

# Scottish Government submission of 20 January 2023

## PE1982/A: Review funding arrangements for higher education to help ensure more funded places are available for Scottish ballet dancers at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland

Like all Scottish Universities, the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland (RCS) receives government funding through the Scottish Funding Council (SFC) Main Teaching Grant however unlike most universities, RCS also receives additional funding through the Small Specialised Institutions (SSI) grant, which was £6.5m in Academic year 2022-23. Scottish universities, including the RCS are autonomous institutions and as such the Scottish Government does not intervene in internal institutional matters. Universities are allocated a finite amount of money by the SFC and it is then for the universities themselves to decide: how to distribute these places between faculties; the courses they offer; and how many of the total funded places will be available on each course.

International students and those from other parts of the UK (rUK) are not eligible to access the funded places which have been protected for eligible Scottish students. However universities such as the RCS, are able to offer as many places to rUK and international students as they wish. The Scottish Government welcomes the contribution that international students make to our society, culture and economy. These students add to the diversity of our communities, enrich the learning experience and support local businesses and jobs.