



**THE DEPUTY LEADER OF THE HOUSE OF LORDS**

To: All Peers

27 March 2023

My Lords,

**High Education (Freedom of Speech) Bill: Lords Consideration of Commons Amendments - follow-up**

During Lords Consideration of Commons Amendments to the Higher Education (Freedom of Speech) Bill on 21 March 2023, I was asked by Lord Wallace of Saltaire, about the timing for the coming into force of the Bill once enacted, seeking reassurance that it would not be implemented in full by the beginning of academic year 2023/24.

I gave that reassurance. However, I added that “*The Government need to consult on the regulations and indeed draft them, which will take a little time*”. I should in fact have made clear that the consultation will be undertaken by the Office for Students, for example in relation to the complaints scheme and the changes to the regulatory framework. The implementation will also involve the Government laying regulations.

I hope this letter has been useful. I will place a copy in the House of Lords Library.

Yours sincerely,

**EARL HOWE**

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