

Education, Children and Young People Committee

18th Meeting, 2022 (Session 6), Wednesday 15th June 2022

College regionalisation

Introduction

The Committee is undertaking an inquiry on college regionalisation. The Committee intends to look at what has been learned from regionalisation over the past decade and how this might inform future change within sector.

The Committee launched a [call for views](#), which closed on 6 May, and has taken oral evidence at its meetings on 1 June and 8 June.

At its [1 June meeting](#), the Committee took evidence from Audrey Cumberford, Professor Sir Peter Scott and Nora Senior. The [papers published for that meeting](#) included a SPICe briefing; submissions from the Chair of the Lanarkshire Regional Strategic Body and New College Lanarkshire and the Chair of Glasgow Colleges' Regional Board; and a SPICe summary of the responses to the Committee's call for views.

At its meeting on [8 June](#), the Committee took evidence from trade unions representing teaching and support staff at colleges, and from Student Partnership in Quality Scotland (sparqs), an organisation which supports student engagement in the quality of the learning experience. The [papers for that meeting](#) included a SPICe briefing as well as submissions from EIS-FELA and UNISON.

Committee meeting

At this meeting, the Committee will take evidence from, in a roundtable format from—

- Micole Cochrane, Student Association Development Coordinator, West Lothian College Student Association;
- Heather Innes, current Vice President Higher Education and President elect, Highland and Islands Student Association;
- Kirsten Koss, Depute President Aberdeen/Altens, North East Scotland College Students' Association;

- John O'Hara, Senior Learner Engagement Manager, New College Lanarkshire Students' Association;
- Amy Monks, President, Dundee & Angus College Students' Association; and
- Al Wilson, Director, Edinburgh College Students' Association.

The Committee intends to explore the following issues—

- whether students feel that their colleges are learner centred environments;
- how valued are the views of students;
- how involved are student representatives in key decisions made in their colleges;
- to what extent this has improved over the last ten years;
- how prepared students feel for their next steps, whether that is work, further training, higher education etc; and
- how the above may be impacted / improved by further reforms.

**Education, Children and Young People Committee Clerking team
9 June 2022**