It is difficult to think of an issue that united universities as much as their opposition to Brexit before the referendum. Indeed, no other sector was as unequivocal about its negative impacts. This presentation considers how universities have sought to come to terms with the realities of Brexit. It argues that the universities’ responses have to be considered in conjunction with fundamental changes to the governance of education and research, passed into law as the UK Higher Education and Research Bill in May 2017.

Whilst the long-term consequences of Brexit will provide significant challenges to universities, even the past twelve months have forced UK universities to adapt rapidly, and to focus on regional engagement and the influencing of policy as never before.

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Everyone is welcome to attend.