

**Tuesday, 16 October 2018**

**Comment on the SFC Summary of Progress and Ambitions Report**

Commenting on the Scottish Funding Council's College Region Outcome Agreements Summary of Progress and Ambitions Report 2018, Shona Struthers, Chief Executive of Colleges Scotland, said:

"We welcome this summary which highlights the progress colleges have made this year are very proud that colleges are consistently exceeding their activity targets, particularly when expectations are now higher than ever before.

"Great progress is being made in key areas such as delivering Foundation Apprenticeships, addressing gender balance in STEM subjects, training the much-needed childcare workforce, supporting those from deprived areas to reach positive destinations, breaking down barriers to the achievement of qualifications, and equipping learners with the professional, technical and vocational skills they will need to progress successfully into a higher level of study, training or employment.

"We are also pleased to see that colleges are taking wider societal responsibilities into consideration and proactively reducing the carbon footprint of the sector.

"We won't rest on our laurels though and will strive to continue to deliver outcomes for our students, communities and the economy."

**ENDS**

**For further information, please contact:**

Will McLeish, Head of Communications and Public Affairs:

Tel: 01786 892063

Mobile: 07712 404 397

Email: [will.mcleish@collegesscotland.ac.uk](mailto:will.mcleish@collegesscotland.ac.uk)

Joanne Buchan, Communications and Public Affairs Officer:

Tel: 01786 892012

Mobile: 07590 229 707

Email: [joanne.buchan@collegesscotland.ac.uk](mailto:joanne.buchan@collegesscotland.ac.uk)

**Notes:**

A copy of the report can be found at [http://www.sfc.ac.uk/web/FILES/outcome-agreements-1819/Colleges\\_Progress\\_and\\_Ambitions\\_Report\\_2017-18.pdf](http://www.sfc.ac.uk/web/FILES/outcome-agreements-1819/Colleges_Progress_and_Ambitions_Report_2017-18.pdf)