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Student Numbers and New Student Accommodation at UWE, Bristol Frenchay Campus

In relation to enquiries from South Gloucestershire Council, I can confirm that UWE, Bristol does not have plans for any significant increase in overall student numbers in the current planning period. In the current year we enrolled 7,737 new undergraduate students including EU and Overseas national, for 2022/23 our planned intake based on known applications is 7,720 and our projected intake for the following year is roughly the same. There will not, therefore, be any significant increase in student demand for accommodation of any kind driven by rising student numbers.

In terms of student accommodation, we are currently in the process of constructing some 920 bed spaces of new accommodation on our Frenchay Campus due for completion by September 2023. We will also, in the coming months, be applying for planning permission for a further 1,200 bed spaces also on the Frenchay Campus.

The University in its stated Strategy, has undertaken to provide all first-year students with the offer of on-campus accommodation. We know from applications for our current accommodation that there is currently considerable demand for such accommodation which we are not currently able to meet – hence our plans to increase provision as outlined above.

It is clear that a proportion of our students currently unable to access on-campus accommodation, will be adding to the demand for privately rented accommodation in the local area – we are very aware from student feedback of the pressures on the housing market in Cheswick, Filton, and adjoining areas. Given this, it is also clear that new provision in the pipeline will to an extent relieve some of the pressures on the local housing market and enable us to guarantee high quality, affordable accommodation for a larger proportion of the student body.



Professor Martin Boddy
Pro Vice-Chancellor
UWE Bristol