

# Ten things that are happening

November 2022

Links in this PDF are clickable



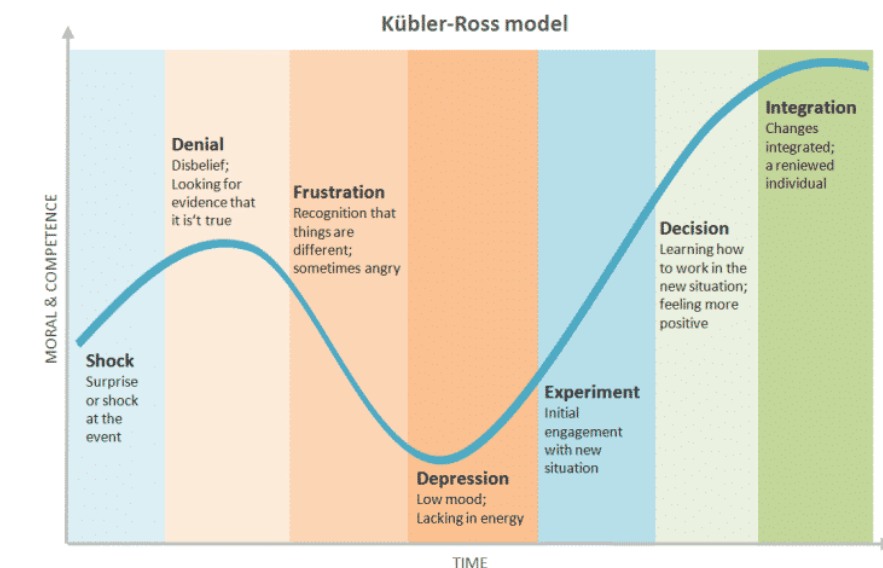
# Cost of living

- Most universities have now announced their approach
- Hub plus 50 ways article, Russell group PR
- ONS National research out – local comparison? Note link to satisfaction.
- **Food** insecurity and food banks (new inflation figures have food inflation at 16.4 per cent, higher for staples)
- Heating and campus spaces?
- Energy Bills support
  - Pass through regulation where student not billpayer
  - £400 for households – students in halls still TBC
- Thrift / second hand initiatives (books, uniform, fashion etc) proving v popular

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

# B3 and TEF Dashboards

- Formal guidance on the Student Submission now out see webinar and briefing(s)
- Most SUs nearing draft and presentation
  - (Many doing recommendations internally but not in final version)
- Education gain still highly contested...
- Universities responding surprisingly badly to negative content in drafts – but fades (see grief curve)





# Housing shortage

- No national strategy
- Renter's reform bill – potential compromise coming on open-ended tenancies
- Family accommodation issue (see also)
- PGT expansion plus Graduate Route visa
- Strategy for the city?
- Figures on types of housing by provider
- Glasgow SRC cap campaign



# Strikes

- Dates called: 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>
- See strike sheet for SU approaches
- Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> National Demo King's Cross
  - Unlikely to be ultra vires – weigh up record
- Action short of a strike
  - 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)
- Picketing – some unis dissuading students – see briefing
- International students and attendance – see briefing



# Free speech bill

- Amendments for report stage potentially:
  - Removal of tort
  - Regulation of SUs through universities
  - Removal of clause on foreign funding
  - Heckler's veto clause
  - Complaints route
- Becomes law late 22 / early 23, then OfS consultation
- Disciplinary chaos?
- Academic judgement?
- Search Lords register of interests to find links to your uni



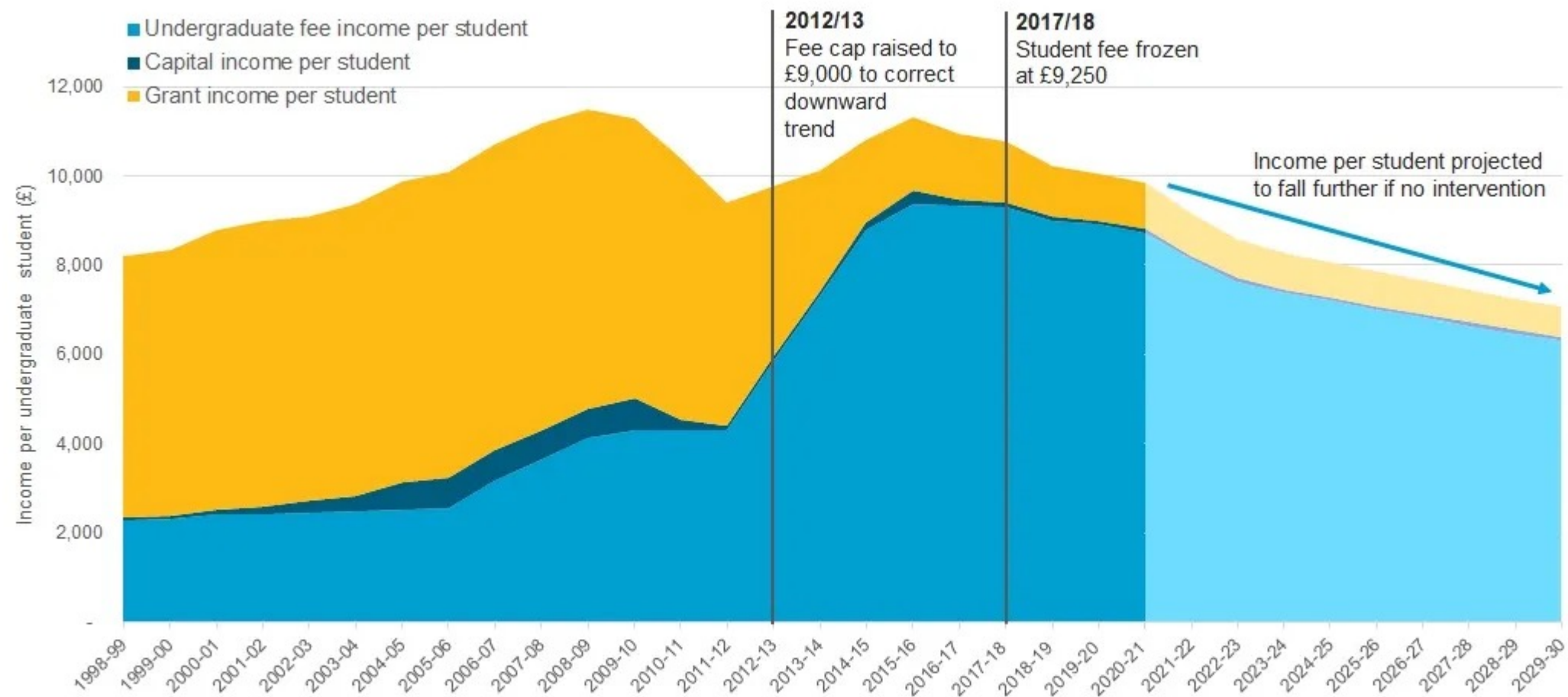
# University finances

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





# University finances





# International students

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



# Harassment & SM

- Statement of Expectations will be converted to regulation
- Prevalence research coming from OfS
- Expected standards coming on bystander and prevention training
- Evaluation from SUMS consulting
- Year abroad, franchise, placement, SUs – jurisdiction issues will be addressed



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# Student mental health

- Bristol will appeal in the Abrahart case so learning delayed
- Parents have launched campaign to establish a formal “duty of care”
- Wonkhe SUs Roundtable on reasonable adjustments in December
- Apps and digital MH support





# 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?
- Explainer briefing and recording



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**WONKHE**  
SUs

