
TERMS OF REFERENCE

ROLE

1. The Regional Tertiary Provision Pathfinders National Advisory Board (NAB) has been established to provide strategic guidance and direction, support, and challenge to the Regional Tertiary Provision Pathfinders (“Pathfinders”) projects.
2. The NAB will make a particular contribution to learning and recommendations arising from the activity associated with the Pathfinders. The important advisory function provided by the Board will shape the Pathfinders work and will inform reporting to related governance fora including SFC’s Board, the Shared Outcomes Assurance Group, the Pathfinders Learner Forum, and ministerial updates.

MEMBERSHIP

3. The National Advisory Board is comprised of stakeholders from across the tertiary education system, academic, civic society, and beyond. The Board will be chaired by Karen Watt (Chief Executive – Scottish Funding Council).
4. The Membership will be;
 - Karen Watt, Chief Executive, Scottish Funding Council (Chair)
 - Jane Martin, Managing Director of Innovation and Investment, Scottish Enterprise
 - Prof Ron McQuaid, Professor of Work and Employment, University of Stirling
 - Prof Ewart Keep, chair in Education, Training and Skills at the Department of Education, Oxford University, and SFC Board
 - Mhairi Harrington OBE, SFC Board
 - Prof Chris Millward, Professor of Education Practice, University of Birmingham
 - Robin Ashton, VP Curriculum and Quality Enhancement, Glasgow Kelvin College
 - Gavin Lee, Director of Strategic Planning, University West of Scotland
 - Prof Colm Harmon, Personal Chair in Applied Economic & Vice-Principal Students, The University of Edinburgh
 - Sara Rae, Director Business & Enterprise, West College Scotland
 - Chris Brodie, Director of Regional Skills Planning, Skills Development Scotland
 - Kirsty Evans, Director Post 16 Regions & FE Provider Oversight, Dept of Education

- Gerry Lyons, Head of Service, Glasgow City Council, ADES
 - Helen Webster, Scottish Government
 - Linda Hanna, Chair, SRUC
 - Gillian Docherty, Chief Commercial Officer, University of Strathclyde
 - Dr Melanie Smith, Assistant Principal. Academic and Research, UHI,
5. In addition to the core National Advisory Board membership, it is anticipated that additional representatives may be invited to attend meetings to input specifically on elements where their background and knowledge aligns with matters for discussion.
 6. A member who is unable to attend may provide written comments in advance of the meeting to the Board secretariat.

GOVERNANCE AND WAYS OF WORKING

7. The NAB will be serviced by the Pathfinders Team within the Scottish Funding Council.
8. The National Advisory Board will meet predominantly online on an agreed timescale (likely every 2-3 months), through to the end of 2023. While its primary remit is to support the delivery of the Pathfinders, individual perspectives and insights may be sought to inform related activities arising from the programme.
9. The outputs of the Pathfinders projects will have particular relevance to decisions made by SFC's Board and Committees; its executive; Scottish Ministers; and SFC-funded bodies.
10. The NAB has an advisory role in the oversight and development of the Pathfinders projects. The Pathfinders are one of a number of joint agency projects between SDS and SFC, and as such SFC reports to the Scottish Government's Shared Outcomes Assurance Group on their progress.

PRINCIPLES AND SCOPE

11. The Regional Tertiary Provision Pathfinders National Advisory Board (NAB) membership brings together a wealth of experience and expertise from across education, academia, civic society and beyond, from a range of contexts.
12. Scottish Government's response to the SFC Review and its annual letter of guidance positioned the Regional Pathfinders as a ministerial priority. The Pathfinders are of significant regional and national policy importance, being an action of the National Strategy for Economic Transformation and connected to regional policy commitments in the North-east and South of Scotland. Board matters will thus be wide-ranging, drawing on related policy drivers and influences surrounding the Pathfinders' implementation.
13. National Advisory Board members have been invited to advise throughout the course of

the Pathfinders programme. Members will make a particular contribution to shaping the learning and recommendations arising from the activity undertaken. They will also be encouraged to share their perspectives and expertise more widely, to inform SFC's wider work on coherent provision.

CONCLUSION

14. Members are invited to ratify these Terms of Reference.

FURTHER INFORMATION

15. Contact: Morven Pritchard, Governance Officer, mpritchard@sfc.ac.uk