

The Rt Hon David Cameron MP
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London SW1A 2AA

Friday 24 June 2016

Dear Prime Minister,

The result from yesterday's referendum raises many critical questions for students, and for their futures. Students and students' unions up and down the country in both further and higher education engaged their members and wider community right throughout this referendum debate, and we now more than ever need to ensure that the student voice continues to be heard and reflected as we move forward.

There are a number of practical questions on which students will be seeking assurances. There will be non-UK EU students undertaking courses in the UK, who will be unclear on their position. There will similarly be UK students studying at college and university level in countries across the EU who will want to know what this result means for them.

Higher education receives considerable funding through EU institutions, and this result will place significant pressures onto our universities. Students will be concerned that any removal of this funding could have implications for the support they receive, and this concern will of course be greatest for the most vulnerable students.

Additionally a vast number of projects on adult skills education are delivered for communities by colleges who will be rightly concerned about what will happen to this vital funding.

And more generally, this result will have vast, wide-ranging implications for students and their futures. The voice of students and young people must be heard and represented as critical decisions are now made as to how we move forward. We know that this decision will affect young people more than any other, and it would be wrong that older generations dominate discussions and decisions.

I am writing to seek your assurance that students and young people will be not only thoroughly consulted but to ensure that a proactive effort is made to include their voices in decisions that are made.

I hope to also impress on you the need that particular groups of students likely with particular concerns about the implications of this vote – including those detailed above – are communicated with swiftly, and offered all possible support.

Yours sincerely,



Megan Dunn,
President, National Union of Students

cc. Jo Johnson MP, Minister of State for Universities and Science
Nick Boles MP, Minister of State for Skills