



5 AUGUST 2014

Colleges Scotland appoints Shona Struthers as Chief Executive

Shona Struthers has been appointed as chief executive of Colleges Scotland, the campaigning and policy membership organisation for the college sector.

Shona will formally start her role on 18 August 2014, having acted as interim chief executive since June 2014.

The appointment was made by the Colleges Scotland board, chaired by the Rt. Hon. Henry McLeish.

Henry McLeish commented: "Shona is an excellent choice and we expect a great deal from her leadership as the sector restructures, moves on and builds a new future.

"The board wishes her well in this new post and we look forward to a close working relationship."

Shona Struthers commented: "Colleges have completed a period of tremendous change and I believe now is the time to look forward and make the sector as strong and successful as it can be.

"I am looking forward to working with colleagues and partners to ensure Colleges Scotland delivers the most effective support to our members, in turn helping them create more opportunities for students and a stronger economy for Scotland."

Shona joined Colleges Scotland in November 2013 as director of policy and public affairs. Prior to that she ran her own education consultancy, during which time she planned and advised on the SRUC merger, advised City of Glasgow College on the financial and legal aspects of its three-college merger and also acted as corporate services director to the Scottish Further Education Unit (SFEU).

Prior to establishing her consultancy, Shona was finance and communications director for Zeneca/ Avecia Ltd and became a chartered management accountant during her seven years at Imperial Chemical Industries (ICI).

Shona is currently a Forth Valley College board member and chair of its finance committee. She previously served on the boards of the SFEU (2005-2008) and Falkirk Women's Technology Centre (1995-2005).

ENDS

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NB. Shona Struthers is unavailable for interview until Monday 18 August. To request an interview or briefing at that time, contact Sarah McDaid