

Chief Nursing Officer Directorate
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Dr John Kemp
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Scottish Funding Council
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Dear Dr Kemp

NURSING AND MIDWIFERY UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION

This letter is to advise Scottish Funding Council of the Scottish Government Health & Social Care Directorates' proposals on recommended intake targets for nursing and midwifery undergraduate programmes for academic year 2017/18.

Having considered all of the factors involved, Scottish Ministers have determined that the overall intake for all undergraduate nursing and midwifery programmes should be increased by 4.7% in 2017/18.

The target intake will be distributed by allocating 3,340 places to the ten institutions funded under this arrangement. Recommended intake targets, by institution and branch, are set out in the annex to this letter, The remaining 26 places have been allocated to the Open University, which provides undergraduate nursing programmes in remote and rural areas. Scottish Ministers also agreed that additional allocation of places from that intake target be to providers in the North East of Scotland.

Subject to discussions with SFC over the calculation of the fundable student population and confirmation of the funding for session 2017/18, we will transfer the appropriate level of funding required for 2017/18.

From a commissioning perspective, Scottish Government are keen to ensure the most effective and efficient delivery of undergraduate nursing and midwifery education to provide a highly skilled workforce to support the health and care needs of our population.

There have been significant changes to the Reciprocal Agreement with the 4 UK countries which will take effect from the beginning of the 2017/18 academic year.

The decision of the UK Government to remove the health bursary and move to a loans based support package for nursing, midwifery and A HP students from academic year 2017/18, has meant that we, alongside the other home countries, have been reviewing the

reciprocal arrangement for nursing and midwifery students and Scottish Ministers have now decided that it should come to an end for new students.

This means that from academic year 2017/18 new students from rUK who choose to study in Scotland should apply to their home country for fee and living cost support. These new students should continue to be included in the target intake numbers. We will review the situation for the 2018/19 intake once we have had time to analyse the impact of the changes.

For existing students who are already receiving support under the reciprocal arrangement we would like to maintain the reciprocal funding arrangements that were in place for 2016/17 until these students complete their studies, this includes payment of fees and support from the Nursing and Midwifery Student Bursary Scheme.

We will monitor the situation in relation to rUK students closely and review arrangements as necessary during this period.

This letter is copied to the Principals and Heads of Schools of Nursing and Midwifery of the HEIs, the Council of Deans Health (Scotland), Roddy Macdonald and Ashley Clarkin, Higher Education and Learner Support (HELS).

Yours sincerely



Fiona Mc Queen
Chief Nursing Officer

Annex A

Recommended intake targets for 2017/18

| Scottish Government Target | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|-------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| | AD | MH | LD | CH | MW | Total |
| 2017/18 | 2,326 | 465 | 110 | 268 | 191 | 3,360 |

| Allocation | Adult | MH | LD | CH | Midwifery | Total |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|--------------|
| University of Dundee | 331 | 57 | | 50 | | 438 |
| Glasgow Caledonian University | 385 | 62 | 55 | 81 | | 583 |
| Edinburgh Napier University | 356 | 61 | 55 | 90 | 58 | 620 |
| Robert Gordon University | 226 | 43 | | 46 | 58 | 373 |
| University of Stirling | 202 | 51 | | | | 253 |
| University of West of Scotland | 576 | 121 | | | 75 | 772 |
| Abertay University | | 44 | | | | 44 |
| Edinburgh University | 40 | | | | | 40 |
| Glasgow University | 45 | | | | | 45 |
| Queen Margaret University | 42 | | | | | 42 |
| University of Highlands and Islands | 104 | 26 | | | | 130 |
| Total | 2,307 | 465 | 110 | 267 | 191 | 3,340 |

Indicative breakdown of honours places of institution providing Ordinary and Honours

| | Honours |
|-------------------------------|---------|
| The Robert Gordon University | 27 |
| Glasgow Caledonian University | 56 |