



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## Education, Children and Young People Committee

Martin Boyle  
Chief Operating Officer  
Scottish Funding Council

14 May 2025

### Education, Children and Young People Committee, 7 May 2025 - follow up information

The Committee agreed to write to you to request more information, following your appearance at our meeting on [7 May 2025](#).

During the discussion around this year's Universities and Colleges Financial Sustainability Reports, which were due to be published in January but are now due to be published in September, you indicated that SFC would consider whether there is scope for these to be published ahead of the revised September deadline. The Committee would welcome these being published earlier and to receive confirmation of the intended publication date for these reports.

In your evidence you indicated that, following the delayed publication of this year's reports, the SFC could revert to its January publication date in future. However, previous correspondence to the Committee clerks suggested that SFC planned to amend their reporting schedule to publish the reports in September from now on. The Committee would therefore appreciate clarification of when SFC intends to publish these reports in future.

Lastly, when asked about the £10m grant provided to the University of Dundee, you stated that this money came from SFC underspend on universities. During the [19 March meeting](#), Richard Maconachie, Director of Finance at the Scottish Funding Council described it as reprofiled funds, stating that "Money was spent in advance—we have brought it forward from the next financial year."

Contact: Education, Children and Young People Committee, The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP. Email [ecyp.committee@parliament.scot](mailto:ecyp.committee@parliament.scot). We welcome calls through Relay UK and in BSL through Contact Scotland BSL.

The Committee requests more detail on this £10m underspend, including which programme or programmes were identified as likely to have an underspend in 2025-26 and whether their funding has been reduced for the coming financial year, or cut completely.

The Committee would welcome a response on these points as soon as possible, and no later than **20 May 2025**.

**DOUGLAS ROSS MSP  
CONVENER**