

Monday 17 October 2016

Comment on New Outcome Agreement Guidance

Shona Struthers, Chief Executive, Colleges Scotland said:

“Whilst we acknowledge the Scottish Funding Council’s (SFC) announcement that they will make funding recovery decisions earlier in the year, Colleges Scotland would still like to see a move away from in-year redistribution to allow colleges the opportunity to plan financially in a more stable environment and to deliver the flexibility to meet demographic and employer needs, and better utilise resources.

“Currently the impact of a college not utilising all the credits allocated to them is that the unused credits, and associated funds, are re-distributed to other colleges who have the capacity to deliver additional credits. This can significantly impact colleges financially.

“Colleges Scotland is working with the SFC to increase flexibility around financial planning in the sector and provide greater understanding of future costs. Colleges Scotland would like this to include a focus on analysing and monitoring multi-year trend data, in order to assist in identifying future regional need and financial pressures and developing a suitable mechanism for balancing varying activity levels, and associated resources, between different regions to ensure that colleges can continue to deliver agreed outcomes.”

ENDS

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