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# Working with Private Providers

- What the CVU is
- What it is not
- Collaborative Provision
- Quality Assurance
- Risk Management
- Private Providers
- HEI Strategies






# What is the CVU?

- Formed in 1982 and registered as a charity in 1996
- Obtained company status in 2005
- Role to advance education, including training and research
- Only UK body to specialise exclusively in good practice and standards for 'collaborative provision'





CVU is a networking organisation offering opportunities for representatives of member organisations to learn about, and contribute to discussion on, topics of interest to collaborative provision via:

- annual conference
- national seminars and workshops
- contributions to discussion and consultation on a national policy affecting collaborative provision
- Handbook for Practitioners
- annual survey of number of students on collaborative programmes leading to awards of validating universities
- website
- research projects





# The CVU is not:

- A validation service
- An accreditation service
- A benchmark of quality
- A brokering service





# CVU seeks to help HEIs:

- Select the right partners
- Approve collaborative programmes appropriately
- Nurture AND monitor the relationship





# The “right” partner...

- Each awarding body member of CVU is autonomous
- Each will operate under its own rules and regulations
- Each member will have its own processes and procedures





# However!

- Each is subject to QAA institutional audit
- Each will have procedures consistent with the QAA Code of Practice
- CVU contributed to the Code and produced the Handbook for Practitioners
- Little difference between HEIs' quality frameworks
- No institution will be a soft touch!





# Controlling risk:

To partner an HEI, you will need to minimise the risk you present to:

- Reputation
- Quality and Standards
- Financial
  - Contract
  - Resources
  - For profit partnership
- Immigration





# Private Providers

An HEI will check AT THE VERY LEAST a prospective partner's

- cultural and educational context
- status & experience of collaboration
- resources
- financial and legal stability
- learning & teaching strategy/quality assurance systems
- visa application processes





# HEI's strategies –why do it?

Probably one or more of:

- Growth of international students
- Profile
- Income generation

But also:

- Flows of students
- Stability
- Security





# CVU's future – where next?

- Contribute to consultation on new QA methodology
- Contribute to the revision of Section 2 of the QAA Code of Practice
- Exchange of views and good practice in relation to “the market”, new challenges and new strategies to minimise risk and maximise benefit
- Strengthening relationships with other national organisations, such as BAC
- Quality in Partnership

