

Dear

Thank you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (the "Act") dated 23 September 2016. Under that request, you asked for the following information to be released to you:

1. Please confirm that the Scottish Government and SFC were content that Scottish Colleges where applicable, were to make a double pay award to lecturing staff for the period 1 April 2015 to 31 July 2015, which covered the period from April to August 2015, on colleges that had already paid their locally negotiated pay award for that period to the lecturing staff.
2. Please advise which Colleges were affected by this and the total extra cost to the tax payer?
3. Please also advise if it is still the case that the Scottish Government, having instigated the implementation of national bargaining, have maintained its position of being unable to underwrite the achievement of pay harmonisation across the college sector?

Colleges Scotland's responses to each of your individual questions are outline below:

1. Following the reintroduction of National Bargaining to the College Sector, a National Joint Negotiation Committee (NJNC) was established and a National Recognition and Procedures Agreement (NRPA) was voluntarily entered into by Employers and the Collective Recognised Trade Unions; specifically, EIS, UNISON, Unite and GMB, not the Scottish Government or SFC as you refer to. On that basis Colleges Scotland hold no information on the contentment of the Scottish Government or SFC on this matter
2. Individual costs would need to be obtained from each college as Colleges Scotland do not hold this information
3. The question you pose regarding the Scottish Government would of course be a matter for them to respond. Colleges Scotland do not hold this information.

### **Your Right to Seek a Review of the Response**

If you are not satisfied with our response or our reasoning set out above, you have forty working days in which to request a review of our decision. Any request should be put in writing and should be sent to Shona Struthers at the address noted below. The request should:

- (a) detail your request for a review of our decision to be undertaken;
- (b) describe the nature of your original request; and
- (c) explain the reasons why you are dissatisfied with our response.

Shona Struthers  
Colleges Scotland  
Argyll Court  
Castle Business Park  
Stirling  
FK9 4TY

If you remain dissatisfied with how your request for information has been dealt with, you also have the right to apply to the Scottish Information Commissioner for a decision as to whether Colleges Scotland has handled your request properly.

Information relating to your right to seek a review is available from the Scottish Information Commissioner's web page at:

<http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/YourRights/Askingforareview.aspx>

Or by contacting the Scottish Information Commissioner's Office at the following address:

Scottish Information Commissioner  
Kinburn Castle  
Doubledykes Road,  
St Andrews

Fife  
KY16 9DS  
Telephone: 01334 464610  
Fax: 01334 464611  
e-mail: [enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info](mailto:enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info)  
Website: [www.itspublicknowledge.info](http://www.itspublicknowledge.info)

This concludes Colleges Scotland's response to your information request.

Yours sincerely

Shona

