

What information would be useful when officers are requesting support from their force?

Potential and current students might be asked to provide information on particular issues in order to access support:

Organisational priorities – how can a university suggest ways of highlighting that study might enhance internal knowledge and understanding of particular issues? For example, small scale research and evaluation / literature reviews

Career plans and further development – how might their chosen study programme relate to their role and help them develop professionally?

Financial assistance

Can the HEI provide generic approximate costs for any extras such as examination fees, materials, suggested conferences and/or books? This will help the student develop a more efficient business case when requesting funding

Can their force offer any protected learning time?

Can the HEI provide detail for the force about the expected time some activities may take,

- Time required to attend / view lectures on line
- Suggested reading times
- Length of time required for completion of assignments or projects
- Independent study time

and the reasons why this is important for the student's motivation to study

Extra information which may help students gain support / make their force aware of the expectations, depending on what learning methods they use:

- HEIs could help support an individual to apply their learning in the workplace, to enhance performance and contribute to new projects and initiatives.
- Mentoring / coaching or peer support from officers / staff who have completed academic study. This may be particularly useful if a course contains elements of work based learning or there is limited contact with other learners
- Highlighting the importance of the student having discussions with local learning and development experts within their force to help them consider options when making decisions on programmes and methods of learning
- Could the institution offer some seminars in force or masterclasses to widen the learning and assist those undertaking distance learning options to enable engagement with others
- Can the HEI provide the force with any information about local events / seminars on relevant topics to expand learning