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## **Independent Adjudicator and Chief Executive recognised in New Year's Honours**

Rob Behrens, the student ombudsman for higher education in England and Wales, has been appointed a CBE in the New Year's Honours announced today, 30 December. The honour is for services to higher education.

Rob Behrens has been the student ombudsman for higher education in England and Wales since 2008. He has led the development of the Office of the Independent Adjudicator for Higher Education (OIA) in reviewing more than 15,000 student complaints and in working with higher education providers and students' unions to promote early resolution and good practice in complaints handling.

Rob Behrens said:

*'The development of the OIA as the independent student ombudsman service for higher education has been an important feature of higher education in the last decade. I am delighted that my contribution to this collective endeavour has been recognised, and see it as a positive reflection on the work of the organisation.'*

**ENDS**

### **Notes to Editors**

1. A full biography for Rob Behrens can be found on our [website](#).
2. For further information please contact Jane Clarkson, Policy and Communications Manager [jane.clarkson@oiahe.org.uk](mailto:jane.clarkson@oiahe.org.uk).