



The ninety-eighth meeting of the Scottish Further and Higher Education Funding Council was held on Friday 28 April 2017 at 9.30am, at the SFC offices, Haymarket Terrace, Edinburgh.

Present: Professor Alice Brown (Chair)
Audrey Cumberland
Douglas Mundie
Dr Keith Nicholson
Dr Veena O'Halloran
Marlene Wood

**Present by
Teleconference:** John Kemp (Interim Chief Executive)
Robin Crawford (Vice-Chair)
Lorraine McMillan
Professor Albert Rodger
Caroline Stuart

Officers: Michael Cross
Martin Fairbairn (Secretary)
Lorna MacDonald
Martin Smith
Sheila Meehan (Clerk)

**Scottish
Government:** Roddy Macdonald

Apologies: Professor Maggie Kinloch
Paul Little
Professor Anton Muscatelli
David Blaney (HEFCW)
Vonnie Sandlan (NUS (Scotland))
Paul Smart
HEFCE representative

17/45 Welcome

The Chair welcomed members and officers to the meeting, both those present in the room, and those attending by teleconference.

17/46 Chair's business: declarations of interest

The Chair reminded Council members of their responsibility to indicate if they have, or may be perceived to have, a conflict of interest under any item.

The following members confirmed potential interests as follows:

- For paper SFC/17/32: Audrey Cumberford (West College Scotland; Alice Brown (indirect for Edinburgh College); Robin Crawford (Skills Development Scotland); Caroline Stuart (Skills Development Scotland) and Lorraine McMillan (potential indirect in relation to early years funding routed through local authorities).
- For paper SFC/17/33: Veena O'Halloran (University of Strathclyde), Alice Brown (indirect for the University of Edinburgh); Douglas Mundie (indirect for University of St Andrews), Albert Rodger (indirect for the University of Aberdeen and the University of Strathclyde).

Should a potential conflict arise the member would leave the meeting during consideration of that item.

The Chair reminded members that, at the March Council meeting, interest had been sought for the positions of Chair and Committee members for the new Capital Decision Point Committee. She advised that Douglas Mundie had indicated his interest in the Chair position and Albert Rodger and Marlene Wood were interested in the member positions for the Committee.

The Council **agreed** that Douglas Mundie be Chair of the Capital Decision Point Committee and noted the membership of the Committee.

17/47 Finance Committee minutes (SFC/17/34)

The Council received the unconfirmed minutes of the Finance Committee meeting of 4 April 2017.

The Chair of the Finance Committee advised that:

- The Committee had considered and was content with the reconciliation from the budget allocation to the outcome agreement allocations.
- Discussions had taken place on the Section 22 Reports for Edinburgh College, Lews Castle College and Moray College
- Scrutiny on the Arms-length Foundations (ALFs) had taken place, reconciling the funds in and out and the opening and closing balances to ensure that the funds were being properly controlled.
- Confirmation was received on the reprofiling position and that the Scottish Government was fully informed and content with the necessary reprofiling that had occurred at year end.

The following two paragraphs are withheld from publication on the Council website under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, Section 30: Prejudicial to the effective conduct of public affairs

[] × 2 paragraphs

17/48 Outcome agreements: Final outcome agreement funding allocations for colleges in 2017-18 (SFC/17/32)

The Council received a paper setting out the updated Further Education budget and final college outcome agreement funding allocations for AY 2017-18.

The Council noted that all outcome agreements had been received from the colleges and were being analysed.

The following three paragraphs are withheld from publication on the Council website under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, Section 30: Prejudicial to the effective conduct of public affairs

[] × 3 paragraphs

The Council also **agreed:**

- To approve the final budget allocations for colleges for AY 2017-18.
- To delegate authority to the Interim Chief Executive to finalise the details of the budget allocations, their announcement to the sector and to agree funding subject to satisfactory outcome agreements.

17/49 Outcome agreements: Final outcome agreement funding allocations for universities in 2017-18 (SFC/17/33)

The Council received a paper setting out the updated Higher Education budget and final university outcome agreement funding allocations for AY 2017-18.

The Council noted that all outcome agreements had been received from the universities and were being analysed.

The following two paragraphs are withheld from publication on the Council website under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, Section 30: Prejudicial to the effective conduct of public affairs

[] × 2 paragraphs

The Council also **agreed**:

- To approve the final budget allocations for universities for AY 2017-18.
- To delegate authority to the Interim Chief Executive to finalise the details of the budget allocations, their announcement to the sector and to agree funding subject to satisfactory outcome agreements.

17/50 Update on Board Appointments (oral)

The Chair gave an update on the Board appointment process following the delay caused by the Enterprise and Skills Review.

The following two paragraphs are withheld from publication on the Council website under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, Section 30: Prejudicial to the effective conduct of public affairs

[] × 2 paragraphs

17/51 Next meetings: Strategy: 19 May 2017
Business: 23 June 2017.