



Sarah Collins
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Our Reference: 202100211578
Your Reference: FW: Briefing on Shetland College - Proposal to Privatise

30 June 2021

Dear Sarah Collins ,

Thank you for your email of the 9 June addressed to the Minister for Higher Education and Further Education, Youth Employment and Training enclosing a briefing on the upcoming Shetland merger. Thank you for providing copy of the briefing.

As you are aware the Scottish Funding Council in association with the University of the Highlands and Islands is taking forward the Shetland College merger with the three merging partners and progress is ongoing towards the vesting date of 1 August 2021.

I think it is helpful to stress that the new Shetland college will continue to be a body which receives public funding, and as such will be subject to certain statutory governance requirements under the 2005 Act. For instance, if the new college were to be assigned to UHI as the regional strategic body for the region, UHI would be responsible for allocating funds provided by the SFC. As a regional strategic body, UHI has the power to impose terms and conditions on its assigned colleges and has a duty to oversee their performance and proper application of public funds.

Yours sincerely

John Russell
CYS : College Policy

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