view to developing a longer-term financial model for the new business strategy period starting in 2020.

"Whilst a positive out-turn is always good sign, we remain cautious as overheads creep up across London; we take nothing for granted."

Professor Anthony Bowne, Chair of Finance Committee

Our work is important because...
Cost matters. London Higher is proud to be one of the most cost-efficient HE support organisations for London HEIs.