

15 July 2015

Supplementary forecast information release

Gross and net cash flows associated with government lending to students

The OBR are releasing the information below following a request for further detail underlying the July 2015 *Economic and fiscal outlook (EFO)*. The OBR will where possible meet requests to release supplementary forecast information, where this will improve the quality of public debate on the public finances. Our full release policy can be found on our website.

Table 4.25 in the July 2015 *Economic and fiscal outlook* omitted – for the year 2020-21 – forecasts for student loans and repayments related to Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. Correcting this omission would imply an upward revision to net cash outlays on student loans – and therefore public sector net debt – in 2020-21 of just over £1 billion. That would be equal to 0.04 per cent of GDP, but would not have altered our forecast for public sector net debt as a share of GDP in that year (68.5 per cent) when rounded to 1 decimal place.

The table below also provides additional information on the breakdown of gross loans to, and repayments from, students in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland that underpin our forecasts. This includes forecasts of postgraduate loans (announced in Autumn Statement 2014) and maintenance loans (announced in this Budget). This extends the detail originally published in footnote 1 of Table 4.25.

Table: Net and gross cash flows on government lending to students

	£ billion					
	Forecast					
	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
Net cash outlays	11.2	12.9	14.7	16.4	17.3	17.9
Gross cash spending on new loans	13.5	15.3	17.1	18.7	19.8	20.6
of which:						
England	12.2	13.1	13.9	14.6	15.2	15.8
Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.4
Postgraduate loans	-	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
Maintenance loans	-	0.6	1.5	2.3	2.8	3.1
Gross cash repayments	2.2	2.4	2.5	2.3	2.5	2.7
of which:						
England	2.0	2.2	2.2	2.0	2.1	2.3
Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Postgraduate repayments	-	-	-	0.0	0.0	0.0