

Access and Admissions to Higher Education

Tuesday 30th October 2012

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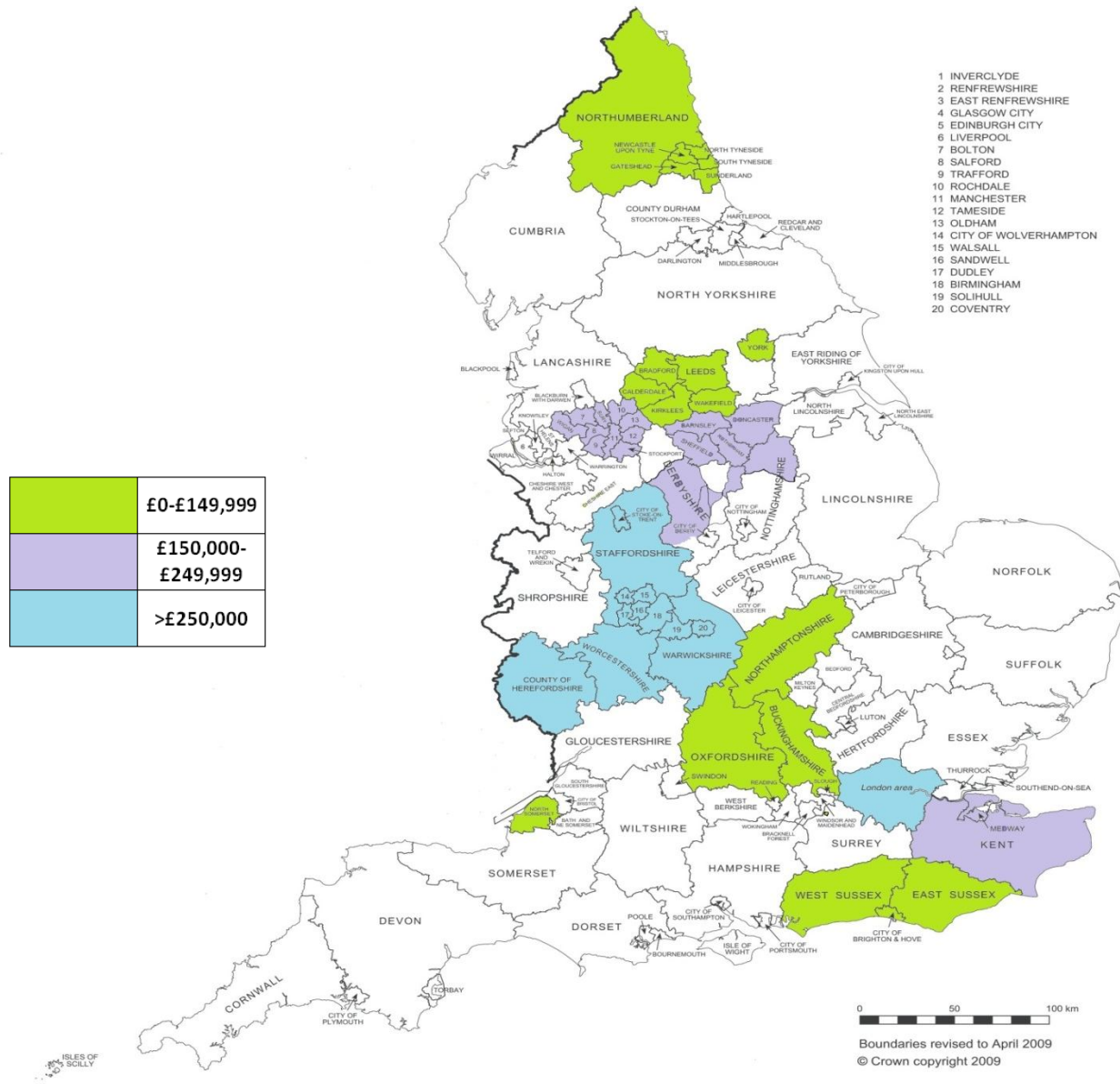
What does collaboration mean in access work today?

- Regional
- National
- International
- Access: Challenges and Opportunities

The regional collaborative picture

- Drawing an access map
- Short piece of research Autumn 2012 – access collaborative organisations
- Full report via NEON November 2012

The Collaboration Map



What does the map show?

- 16 organisations
- Very contrasting models
- Focused in urban, metropolitan areas
- Capacity building/brokerage
- Short term funding
- £3m vs over £100m in Aimhigher/LLN in
- Over 80 HEIs involved
- Approx 600 – 800 schools/colleges

NEON (National Education Opportunities Network)

Aim:

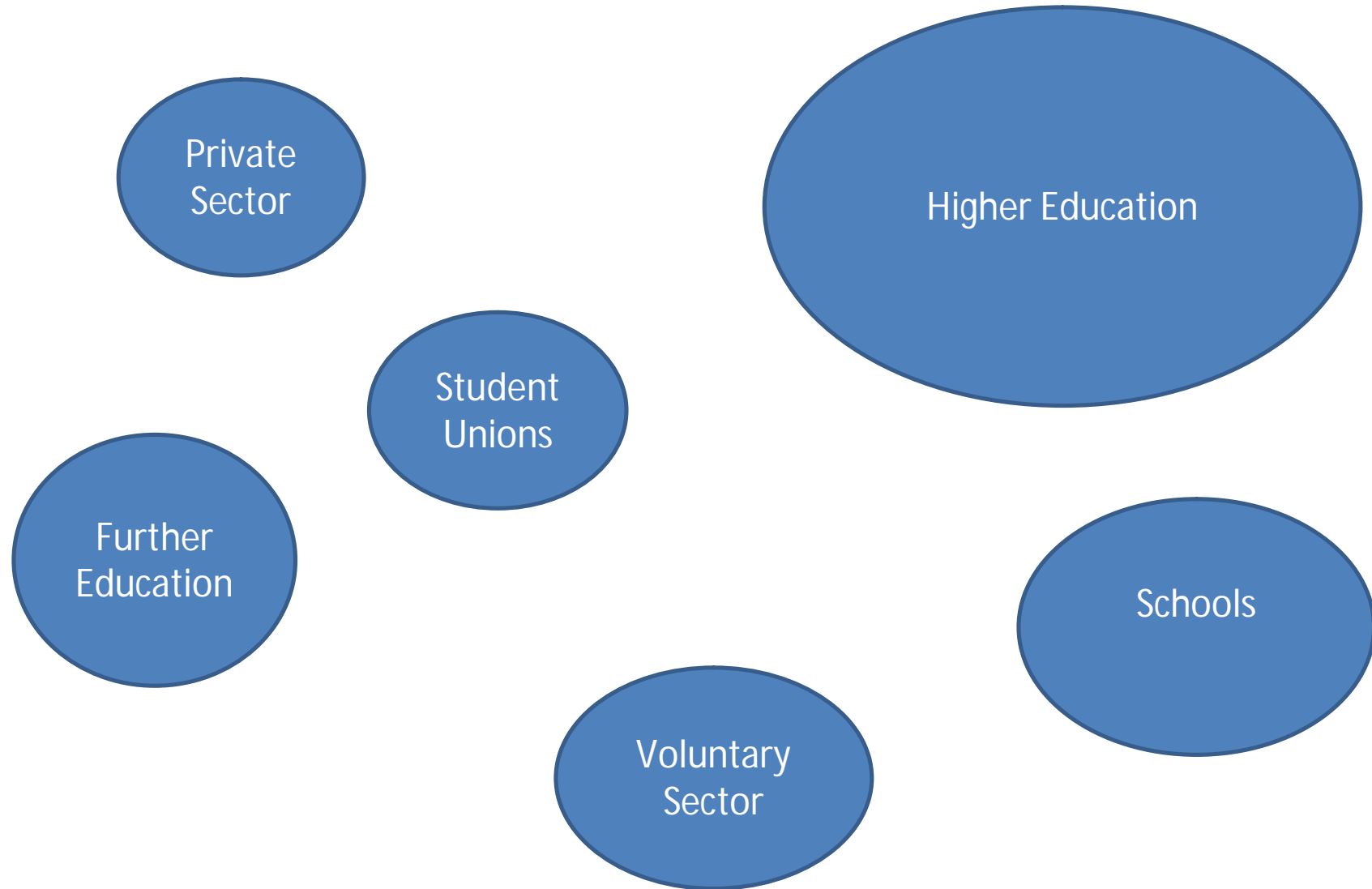
To empower & enable those working on access to HE to affect change in their own institutions and communities.

Independent professional organisation for the widening access community

Work of NEON

- Began in late 2012
- Bottom up not top down
- Cross sector and cross 'level' – building and defining the access community
- What do we mean by access community?

The Access Community



NEON 2013

- Regional/National Professional Development Opportunities
- Building the network virtually
- Shaping the access agenda and discourse
- National Working Groups
- **NEON Membership Offer December 2012**

NEON Working Groups

- **Engaging Student Unions in Access work** (NUS)
- **The Business Case for Access: Working with the Private Sector** (UNITE PLC)
- **Engaging Local Authorities** (Kent and Medway Progression Foundation)
- **Access Courses and HE Progression** (University of Bedfordshire)
- **Access and outreach for learners with disabilities** (Manchester Metropolitan University & University of Manchester)
- **Establishing evidence and impact** (AccessHE and Leeds Metropolitan University)
- **Working at primary level** (University of Liverpool)

Access work not just in England

- Northern Ireland, Scotland & Wales continue with state funded collaboration
- Access practice found in Europe, Asia & US
- **Where has it been sustained longest?**
- US with the \$900m TRIO programme
- 40 years history
- **How?**
- Via effective organisation

Challenges & Opportunities

- **Challenges**

- Recruitment
- Relevance
- Free riders
- Capacity

- **Opportunities**

- New HEFCE/OFFA widening access strategy
- Demand for **HE access** alongside **HEI access** targets
- Support from those trying to shape discourse e.g. Milburn report

Thank you for listening

Find out more about NEON

www.educationopportunities.co.uk

Find out more about AccessHE

www.accesshe.ac.uk