

Esther Robertson

Chair of Court
University of Dundee
Nethergate
Dundee
DD1 4HN

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By email - eroberton001@dundee.ac.uk

Dear Esther,

Strategy to Recovery – Compliance with Conditions

I am writing further to my letter of 12 June to propose a meeting with you, to be arranged as soon as possible.

The purpose of this meeting would be to discuss how and when the actions noted in the Strategy to Recovery, particularly those listed on pages 21 and 22, will be taken forward; these are the actions referred to in my previous letter and designed to rebuild confidence through meaningful engagement with staff, students and unions. SFC's expectation, as noted in my letter, is that these actions be expedited as a matter of urgency to provide the necessary and ongoing assurance that meaningful engagement has been, and will continue to be, delivered as required by the agreed Conditions of Funding arising from Section 25 Direction.

You will appreciate that there is widespread interest in securing improvements in the relationship between the University Executive Group and the campus trade unions. An indicator of successful engagement would be a fundamental improvement in relationships across the University community. Therefore, I would welcome the opportunity to discuss with you i) what measures of success the University of Dundee will devise to monitor and evaluate meaningful engagement and, ii) the suggestion that, to augment the list of actions which begin on page 22 of the Strategy to Recovery, the University Executive Group (UEG) invite the campus trade unions to participate in independent mediation.

Full and constructive participation from both parties in tracking progress and building relationships would provide clear opportunities to reset the culture by hearing different perspectives, demonstrating a willingness to repair relationships, and rebuilding confidence across the wider University community. This would also provide the evidence required as part of ongoing compliance with the Conditions of Funding and will enable the Scottish Government to confirm the release of funds in line with the Section 25 Direction.

I look forward to hearing from you at the earliest opportunity and to meeting to discuss the matters outlined above.

With best wishes,



Professor Cara Aitchison
Chair

cc Màiri McAllan MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Education, Culture and Gaelic
Ben Macpherson MSP, Minister for Innovation, Technology and Tertiary Education
Neil Rennick, Director General Education and Justice, Scottish Government
Francesca Osowska, CEO Scottish Funding Council
Nigel Seaton, Interim Principal University of Dundee