

Change in SHAPE subjects' provision in the UK (2011/12 – 2022/23)

[Presentation created by the **Market and Student Insight Team**]

Analysis and considerations

This summary report has been created using the British Academy's SHAPE Observatory interactive tool to analyse the provision of SHAPE subjects in UK higher education institutions.

Key considerations:

1. Time Frame: The data covers the academic years from 2011/12 to 2022/23

2. Data Representation: The tool uses HESA data to show provision for first-year first degree UK-domiciled students aged 20 and under. The tool uses Full-Person Equivalent (FPE) rather than headcount to represent student engagement in courses. Data includes joint honours courses, with the equivalent FPE divided between relevant subjects.

3. The analysis covers two dimensions:

- **Higher education providers:** The maps show how the demand of SHAPE subjects has changed over time, highlighting providers recording low/no change in student FPE, providers recording an increase in student FPE, and providers recording a decrease.
- **Regional spread of provision:** The maps show how the regional distribution of SHAPE subject provision has changed over time, highlighting areas with multiple providers, single providers, and no provision within a 60km commutable distance.

Development Studies

Large increase in the total demand of first-year degree UK-domiciled students aged 20 or under for 'Development Studies' (+128% student FPE), although the market remains small – with the first registrations to the subject in 2012/13

Change in demand of first-year degree UK-domiciled students aged 20 or under	2012/13	2022/23	Change in FPE (#)	Change in FPE (%)
<u>Subject</u> : Development Studies	120	275	+155	+128%

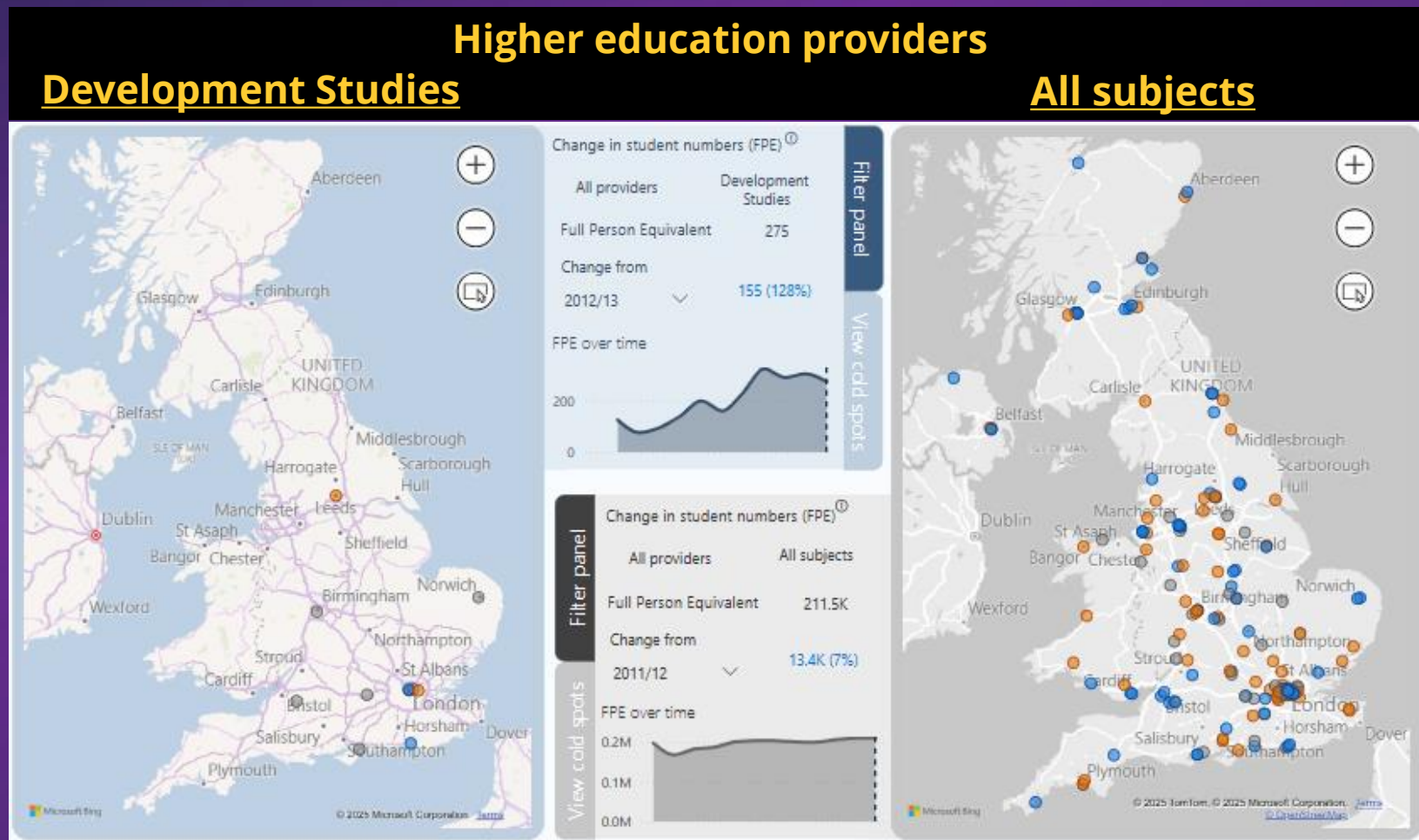
- **Total demand:** There has been a large increase in the total demand for 'Development Studies' with growth of 128% student FPE from 120 in 2012/13 to 275 in 2022/23.
- **Providers:** Against a large increase in demand, there has also been a large increase in providers offering 'Development Studies', with 5 more in the market in 2022/23 when compared to 2012/13.

Change in number of providers offering courses in subject	2012/13	2022/23	Change in providers (#)	Change in providers (%)
<u>Subject</u> : Development Studies	6	11	+5	+83%

Increase in demand for 'Development Studies' is linked with high number of market entries since 2012/13

These maps show change in demand of first-year degree UK-domiciled students aged 20 and under by provider for the subject group 'Development Studies' vs. all.

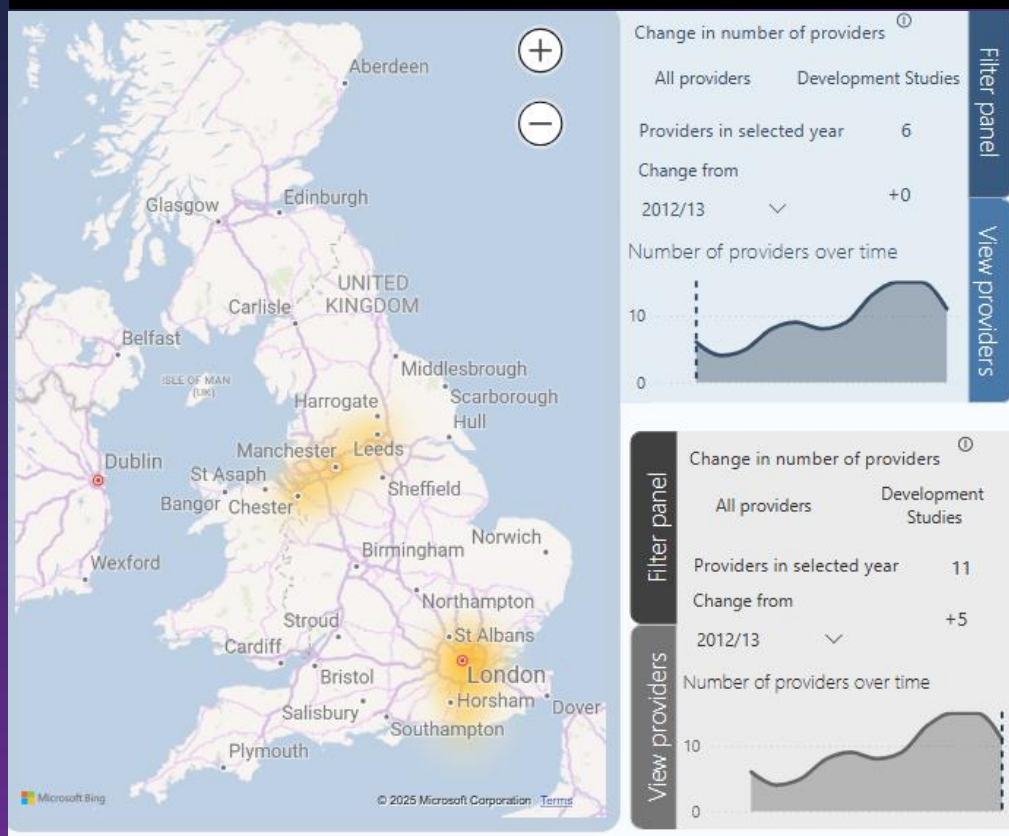
- 'Development Studies' is a niche market, which has seen an increase of provision since 2012/13, from 6 to 11 providers– and this has led to a corresponding increase in overall numbers studying the subject, which peaked in 2019.
- The largest falls across the period from 2012/13 to 2022/23 were at Leeds (-29%) and the University of East London, which saw a fall from 15 registrations in 2012/13 to 0 in 2022/23.
- The institutions that have seen growth since 2012/13 are Sussex (+15%) and SOAS (66%), while the only other entrant to the market who has seen strong registration numbers and a positive recruitment trajectory is Bath (40 registrations in 2022/23)



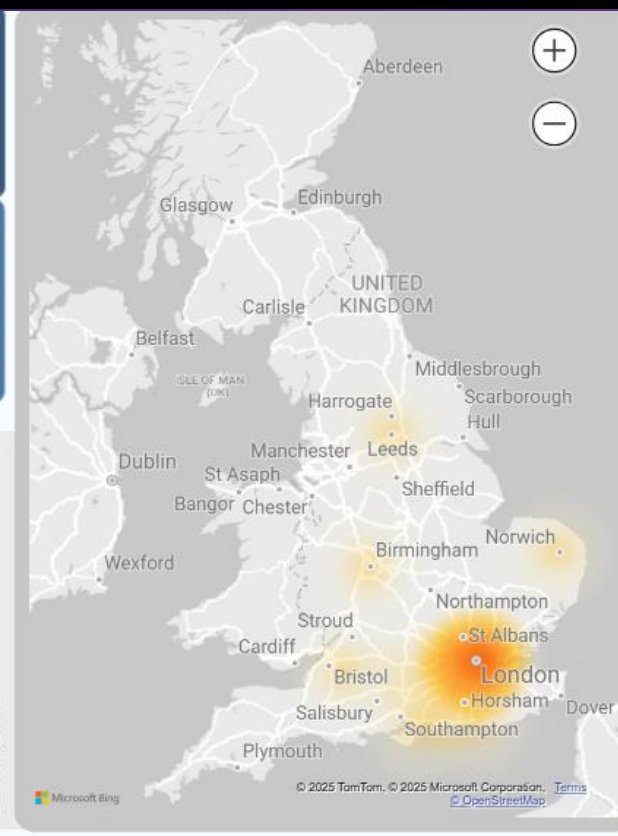
Key: Low/no change in student FPE (grey), Increase in student FPE (blue), Decrease in student FPE (orange)

Provision for 'Development Studies' has become more concentrated in London and the South-East since the first year of registration data for the subject in 2012/13 with a reduction of provision in the NW

Regional spread of provision: Development Studies 2012/13



2022/23



These maps show how the regional distribution of 'Development Studies' subject provision has changed over time for first-year degree UK-domiciled students aged 20 and under.

- There has been almost a doubling of providers in the subject since 2012/13, although some providers have also ended provision – in general, however, the subject area remains sparsely taught.
- **Hot spots:** London and the South-East is really the only area that can be deemed a hot spot for 'Development Studies', with Reading and Portsmouth expanding the London focused hotspot out to the south coast.
- There have also been individual providers opening provision in the South-West (Bath), Midlands (Birmingham) and East Anglia (UEA)
- **Cold spots:** The geographic spread of 'Development Studies' provision is weak – but a cold spot that has emerged since 2012/13 is the North-West, as Chester and UoM registered no students in 2022/23.

Key: multiple providers (orange), single providers (yellow), and no provision (white) within a 60km commutable distance

THANK YOU

MARKET AND STUDENT INSIGHT TEAM

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