

Office for
Students

The logo for the Office for Students, featuring a dark blue square with a yellow square in the top right corner containing the letters 'OfS' in white.

OfS

NCOP phase two and beyond

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NEON summit

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Why does the OfS invest in access?

General duties

-) In performing its functions, the OfS must have regard to—
- (a) the need to protect the institutional autonomy of English higher education providers,
 - (b) the need to promote quality, and **greater choice and opportunities for students**, in the provision of higher education by English higher education providers,
 - (c) the need to encourage competition between English higher education providers in connection with the provision of higher education where that competition is in the interests of students and employers, while also having regard to the **benefits for students and employers resulting from collaboration** between such providers,
 - (d) the need to promote value for money in the provision of higher education by English higher education providers,
 - (e) the need to **promote equality of opportunity in connection with access** to and participation in higher education provided by English higher education providers,
 - (f) the need to use the OfS's resources in an **efficient, effective and economic way**, and
 - (g) so far as relevant, the principles of best regulatory practice, including the principles that regulatory activities should be—
 - (i) transparent, accountable, proportionate and consistent, and
 - (ii) targeted only at cases in which action is needed.

What is the OfS trying to achieve?

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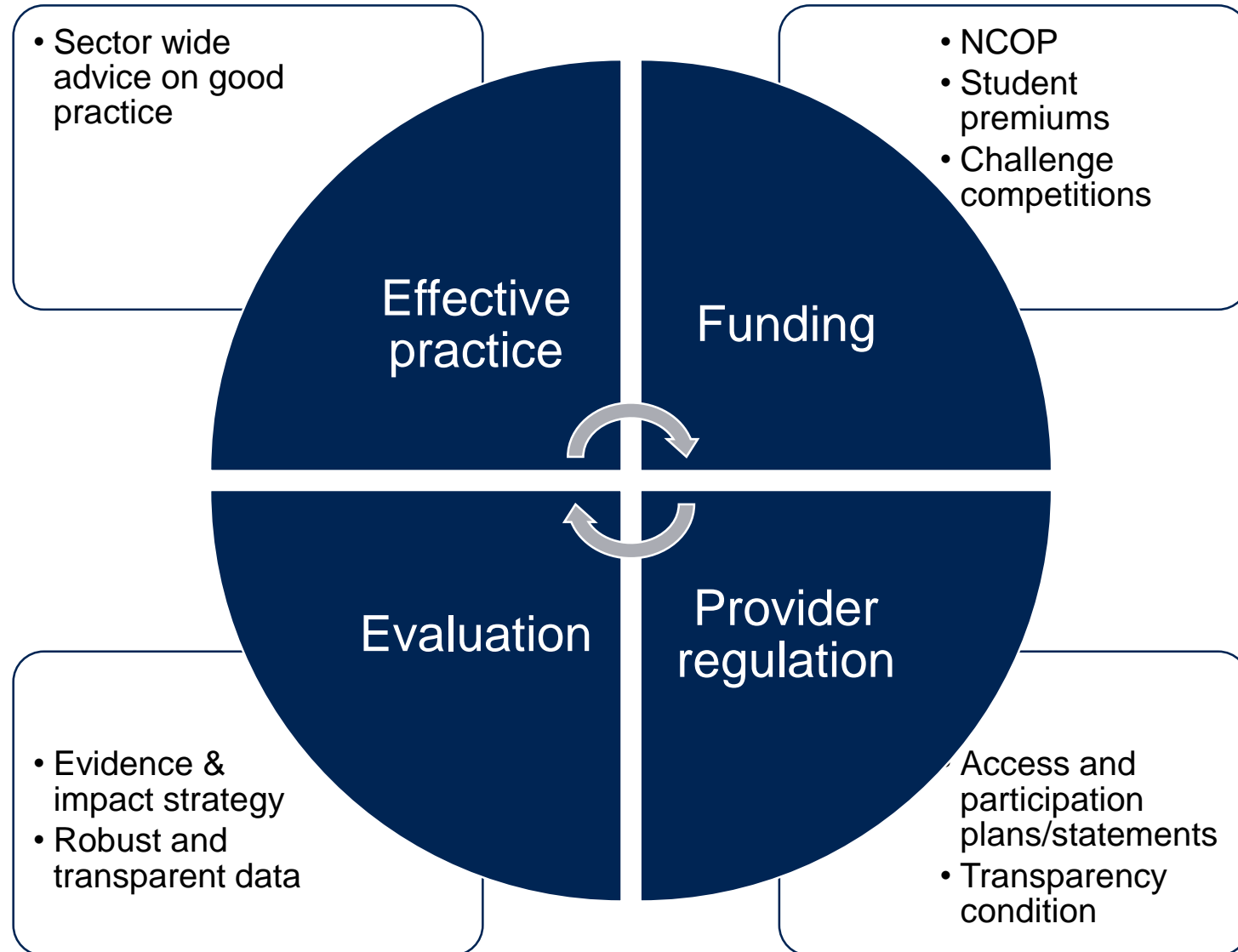
OfS

All students, from all backgrounds, with the ability and desire to undertake higher education, are supported to access, succeed in, and progress from higher education.

Access success and progression are not limited by background and identity, and gaps are significantly reduced

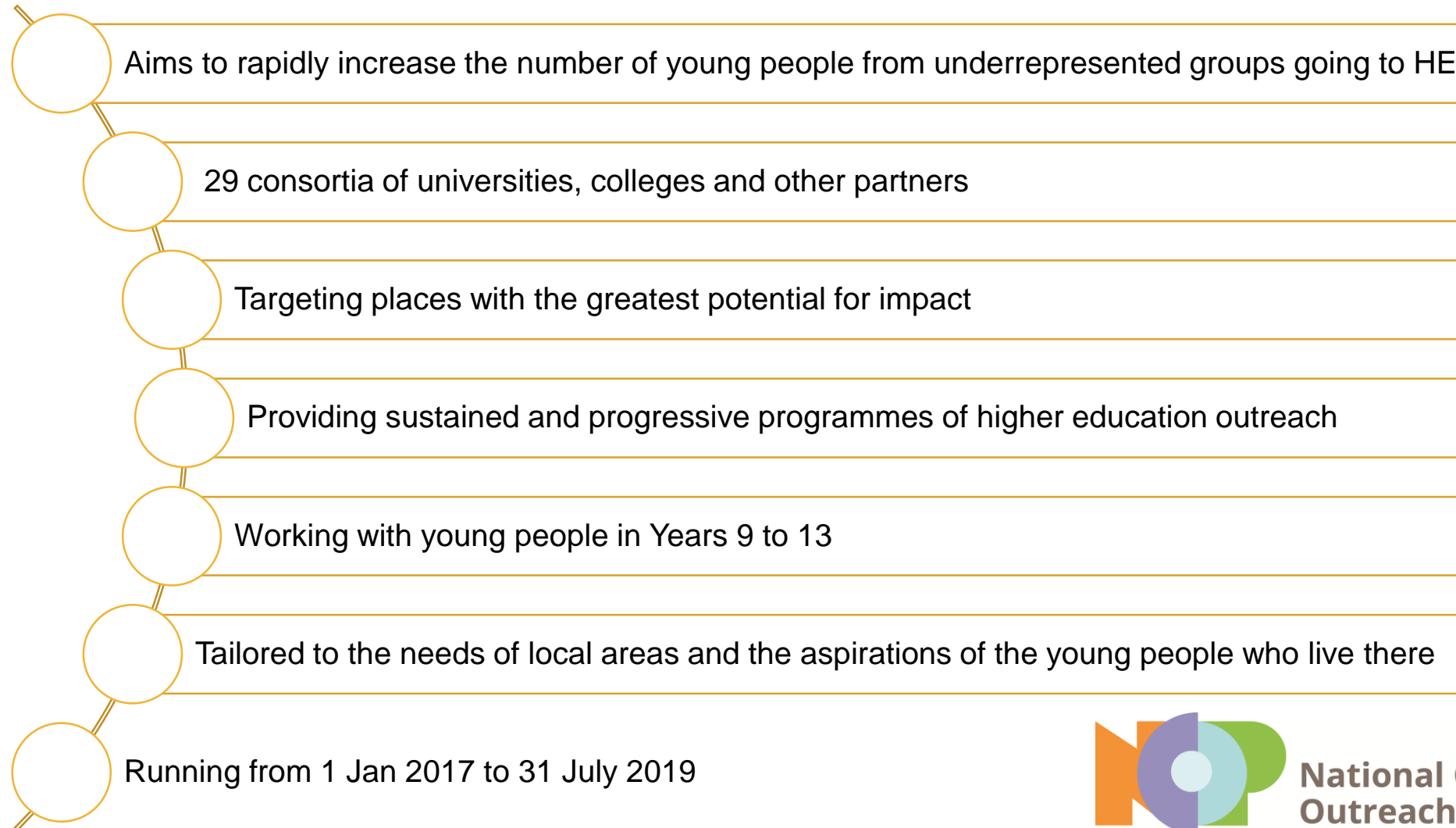
All access and participation activity is underpinned by evidence and 'what works'

How will we make this a reality?



Underpinned by
clear OfS Key
Performance
Measures

National Collaborative Outreach Programme phase one



Aims of the NCOP review

- Inform decisions on the second phase of the NCOP programme.
- Ensure that NCOP is as impactful as possible in contributing to and aligning with the government's social mobility agenda.
- Ensure that NCOP aligns with the wider duties and approach of the OfS including around access and participation plans, teaching funding, and the skills agenda.
- Enable partnerships to implement any changes required in a timely way.
- Make recommendations for improvement, as appropriate.

From phase one into phase two

Targeted outreach

Targeting remains same

Access for over 19 year olds

Clearer expectations on quality

Progression frameworks

Outreach hubs

Investing in infrastructure

Complementing provider activity, link APPs

Longer term ambition to support

Evaluation

Refreshed approach

Strengthened capability support

Link to TESO (EIX)

NCOP phase two

OfS funding to support

Sustained and progressive programmes of targeted outreach for young people from Year 9 upwards

Information and signposting for teachers and advisors about local outreach activity

Support for schools and colleges in areas of low participation to access higher education outreach

Strategic engagement and activity through local outreach hubs

Robust qualitative and quantitative evaluation, locally and nationally

Complementing and adding value to

Individual provider activity, as set out in access and participation plans

Collaborative activity by providers, as set out in access and participation plans

Local authority and local enterprise partnership activity to address educational disadvantage, high level skills needs and joined up careers advice

Local careers leads and Enterprise Advisor Networks

Opportunity Areas and Opportunity North East

Leading to

Reduced gap in higher education participation between the most and least represented groups

Young people supported to make well-informed decisions about their future education

Effective and impactful local collaboration by higher education providers and their partners

Stronger evidence base and strengthened evaluation practice in the sector

And beyond...?

- NCOP (targeted outreach and outreach hubs) funding agreed in principle until end of 2020-21
- Ambition to support outreach hubs until end of 2024-25 (duration of next round of APPs)
- 2019 Spending Review anticipated for Autumn
- Review of OfS funding to follow

**Thank you
for your participation**

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