

UK Council  
for International  
Student Affairs

## Losing a sponsor licence



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## What happened?

Loss of London Metropolitan University's licence

Impact on students

Impact on university and sector

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## Sponsor licence and requirements



- Tier 4 sponsor licence
- Highly Trusted Sponsor
- Annual application
- Suspension – freezes immigration applications
- Revocation – no international students



## London Metropolitan University



Founded 1848 – now c25,000 students (2,600 Tier 4)  
16 July licence suspended, revoked 29 August



## Impact on students



No study after revocation

Court case – concessions



800 continue – some transfer

Task Force, clearing house, £2 million fund

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## Impact on university and sector



Financial

Reputation

Focus on compliance

Student support?

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## Why did it happen?

Sponsorship requirements

Politics and statistics

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## Sponsorship requirements



Clear and consistent?

Educational standards?

Challenges to legal basis –  
many changes

No right of appeal

Records are key – previous  
problem for this institution re  
reports to funding council

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## Politics, immigration and statistics



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Election pledge on net migration

UN definition of 'migrant'

16 July – Parliamentary report

30 August – revocation and new stats in news

1999-2011 - boom

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## Could it happen again?

Lessons learned....

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## Lessons for students



All sectors at risk even if good reports on quality of education

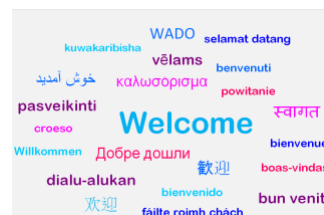
All students vulnerable

Don't ignore advisers!

Impact on applications will be known in 2013

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## Lessons for education sector



Financial protection schemes

Compliance/surveillance?

When to notify students of suspension?

Lobby to allow compliant students to continue study even if licence revoked

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## Lessons for Government



Public sympathy for students

Fairness of procedures

Universities Minister trying to reassure

Statistics to be reviewed

Fewer changes to Rules?



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