University of East Anglia

LTC15D064

Title:	**Self Certification – Update Report**
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Issue

It was agreed at the June 2015 meeting of LTC that a small working group be established to determine whether any immediate changes might be introduced to the Self Certification process that had the support of all members of the working group. This report provides an update on the work of the group.

Recommendation

Recipients are asked to note the contents of the update below

Resource Implications

There are no resource implications at this stage, but LTC is asked to note that any recommendation from the Working Group might have resource implications requiring appropriate consideration.

Risk Implications

This update has no risk implications

Equality and Diversity

The proposals affect all students equally and do not have any particular impact for students with protected characteristics.

Timing of decisions

The need to engage in further discussions means that any changes to regulations would not come into force, subject to LTC approval, until the 2016-17 academic year.

Further Information

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Background

Discussion

It had initially been hoped that it might be possible for consensus around a way forward to be reached through a single meeting of academic and student representatives. However, at the Working Group meeting of 15 September 2015 it was clear that a range of divergent views about the benefits and pitfalls of Self-Certification need to be carefully considered and incorporated into any amendments to existing regulations.

The Working Group did agree that there is a need for some form of compensatory mechanism that takes into account those instances, beyond a student's control, whereby his/her performance is negatively affected, but in relation to which it would not be reasonable or practical to seek third party confirmation of those circumstances in support of an extension.
The Working Group also noted that while this mechanism is likely to be some form of self-certification process, it may not be useful to retain the nomenclature of 'Self-certification'.

The Working Group meets again in November and will be tasked with developing a draft regulation and supporting procedures that provides the necessary mechanism while ensuring that all parties are aware that while there is no requirement to provide third-party evidence, there remains an obligation on the student to act in good faith.