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Karen Watt
 Chief Executive
 Scottish Funding Council
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 Edinburgh
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XX February 2022

Dear Ms Watt

PRE REGISTRATION NURSING AND MIDWIFERY UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION

This letter is to advise the Scottish Funding Council of the Scottish Government Health & Social Care Directorate's proposals on recommended intake targets for nursing and midwifery undergraduate programmes for academic year 2022/23.

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 **8.7%** in 2022/23, which is an additional **388** places, resulting in **4,837** new nursing and midwifery student places in 2022/23.

Table 1 below demonstrates the increased allocation for each field of nursing and midwifery.

Table 1

Field	% uplift	Increase	Total intake
Adult	7%	206	3160
Mental health	20%	148	888
Learning disability	10%	15	166
Children's	1.7%	5	322
Midwifery	4.9%	14	301
Total	8.7%	388	4837

Recommended intake targets, by institution and fields of nursing and midwifery, are set out in the Annex to this letter (target intakes for Honours programmes, listed separately, are included in the total numbers).

It is our expectation that universities should make every effort to recruit to the intake targets in this letter. SFC should recover funds from universities who under-recruit eligible students against funded places by more than 3% and apply penalties to universities who exceed their consolidation number by more than 10%, subject to the consideration of any mitigating evidence presented by the university.

The distribution by institution and field/programme is based on an initial pro-rata increase, followed by adjustments based on direct discussions between NHS Education for Scotland and higher education institutions regarding feasible target intakes, and taking consideration of regional needs.

Subject to discussions with the SFC over the calculation of the fundable student population and confirmation of the funding for session 2022/23, we will transfer the appropriate level of funding required for 2022/23.

Although new rUK students will be applying for tuition fee and living cost loans from their respective home country, these students are included within the target intake numbers for 2022/23. rUK students who commenced from 2017-18 onwards should not be included in the fundable student population, and should not be funded through SFC allocations. The SFC should continue to monitor the overall fundable student population based on changes in rUK numbers in consultation with institutions. EU students not ordinarily resident in the UK starting their courses in the 2022-23 academic year are ineligible for funding and will be treated as international students. Republic of Ireland students coming to Scotland to study will also be ineligible for funding but will have access to a tuition fee loan from the Student Awards Agency Scotland (SAAS) of up to £9,250 each year.

Scottish domiciled students should apply to SAAS for their tuition fees, and the SFC should no longer fund nursing and midwifery at the gross teaching price. Continuing EU students who commenced their studies in the 2020/21 academic year or earlier will continue to be funded by the SFC for both tuition fees and teaching grant until the completion of their programmes.

This letter is copied to University Principals, Heads of Schools of Nursing, Midwifery and Health Sciences (or equivalent) of the relevant HEIs, the Council of Deans Health (Scotland), NHS Education for Scotland, Director General Health and Social Care, Director General Education and Justice, Katherine Peskett, Stephen Pathirana, Roddy Macdonald and June Love, Higher Education.

Yours sincerely

Jessica McPherson

Jessica McPherson
Unit Head
Chief Nursing Officer Directorate

Annex A

Proposed Intake Targets

Recommended intake targets for 2022/23

University	Adult	Children & young people	Learning Disability	Midwifery	Mental Health	Total	Intake target for 4 year Honours Degree (included in total)
Total							
Abertay University					78	78	78
University of Dundee	424	57			108	589	
University of Edinburgh	64					64	64
Edinburgh Napier University	444	101	60	89 (+20)*	134	848	
Glasgow Caledonian University	523	103	98		110	834	71
University of Glasgow	60					60	60
The Open University in Scotland	61	6	8		48	123	
Queen Margaret University	90					90	90
Robert Gordon University	285	55		81	80	501	43
University of Stirling	289				104	393	62
University of the Highlands & Islands	138				36	174	
University of the West of Scotland	782			111	190	1083	
Total	3160	322	166	301	888	4837	468

* 20 midwifery students allocated to shortened programme