

Nine things that are happening

November 2022



Cost of living

- Most universities have now announced
- [Hub plus 50 ways](#) article
- [Russell group PR](#)
- Food --- Heat ---- Thrift
- [National research coming 23rd November](#)
- Food insecurity and food banks (new inflation figures have food and NAB inflation at 16.4 per cent, [higher for staples](#))
- [Heating and campus spaces?](#)
- Energy Bills support
 - [Pass through regulation where student not billpayer](#)

Over **8 million** households to get new Cost of Living payment from **14 July 2022**

NSS

- Removal of community section
- Summative question only retained in nations
 - Overall, how would you rate the quality of your course?
- SUs question – removal of NAND and rewording
 - How well does the students' union (association or guild) represent students' academic interests?
- Wellbeing
 - How well communicated was information about your university/college's mental wellbeing support services?
- Cybil research



Housing shortage

- Renting Homes Act Dec 1st (BUT June for six months notice on no fault)
- Family accommodation
- PGT expansion plus Graduate Route visa
- Strategy for the city?
- Figures on types of housing by provider



Strikes

- Dates called: 24th, 25th, 30th
- Wednesday 30th National Demo King's Cross
 - Unlikely to be ultra vires – weigh up record
- Action short of a strike (briefing coming)
 - working to contract
 - not covering for absent colleagues
 - removing uploaded materials related to, and/or not sharing materials related to, lectures or classes that will be or have been cancelled as a result of strike action
 - not rescheduling lectures or classes cancelled due to strike action
 - not undertaking any voluntary activities.
- Need to know briefing, rights issues briefing
- Don't forget nursing if you have nursing students (dates TBC)

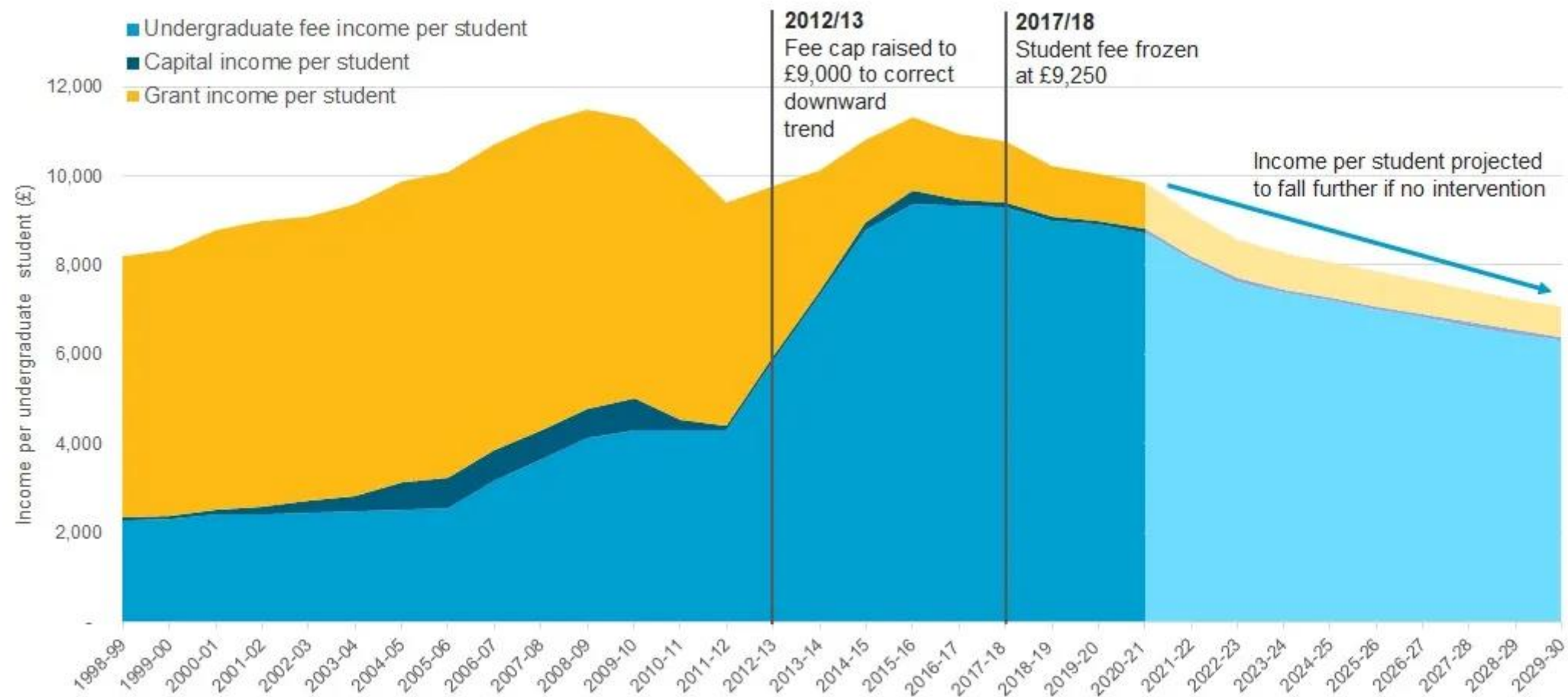


University finances

- Real state varies (UCU aggregate)
- Budget this week
- Policy Exchange cuts
- Energy support?
- How is university planning to cope and/or will cost of living support last?



University finances



Transport

- The pandemic has caused more WFH, passenger numbers have not bounced back, and many routes are less sustainable than they were, putting huge pressure on operator margins
- Brexit has caused a significant labour market crunch and operators are finding it much more difficult than in the past to recruit, train and pay drivers.
- Students as drivers?



International students

- No news on immigration reform but figures coming December
- Family accommodation crisis
- Growing and infrastructure
 - General
 - International
- Pregnancy and learning from complaints



Harassment & SM

- (England) Statement of Expectations will be converted to regulation
- Prevalence research coming from OfS – Involvement of devolved nations?
- Expected standards coming on bystander and prevention training
- Evaluation from SUMS consulting
- Year abroad, franchise, placement, SUs – jurisdiction issues (read across will be UK-wide)



Student mental health

- Bristol will appeal in the Abrahart case so learning delayed
- Parents have launched campaign to establish a formal “duty of care”
- Apps and digital MH support
- UUK have guidance out on:
 - Contacting family and other loved ones in event of serious issue (but what counts as serious issue and whose job to notice?)
 - Before, during and return from placements



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SUs

