

Submission from SFC to the Convener in response to the Save Elmwood Group Submission of 7 January 2026 – 11 March 2026

I am writing on behalf of the Scottish Funding Council (SFC), to correct the record with regards to inaccuracies in the 7 January ECYPC submission from the Save Elmwood group: [save-elmwood-submission--7-jan-2026.pdf](#)

It is stated that “SFC has the power to place conditions on further SRUC funding, based on provision of courses and quality of provision at all sites.” Whilst SFC provides funding for institutions, we do not fund by campus or curriculum area and, as autonomous bodies, it is for institutions to decide how they distribute our funding across their provision and estate. Whilst we place conditions on our funding, these focus on delivery of funded places/credits, quality and the institution contributing towards the [outcomes framework](#), but we don't make conditions about curriculum and campus. The only exception on curriculum is controlled subjects in health and teacher education, which SRUC do not have.

There is also reference to a previous response from our CEO in relation to concerns raised by the group around Elmwood, quoting “SRUC had advised the Scottish Funding Council that while most students in Animal Care courses find employment, much of this is in lower-paid, part-time roles, and progression into professional posts, such as veterinary nursing, is low. These outcomes are part of the context SRUC considers when making decisions about curriculum and estates planning.” The group go on to say that in their opinion “this is a biased and incorrect view of FE provision.” This specific point was in relation to Animal Care only, not all FE provision, delivered at Elmwood, SRUC or nationally, and was based on advice shared by SRUC from SRUC's monitoring of student outcomes.

SFC has robust processes in place to seek assurance about the financial health and governance of all institutions we fund. We continue to recognise the strength of local feeling around Elmwood, and SRUC continues to be subject to the same requirements and independent scrutiny as other institutions.