

SB/np

27 May 2005

Vicki Carson
Scottish Executive
Enterprise, Transport and Lifelong Learning Department
2nd Floor, Europa Building
450 Argyle Street
GLASGOW
G2 8LG


Dear Ms Carson

Consultation on Cross Border Student Flows: Higher Education Tuition Fee Levels

Please find enclosed response to the above Consultation Paper on behalf of Stevenson College Edinburgh.

I also enclose the completed Respondent information form.

Yours sincerely



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Principal and Chief Executive

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**Stevenson College Edinburgh
Consultation on Cross Border Student Flows: Higher Education Tuition
Fee Levels**

**Annex A Summary of questions
General tuition fees**

Question - do you agree with the principles on which the general fee level should be based?

Yes

Question - if you do not agree, please suggest alternatives.

Question - at what level should general tuition fees be set for 2006-07?

£1,700 - £1,900

Self funded Scottish domiciled students

Question - should any self funded Scottish or non- UKEU domiciled students be protected from the increased level of tuition fee?

Yes

Question - if you agree, which categories of Scottish and non- UKEU domiciled students should be protected from the increased level of tuition fee?

All

Medical tuition fees

Question - do you agree with the principle of using tuition fee levels to protect the interests of Scottish domiciled students by setting fee levels for medicine that are broadly comparable with those being set elsewhere in the UK?

Yes

Question - if you agree, at what level should tuition fees for medical courses be set?

The fees should be set at a level that maintains broad parity between the cost of studying medicine in Scotland and England

Question - if you do not agree, what alternative measures could be taken to protect the interests of Scottish domiciled students?

Comments are welcome on the statement from NUS Scotland.

We support the NUS notion that more positive measures should be considered to encourage students to stay and practice in Scotland

Comments are welcome on the statement from Universities Scotland.

We broadly support the views of the Universities of Scotland

Comments are welcome on the statement from BMA Scotland.

We share the concerns of the BMA that requiring 5 A grade passes at one sitting may exclude many good candidates and believe that this policy would adversely affect adult returners.

Implications for FE

Question - do you agree that the Executive should retain current tuition fee levels for HNs?

We can see no logic in treating FE any differently from HE. If no additional fees are added we believe that there could be an adverse effect on places available for Scottish domiciled students. Students could take advantage of low fee places to gain the equivalent of the first two years of study for a degree at an FE college and then transfer to university to complete a degree.

Question - if you do not agree, please suggest an alternative.

Top-up fees should be set in-line with those charged in English FE centres.

Transitional arrangements

Question - do you agree that gap year students should be treated as having entered HE in 2005-06, i.e. prior to the planned changes taking effect.

Yes

Question - if you do not agree, please suggest an alternative.

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