

**EXECUTIVE NOTE TO
THE ACADEMIC AWARDS AND DISTINCTIONS (UHI MILLENNIUM
INSTITUTE) ORDER OF COUNCIL 2008
2008 No. 212**

The above instrument was made in exercise of the powers conferred on the Scottish Ministers by sections 48 and 60 of the Further and Higher Education (Scotland) Act 1992 (“the 1992 Act”). The instrument is subject to negative resolution.

Policy Objectives

Section 48 of the 1992 Act provides the Privy Council with the power to specify institutions of higher education as competent to grant such awards and distinctions as they may specify.

UHI Millennium Institute (UHI) applied to the Privy Council for taught degree-awarding powers (TDAP) in August 2005. The Scottish Government, on receipt of the application from the Privy Council, sought the Quality Assurance Agency’s (QAA) advice. QAA considered its application through its normal procedures (see QAA website <http://www.qaa.ac.uk/reviews/dap/default.asp>). In March 2008, QAA advised the Scottish Government that UHI met the established criteria and were content to recommend that UHI be granted TDAP and in light of this the First Minister wrote to the Privy Council. The Privy Council subsequently approved the making of this Order.

The purpose of this instrument is to specify UHI as an institution competent to grant degrees, diplomas, certificates and other academic awards or distinctions, except where the award or distinction, of whatever description, is made on the completion of a programme of supervised research. This Order will also give them the power to award honorary degrees, including to members of staff. UHI may also award taught masters degrees.

Consultation

The Privy Council and UHI have been consulted during the preparation of the instrument.

Financial Effects

A Regulatory Impact Assessment has not been prepared as this instrument has no financial effects on the Scottish Government, local government or on business.

Scottish Government
June 2008