

Parliamentary Bureau – Referral of a Bill at Stage 1

Tertiary Education and Training (Funding and Governance) (Scotland) Bill

Introduction

1. The Tertiary Education and Training (Funding and Governance) (Scotland) Bill was introduced in the Parliament on 5 February 2025 by the Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills, Jenny Gilruth MSP, and supported by the Minister for Higher and Further Education, Graeme Dey MSP.

Discussion

2. The Bill confers new functions on the Scottish Funding Council (SFC) relating to securing and funding the delivery of national training programmes, apprenticeships, and work-based learning; and makes changes to the supporting functions and governance arrangements of the SFC. The Bill also clarifies the process for providing student support to Scottish students studying at private institutions in the UK.
3. The remit of the Education, Children and Young People Committee includes to report on matters falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills. The Cabinet Secretary is supported by the Minister for Higher and Further Education, whose remit includes apprenticeships, further education, and higher education. The remit of the Education, Children and Young People Committee is therefore engaged.
4. No other committee remit appears to be engaged.

Recommendation

5. The Bureau is invited to agree to refer the Tertiary Education and Training (Funding and Governance) (Scotland) Bill to the Education, Children and Young People Committee under Rule 9.6.1 for consideration at Stage 1.

Parliamentary Business Team

February 2025