

Learning Opportunities

The section in the SED on learning opportunities requires subject teams to make ‘*an evaluation of the deployment of resources (both human and material) that support the learning of students.*’ (Paragraph 23, c)

In respect of LIS, you will need to do the following. You are advised to do this in conjunction with your School Librarian:

- Outline the processes related to budget, bookstock, etc.
- Assess how well, in practice, these actually work.
- Outline any agreed plans to amend processes or make other improvements (or, where change is out of your control, explain what contingency is built in to cope with prospective problems).

The following list of questions may help this analysis:

Strategy

1. Is the strategy for deployment of learning resources effective in terms of ensuring that students are provided with the material they need (or given information from which they can access this material)?
2. How do LIS become aware of course development?
3. How well do LIS and teaching staff communicate? Are there any formal links?
4. How well do LIS and students communicate? Are there any formal links?
5. How are staff made aware of LIS facilities?
6. How is the effectiveness of LIS measured and fed back to relevant students and staff? How is this translated into service improvement?

Operation

7. Are the resources effective and adequate to support the programme, especially in respect of books, journals, online databases, software, VLEs and equipment (AVAs etc)?
8. How are these resources selected and updated?
9. How accessible are LIS facilities to all categories of student (eg part-time, disabled, distance learning)?
10. How adequate and effective is LIS study accommodation and PC provision?
11. What information skills education is offered to students and staff?
12. What arrangements are in place for responding to ad hoc needs or for promoting existing services? How is success measured?

Adapted from the QAA Aide Memoire for Reviewers evaluating learning resources