

**Friday 21 July 2017**

**Comment on Students' Associations**

“Colleges Scotland is proud to have partnered with the Scottish Government, the Scottish Funding Council, and the National Union of Students to develop and implement the Framework for the Development of Strong and Effective Students' Associations. Colleges now have full-time student officers on sabbatical from their studies, who work to represent students' interests, and who partner with their college to put students at the centre by embedding the principles of autonomy, partnership, accountability, representation and sustainability in students' associations.

“The allocation of resources to students' associations is for each college to negotiate directly with their students' association however Colleges Scotland believes that the development of students' associations is a work in progress, and that through the step change in students' association activity since the regionalisation process, significant and positive contributions have been made to the student experience directly because of stronger partnerships between colleges and their students' associations. Colleges value these contributions, and indeed the challenges set by students' associations, in our mutual endeavour to improve the student experience.”

**ENDS**

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