

EXECUTIVE NOTE

The Dissolution of Funding Councils (Scotland) Order 2005 (SSI 2005/437)

The above instrument was made in exercise of the powers conferred by section 2 of the Further and Higher Education (Scotland) Act 2005 ('the Act'). The instrument is subject to negative resolution procedure.

Policy Objectives

The Act includes a provision to establish the Scottish Further and Higher Education Funding Council ('the new Council'). The new Council will replace the Scottish Further Education Funding Council (SFEFC) and the Scottish Higher Education Funding Council (SHEFC). The establishment of the new Council therefore requires the dissolution of the SFEFC and SHEFC.

The purpose of the instrument is to dissolve the SFEFC and SHEFC on 3rd October 2005.

Consultation

Extensive consultation on the issue of the dissolution of SFEFC and SHEFC took place prior to the Act being introduced to Parliament. The consultation process included a formal written consultation, to which there were seventy-eight responses, only one of which opposed the merger of the SFEFC and SHEFC; five open meetings across Scotland; and a round of one-to-one meetings with key stakeholders.

Financial Effects

The instrument will have no financial effects on the Scottish Executive, local government or on business, therefore an RIA has not been completed.

There will be no impact on the public sector. SFEFC and SHEFC are both currently served by one executive body. The staff supporting SFEFC and SHEFC will all transfer to the new Council on the day on which it is created and SFEFC and SHEFC are dissolved.

Scottish Executive Enterprise, Transport and Lifelong Learning Department
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