

Thursday 10 November 2016

Comment on Brexit

Shona Struthers, Chief Executive, Colleges Scotland said:

"Scottish colleges have a history of attracting staff and students from around the world and leading on key overseas projects and we want to maintain this work and relationships with our European partners at all levels.

"With over 7,000 overseas college students, important funding streams and regular exchange programmes it is vital that both the Scottish and UK Governments pursue every possible avenue and option to enable our staff, students and projects to continue to flourish and excel in the new landscape, following any Brexit negotiations.

"Since the UK has been part of the EU for over forty years, the relationships and impacts are both deep and extensive and considerable work will be required to ensure the unpicking of these relationships is done in the most efficient and sensitive way.

"The loss of capital funding and European Social Funding is of particular concern to the college sector, which alone would impact over 4,000 full-time equivalent Scottish students. It is therefore important that any potential financial impacts on the college sector as a result of the EU referendum result are carefully considered and mitigated by the Scottish Government and Scottish Funding Council to ensure the college sector is not adversely affected and can continue to provide high quality and effective learning."

ENDS

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