

# HIGH PRINCIPALS

- 1 *LIVERPOOL University is planning to abandon the study of politics, communication, philosophy and statistics, saying the four departments' research isn't up to scratch.*



- 2 All four departments, which scored less than four stars in the recent national Research Assessment Exercise (RAE), are being considered for closure by the university's senate after failing to pull in the top level of research funding.
- 3 The announcement is a nightmare for current students, especially first years, who fear that academic staff will soon start looking for work elsewhere, leaving them with a tiny rump of a department in which to finish their studies. Meanwhile lecturers say that dumping a department because of its research grade ignores the quality of teaching and the importance to the strength of the university of offering a full range of key subjects.
- 4 A further five departments – civil engineering, cancer studies, dentistry, American studies and sociology – are also facing reviews thanks to their research output. The senate voted last week not to withdraw the closure plans put forward by managers and decide on them later in the year.
- 5 Shadow skills secretary David Willetts blamed the closure of these “well-respected departments” on the government’s funding settlement, arguing that universities such as Liverpool “are being forced to close departments because they no longer have the money”. But had Willetts done his homework? Liverpool was actually a big winner in the latest Research Assessment Exercise (RAE) and got a whopping 8 percent rise in its grant allocation from the Higher Education Funding Council (Hefce) for next year.

*Private Eye, 2010*

## Tekst 1 High principals

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“Liverpool University ... up to scratch.” (alinea 1)

- 2p 1 Welke twee argumenten worden vanuit de staf hiertegen ingebracht?
- 1p 2 What is the point made about David Willetts?
- A He did not get his facts right with regard to the financial position of Liverpool University.
  - B He disagreed with the cuts in funding for Liverpool University.
  - C He underestimated the impact of the Hefce grant to Liverpool University.

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### Bronvermelding

*Een opsomming van de in dit examen gebruikte bronnen, zoals teksten en afbeeldingen, is te vinden in het bij dit examen behorende correctievoorschrift, dat na afloop van het examen wordt gepubliceerd.*