

Remit and membership of the Learning Enhancement and Skills Committee

Purpose

1. The Committee is invited to consider its draft remit and membership.

Background

2. At its meeting on 25 April 2019, the Council agreed to stand down the Joint Skills Committee to establish a Learning Enhancement and Skills Committee.

Recommendation

3. The Committee is invited to approve its draft remit and membership and advise the Council executive of any necessary amendments in advance of its finalisation.

Publication

4. This paper will be published on the Council website.

Further Information:

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Remit of the Learning Enhancement and Skills Committee

6. The Learning Enhancement and Skills Committee (LE&SC) is committed to enhancing the student learning experience in Scotland's colleges and universities. The purpose of the LE&SC is to provide advice and guidance to the Council board on strategies for ensuring that students receive an inspiring, high quality education, which equips them with the knowledge and skills to participate effectively to Scotland's economic, social and cultural success.
7. The LE&SC will play a key role in advising, guiding and enabling SFC to respond to Scottish Government policies and delivery of strategic objectives. In particular, the Committee will support the Council to:
 - Invest in a system of learning that is adaptive, innovative and responsive to future economic, social and technological changes. Create a connected and coherent system of learning, which enables students to progress easily through their learning journey into employment and study.
 - Help ensure that learners are supported by impartial and professional advice and guidance to enable them to make informed choices throughout their learning journey.
 - Link SFC's strategies to other learning initiatives.
 - Ensure that all learners have access to a wide and appropriate range of learning opportunities which enable them to grow and develop continuously as reflective individuals and responsible citizens
 - Ensure that all learners have the opportunity to develop the attributes and meta-skills to anticipate and adapt to change in the labour market.
 - Enable people to return to learning throughout their lives to develop new skills, up-skill or re-skill and consider what changes to the current funding system may be required in order to achieve this.
 - Advise on changes required to create a more flexible and sustainable funding model to meet the future expansion of demand for work-based and work-integrated learning.
 - Ensure all colleges and universities offer high quality learning and teaching underpinned by a culture of continuous improvement and enhancement.

- Support the ongoing development of a highly motivated, skilled teaching profession.
 - Ensure approaches to learning, teaching, assessment and student support continue to impact positively on the quality and reputation of Scottish education.
 - Advise the SFC executive and the Director of Skills Alignment in relation to implementing the 5-stage skills alignment model and a one-system approach for learners and employers.
8. The LE&SC will also inform and advise the Council on relevant developments more generally within learning, quality and skills at UK-level and internationally.

Membership of the Learning Enhancement and Skills Committee

1. The Chair of the Learning Enhancement and Skills Committee will be a member of the Council. One further Committee member will also be a member of the Council. It is expected that there will be about twelve external members.
2. The profile of the membership needs to reflect expertise from across both the college and university sectors relating to learning and teaching, as set out below. The membership profile agreed by Council is:
 - Council members (2) which would include the Committee chair
 - HE representatives (2) nominated by Universities Scotland and drawn from diverse types of institution
 - College representatives (2) nominated by Colleges Scotland and drawn from diverse types of institution
 - Education Scotland representative (1)
 - QAA Scotland representative (1)
 - NUS Scotland (1)
 - Sparqs representative (1)
 - Director of Education (1)
 - Co-opted members (up to 2) nominated for their expertise.
 - Members from Industry (2)
 - Expert representative from outside Scotland (1)
3. Other external experts will be invited as needed to bring the broader UK/international perspective.
4. There will also be regard to equality and diversity issues in the membership composition. The Council will review this membership profile periodically to ensure that it is still appropriate.