



**Tuesday 26 September 2017**

**Colleges Scotland's Comment on the Scottish Funding Council College Leaver Destinations Report 2015-16**

Commenting on the publication of the Scottish Funding Council's College Leaver Destinations 2015-16, Colleges Scotland's Chief Executive, Shona Struthers said:

"Colleges Scotland welcomes the Scottish Funding Council's report on college leavers destinations as it provides a comprehensive picture of the whole sector and how students have progressed after college.

"We are pleased to see that colleges continue to make a real difference to the future of individuals by giving them work-ready skills which in turn makes a significant contribution to productivity and the economy. This is supported by the report's findings that almost half of those students leaving the college sector went directly into work.

"For those staying within the sector, the report has equally positive findings, with 85% of people progressing upwards, showing a 'system which moves people positively on their journeys'.

"Overall, the report confirms that colleges continue to demonstrate their value and the relevance and effectiveness of their provision with 95% of all qualifiers reaching positive destinations – whether that is further study or into paid employment. Importantly, colleges are also giving people from some of the most deprived parts of the country a real chance to gain the necessary skills for work, with many people undertaking professional, technical and vocational education through further study.

"We will continue to make progress in this area, particularly focusing on identifying clear career pathways for students to support further increases in positive destinations and the benefits for the Scottish economy."

**ENDS**

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