

**Kingston University Student Residential Accommodation Strategy**  
**DRAFT Executive Summary/Memorandum**

**1. Introduction/background**

Strategic importance of student residential accommodation

It is recognised that being able to supply accommodation is a strategic necessity for the University. Provision of halls accommodation has a direct impact both on recruitment of students in a competitive market and on the student experience.

Supply and demand

For some generations, demand has exceeded supply of University managed accommodation. The University's growth has not been matched with an increase in residential stock. Attempts to increase stock in recent years have been unsuccessful; the last new hall of residence was developed in 1997.

Long-term approach

As part of a long-term, holistic approach to campus development (the Campus Development Plan), and as part of a working relationship with the Royal Borough of Kingston, the University undertook a strategic review of its accommodation provision.

**2. Student Residential Accommodation Strategy**

The emergent Strategy details the current position; the strategic need; the shortfall (verified at 2,500 halls places) and variations in requirement. It also outlines social, economic and other considerations such as location, size and impact. The results of an accommodation study carried out by the University's town and country planning advisors, Nathaniel Litchfield and Partners, are contained in the supporting documents.

Ways to achieve increase

The Strategy outlines three main approaches where, working with the Royal Borough of Kingston and other local authorities, the University will seek to increase its halls stock:

- increasing density of existing halls stock;
- identifying sites with halls development potential; and
- entering agreements with private halls developers.

Commitment to working with the community

The University aims to balance development within a wider community context. It recognises the need to:

- provide appropriate pastoral care/management;
- redress 'studentification';
- alleviate pressure on private rented housing;
- relieve pressure on transport systems.

The University believes there can be benefits to all concerned, by working with the local authority to achieve the Strategy.