



national union of **students**

Quality Doesn't Grow on Fees

The HE White Paper, HE Bill & the TEF

What do they say & what are we doing about it?

What's happened?

- Jo Johnson, Minister for Science and Universities, announced aspirations for a TEF in July 2015
- Summer 2015 Budget announced ability to raise tuition fees with inflation for highest performing institutions from 17-18
- Green paper consultation in autumn 2015
- Around 1 in 8 responses were from an SU
- HE White Paper & Bill published in May 2016
- Deadline to enter TEF: Jan 2017
- HE Bill currently in Parliament in HoL

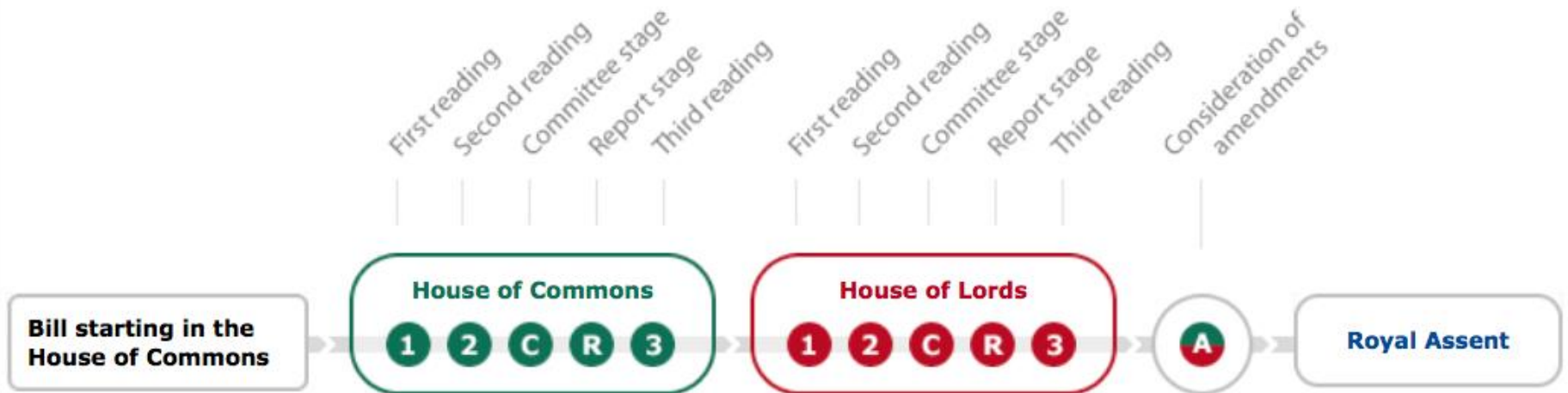
What is a White Paper & Bill?

A White Paper lays out in more detail the government's plans for change.

Some of this will require primary legislation. Some of it won't.

The Bill

A Bill is the draft legislation for the changes that require a change in the law. The Bill is currently being debated in Parliament.



So what's in it?

Quite a lot really...

“Success in a Knowledge Economy” has four main themes:

- Regulatory reform to open up competition
- Driving up teaching excellence
- Increasing ‘social mobility’
- Reshaping research funding

The first three are all interlinked

Regulatory reform

- Creating a new “Office for Students” (Bill)
- Changing degree awarding powers (Bill)
- Increasing student protections

Teaching excellence

- Introducing the TEF and its metrics (NSS, graduate employment data and retention data)
- Remains attached to fees – but delayed (different tuition fee starting in 2019)
- Technical consultation ended (1 in 10 responses from SUs) and government responded: universities to be given medal awards

Timelines

TEF 1

Fee rises 2017/18

Just "meets expectations" / bronze

Awarded summer 2016

Must have a recent quality check

TEF 2

Fee rises 2018/19

All who "meet expectations & above" / bronze & up

Awarded April 2017

Submitting Oct 2016

Expressions of interest July

TEF 3

Fee rises 2019/20

50% inflation for bronze

100% for silver and gold

Awarded April 2018

Submitting Oct 2017

Social mobility

- New access & participation plans
- Duty on universities to publish their application & acceptance data; now attainment levels too (amendment from last night)
- Duty on UCAS to publish their data

Research

- Reforming the 7 research councils into one.
“Research & Innovation UK”
- 7 sub committees, reflecting the current councils
- Haldane principle maintained

Thanks Wikipedia...

In British research policy, the **Haldane principle** is the idea that decisions about what to spend research funds on should be made by researchers rather than politicians. It is named after Richard Burdon **Haldane**, who in 1904 and from 1909 to 1918 chaired committees and commissions which recommended this policy.

Timelines

HE Bill is at Report Stage in the House of Lords

Expected Third Reading around 6th of March

Goes back to 'ping pong' on amendments in the House of Commons (could be quite lengthy)

Receives Royal Assent

Universities getting their medals around May and can appeal until the summer

What has NUS been doing?

Quality Doesn't Grow on Fees campaign #TEFOff

- Parliamentary & sector lobbying
- Supporting SUs on local actions & campaigns to put pressure on institutions to not take part in the TEF and/or not raise fees
- National demo #Nov19
- Boycott the NSS
- Building a student-led manifesto for teaching excellence/ alternative TEF

NO TO FEE RISES, NO TO THE TEF

**BOYCOTT
THE NSS**

NUS resources

Quality Doesn't Grow on Fees hub on nusconnect:
briefings, videos and blogs

<http://www.nusconnect.org.uk/campaigns/quality-doesn-t-grow-on-fees>

Boycott the NSS:

<http://www.nusconnect.org.uk/campaigns/boycott-the-nss>

Thanks for listening!

For more info:

campaigns@nus.org.uk

Sorana.vieru@nus.org.uk