

Wednesday, 17 October 2018

Comment on the Enterprise and Skills Strategic Board's Strategic Plan

Commenting on the publication of the Enterprise and Skills Strategic Board's Strategic Plan – *Working Collaboratively for a Better Scotland* – Shona Struthers, Chief Executive of Colleges Scotland, said:

“We welcome the publication of the Enterprise and Skills Strategic Board's Strategic Plan and look forward to working with the board and skills agencies as we collectively take forward its strategic priorities. Colleges are intrinsic to delivering a skilled workforce which contributes greatly to increased productivity and inclusive economic growth.

“The focus on ‘soft’ skills is very positive – colleges are vastly experienced in developing the competencies required in a modern, innovative and productive labour market with an inclusive and progressive approach. We are extremely pleased that the Strategic Plan advocates an expansion of work-based learning and increasing support for individuals to upskill and reskill as these lifelong learning opportunities are at the very heart of what colleges deliver in Scotland.

“Colleges are working in partnership with employers across Scotland to deliver training and development which can fill identified skills gaps, upskill and retrain the existing and future workforce, as demonstrated by the successes from the Flexible Workforce Development Fund. Their flexibility to deal with the changing demands of the labour market and innovations means that colleges are ideally placed to implement the ambitions of the Enterprise and Skills Strategic Board.”

ENDS

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Notes:

A copy of the plan can be found at <https://www.gov.scot/Publications/2018/10/6582>