

Office for
Students



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Dear Deputy First Minister

TEF Year Four (2019) participation

Section 25 of the Higher Education and Research Act 2017 empowers the Office for Students (OfS) to give Teaching Excellence and Student Outcomes Framework (TEF) awards to higher education providers in Scotland, where the Scottish Ministers give consent to OfS, and the providers apply for such awards. I am writing to seek your consent in respect of Scottish higher education providers' participation in future TEF exercises. In considering this request you may wish to give consent either:

- specifically for providers that wish to take part in the final provider-level TEF exercise to be conducted in 2018-19 (and we will then seek your consent at a later date relating to subsequent subject-level TEF exercises); or
- more generally for providers to participate in future TEF exercises. Such consent would remain valid until it is revoked.

I would be grateful if you could respond by the end of September 2018, so that we can make the position clear to providers in Scotland from the outset of the next TEF exercise.

During 2018-19 we will also carry out a second year of subject-level TEF pilots. As no awards for individual providers will be published as a result of the pilot, I assume that you would be content for individual providers from Scotland to participate if they so wish.

Yours sincerely

*A very best wishes,
Michael*

Sir Michael Barber
Chair
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CC

[Redacted text]

Chair – Sir Michael Barber

Chief Executive – Nicola Dandridge CBE