

Review Panel Operating Protocol

Panel composition

1. The Panel for the Independent Review of Higher Education Funding and Student Finance is chaired by Lord [John] Browne of Madingley, and comprises six other members:
 - Sir Michael Barber
 - Diane Coyle
 - Professor David Eastwood
 - Professor Julia King
 - Rajay Naik
 - Peter Sands

Panel objectives

2. The Panel's key objective in its work is to deliver recommendations on higher education funding and student finance in line with the Review's Terms of Reference, which state that the Review should report by autumn 2010.

Review operating principles

3. The Review Panel will seek relevant information from all those with an interest in higher education, and in conducting the Review's business, it will be *independent* in its approach; and *open-minded* in answering the questions posed by the Review's Terms of Reference.

Review timetable and calls for evidence

4. The Review launched on 9 November 2009 and will report by autumn 2010.
5. Significant milestones marking the progress towards its report date will include:
 - A first call for evidence, launched at the beginning of December 2009, and running until 31 January, 2010. This will seek responses from higher education, business, students, and all others with an interest in higher education, in exploring the impact of the introduction of variable tuition fees since 2006.
 - A second call for evidence will be launched in the new year exploring opportunities for policy development.

Public hearings

6. The call for evidence periods will be following by public hearings, in which the Review Panel will take evidence from invited expert witnesses on key themes emerging from the written responses.
7. The hearings will usually be chaired by Lord Browne, and reports of the hearings will be published on the website.

Advisory Forum

8. An Advisory Forum has been established to give key representative interests opportunity for formal, structured engagement with the Review's work.
9. The Advisory Forum will meet frequently throughout the Review following the launch of the first call for evidence, informed by the Panel's plenary meetings.
10. Forum meetings will usually be chaired by Lord Browne, and their papers will be published on the Review's website.

Website

11. The Review has a dedicated website, containing details of the Review's scope and governance, as well as helping to chart the Review's progress through the publication of call for evidence documents and public meeting notes.
12. Call for evidence responses (unless otherwise requested by their authors) will be posted on the web once they are received.
13. The Review's website can be found: <http://hereview.independent.gov.uk/hereview/>