

Item 8.2 a) CSAO 27/02/2017

South Lanarkshire College – our full-time HE attainment rates are the highest in Scotland- it's official!

The Scottish Funding Council published data about Scottish colleges in the autumn last year and in January 2017. The data shows South Lanarkshire College as one of Scotland's top performing colleges in a number of categories.

Student attainment is at a record high level for South Lanarkshire College's Higher Education full-time students. Their average attainment rate is the highest in Scotland at 77.4%. These students either go straight into jobs at the end of their course or progress to further study in the college or at university. Last year a record number of the college's students progressed directly to either year 2 or year 3 at a Scottish university. Our students tell us that 'brilliant learning facilities, the best of tools and equipment' and 'staff who are genuinely interested in everyone' contribute to the successful completion of their qualifications.

Students from the 20% most deprived areas, under the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation, achieve record high attainment rates at South Lanarkshire College. The college's attainment rates are the best in Scotland at 76% against a Scottish average of 65%. The college has a strong focus on supporting students from all backgrounds and abilities to unlock their potential and achieve the best they can, helping them to move into good jobs and other positive destinations.

The third area the college excels in is students' progression to **positive destinations** at the end of a course. 92% of the college's students progress to a positive destination, with a higher than average proportion going straight into a good job.

The college's Principal Mr Stewart McKillop said:

"The published data from SFC demonstrates the college's strong performance. We have developed a very positive ethos with a great staff team who achieved Platinum Investors in People last year. We also were awarded a Green Gown Award for our pioneering work on sustainability. All our positive initiatives undoubtedly contribute to very positive student success. We focus on three things: having satisfied students, delivering effective skills training that leads to jobs, and promoting sustainable behaviours for the future. We have excellent industry links and often employers contact us directly when they are recruiting. We provide high quality education and training for our students who do well both during their time at college and afterwards in terms of going into good quality employment or progressing to further study. I am delighted the SFC data demonstrates the very positive outcomes for the college and its students. However, as always we will be looking to see how we can make these and other positive outcomes for students even better."

Data on the performance of South Lanarkshire College and other Scottish Colleges may be found on the Scottish Funding Council website at:

http://www.sfc.ac.uk/web/FILES/Statistical_publications_SFCST012017_CollegePerformanceIndicators201516/SFCST012017_College_Performance_Indicators_2015-16_Tables.pdf

and on the college's website at:

<http://www.south-lanarkshire-college.ac.uk/about-us/quality-learner-engagement/>

ends