



SFC Guidance

Annex A

Guidance for the development of University Outcome Agreements: 2020-21 to 2022-23

Annex A: Self-evaluation report



Scottish Funding Council
Promoting further and higher education

Scottish Funding Council
Apex 2
97 Haymarket Terrace
Edinburgh
EH12 5HD
T 0131 313 6500
F 0131 313 6501
www.sfc.ac.uk

What?

1. A brief factual report comprising:
 - Reflection on available statistical data.
 - Qualitative and quantitative progress in the preceding year, including specific reference to published milestones (recognising that, for the year in question, audited statistical data will not be available and that we rely on institutions' own data at this point in time).
 - Early thoughts on progress in the current year (for example, towards recruitment targets, any internal evidence on retention).
 - Rationale for any proposed changes to targets in the draft Outcome Agreement.
2. The report should be approximately 5 to 6 pages.
3. The report should be signed off by the Principal or head of institution on behalf of the governing body.
4. For the self-evaluation of AY 2018-19 we wish HEIs to comment on progress against specific commitments against the priorities featured in the 2019-20 guidance. These were:
 - Access to Higher Education¹.
 - High Quality, Efficient and Effective Learning.
 - Right Learning, Right Place.
 - A Developed Workforce.
 - Internationally Competitive Research Base.
 - Greater innovation in the economy.
 - Sustainable Institutions.
5. We would specifically like to see:
 - Progress in response to the recommendations from the Commission on Widening Access, (CoWA) report.
 - How institution spend from core funding is being used to support access
 - Progress in response to the CoWA recommendations specifically directed to universities such as admissions processes (recommendation 5).
 - Implementation of access thresholds (recommendation 11).
 - The promotion of access thresholds (recommendation 12).

¹ Progress from AY 2017-18 onwards will be assessed using SIMD 2016.

- Entitlement of an offer for care-experienced learners who meet the requirements of the access thresholds (recommendation 21).
- Progress on gender equality specifically in relation to subject imbalances and the under-representation of men at under-graduate level.
- Progress on implementing the Equally Safe Toolkit.
- Progress on gender equality at Senior staff and Board level.
- Progress on articulation targets and increasing advanced standing.
- Delivery against the institution's AY 2018-19 UIF plan, and the impact of REG funding.

When?

6. The report is due by 31 October 2019.

Why?

7. To provide universities with an early opportunity to identify highlights and challenges from the preceding year, recognising that audited HESA data will not be available.
8. To provide universities with an opportunity to review and, where appropriate, revise milestones towards three year targets - we would not normally expect three year targets themselves to change, unless external circumstances had also changed significantly.
9. To sit alongside periodic in-year data and statistical collections carried out by SFC that inform the Outcome Agreement process.

Further information

10. Contact your institution's Outcome Agreement contact for further information.