

PRESS RELEASE

Friday 27 January 2017

Ken Milroy MBE Appointed as new Chair of Colleges Scotland

Colleges Scotland is pleased to announce the appointment of Ken Milroy MBE as Chair of the Colleges Scotland Board.

The announcement comes following the departure of Hugh Hall, currently Regional Chair of Forth Valley College, who will be taking up the job of Principal and Chief Executive at Fife College in March 2017.

Ken Milroy has a long history of working in the college sector. He was appointed to the Board of Management of Aberdeen College in 2004 and subsequently served as Vice-Chair and Chair. Currently he serves as Regional Chair of the Board of Management at North East Scotland College, Chair of the Good Governance Steering Group and is a member of Scottish Government's Implementation Board for '*Developing the Young Workforce (DYW)*'. Ken joined the board of Colleges Scotland in 2014.

Colleges Scotland has fulfilled a significant role in a short period of time under Hugh Hall's leadership. The board has focused on establishing relationships and credibility with key stakeholders as well as influencing issues that affect the sector.

The next 12 months will be a busy time for the college sector; Colleges Scotland's priorities for 2017 include driving forward the vision for a more joined up learner experience for post-16 education and supporting government policies such as reducing inequalities, gender balance, widening access and DYW.

Shona Struthers, Chief Executive, Colleges Scotland, said: "We are delighted to welcome Ken Milroy as the new chair of the Colleges Scotland board. Ken has been a huge supporter of the college sector for the past 13 years and has an outstanding pedigree in both education and youth work. I know his knowledge and experience will make a major contribution in leading the college sector over the years to come.

Ken Milroy added: "I am delighted to be appointed chair of Colleges Scotland. 2017 is set to be a pivotal year for the college sector and we have a great opportunity to continue driving the sector forward to ensure that our colleges are fit for future generations of learners and directly meet the needs of employers. Colleges Scotland is looking forward to shaping the learner journey and contributing to an effective skills landscape across Scotland".

ENDS

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BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES:



Ken Milroy, MBE

Ken Milroy, MBE studied Youth and Community Work at Moray House College, Edinburgh, graduating in 1981. He has a background in the voluntary and public sectors in Community Development and Youth Work in both Strathclyde and Grampian, including working as Assistant Head of Social Strategy, Grampian Regional Council. In 1996 he was appointed to his current post of Chief Executive of Aberdeen Foyer, a charitable company and social enterprise working to prevent and alleviate youth homelessness and unemployment.

Ken joined the Board of Management of Aberdeen College in 2004, was appointed to Vice-Chair in 2007 and became Chair in 2009. In 2012, as part of the Scottish Government's reform of post-16 education, Ken was invited to lead the regional planning for college education in the Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire region. He played a vital role in pre-merger negotiations between Aberdeen College and Banff & Buchan College, and following a successful merger, was appointed by the Scottish Government as the Regional Chair of the Board of Management of North East Scotland College. In this capacity Ken also serves as a board member of Colleges Scotland and a member of Scottish Government's Implementation Board for '*Developing the Young Workforce*'.