

2nd December 2025

Response from the University of Derby to the follow-up to the open letter from the University of Students.

We thank the Union of Students for their representation of students and ongoing engagement with the University regarding these matters. Further to our previous response, I hope we can offer some additional clarity and reassurance on the issues raised.

Course closures

It's not possible at this stage to confirm whether programmes will close. It is important to note that we review our portfolio on an annual basis and where there is little or no uptake, we may decide to close a course. If that happens, the University's commitment (via our Student Protection Plan) is to ensure that all registered students are able to complete their degree as per the parameters of their registration.

Equality Impact Assessment (EIA)

An EIA has been prepared and shared with representatives of those affected by the proposals. The EIA is a living document and will be updated as the process commences. It would not be appropriate to share more widely and open the consultation beyond those entitled to represent the affected staff. Data on the impact of this activity will be shared more broadly as part of normal workforce and equality publication schemes in the future.

Staff-student ratios for Student Services

Staff-student ratios are a function of academic programme delivery (as per the HESA return) – they do not relate to professional services staff working in Student Services roles. I would like to reiterate that our intention is to grow the range of services that can be accessed through the Hub.

Details of any roles being replaced

You'll appreciate that such information is confidential to individuals as part of the consultation process. The assurance for the students is that, where there are staffing changes, the University's commitment is to uphold the student experience.

Kind regards,



Professor Keith McLay
Deputy Vice-Chancellor