

**Wednesday 22 April 2015**

**Colleges Scotland comment on SFC Outcome Agreements for Colleges 2015-16**

Shona Struthers, Chief Executive, Colleges Scotland said:

The funding levels are the same as the indicative amounts announced in January 2015 (£526 million). However it is still a tough settlement at a time when the sector is facing a number of challenges.

Under this settlement, colleges are helping to tackle the problem of over 70,000 young unemployed people by delivering the recommendations in the government's developing the Young Workforce (DYW) . Scotland's Youth Employment Strategy and the Opportunities for All commitment.

Colleges will also continue to provide excellent opportunities for adults to improve their employment prospects through retraining and upskilling. Therefore the college sector not only supports the DYW strategy, but is also committed to adult learners.

Colleges Scotland is engaged in discussions with the Scottish Government and the Scottish Funding Council around providing sustainable finances for the sector in the longer term.

**ENDS**

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