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Vicky Foxcroft MP  
Labour MP for Lewisham North  
House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA

Sent by email only to [vicky.foxcroft.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:vicky.foxcroft.mp@parliament.uk)

07 April 2025

Dear Ms Foxcroft,

Re: Impact of Home Office policies on Goldsmiths, University of London

I would like to draw your attention to the major risk to the financial sustainability of UK universities caused by ongoing Home Office uncertainty on international student visa and immigration policy ahead of the publication of the immigration white paper.

As our MP, you will be familiar with Goldsmiths' recent financial problems, which are partly due to volatility in international student recruitment. You may also be aware that 64% of universities are projected to be in deficit in 2026-27, for the same reason. DfE is working hard to secure our financial stability, and the Home Office is – perhaps inadvertently – working against that objective.

International students contribute substantially to our local and national economy, which is why they are a priority within the London Growth Plan. A study by sector group Universities UK and HEPI in 2022 found that international students make a net contribution of £245 million to Lewisham over the course of the studies. London Higher estimates one cohort of international students generates £9.6bn for the capital's economy.

This makes international student recruitment a core objective for the Labour administrations at City Hall and Lewisham Council. And it is vital to have a stable policy on these matters for social reasons, given that with students from more than 130 countries Goldsmiths serves a community with an exceptionally rich diaspora. This is highlighted by the work of our Migrant Futures Institute, which researches migration, identity and cultural exchange.

I would be grateful if you would urge your colleagues to establish a stable, longstanding policy on these matters, including a commitment to ensuring that skilled graduates have a fair route to remaining in the UK to support economic growth. And I would be delighted to host a visit for you and your team to the Migrant Futures Institute, to inform your discussions.

Thank you for considering this matter. We look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Frances Corner', written in a cursive style.

Professor Frances Corner OBE  
Vice-Chancellor, Goldsmiths, University of London