

15 February 2024

Ref: TH/JJ Direct: 07712 404406

Dear Convenor

Meeting of the Committee 11 January 2024

We are writing to you today as an error in our publication Draft Budget Submission 2024/25 (<u>link</u>) has been highlighted to us. On page 8, the Submission notes a statistic from the Sutton Trust:

"A report by the Sutton Trust identified that 90% of those learners from the most socially deprived background that went to university did so through colleges – underlining the importance of a streamlined learner journey." (link)

This should in fact read:

"Since 2006, 90 per cent of all the growth in entry into Scottish higher education by disadvantaged students has been through sub-degree courses in colleges - underlining the importance of a streamlined learner journey."

We are in the process of correcting the document online and a new link will be sent to the clerk.

However, we must offer our apologies to you and to the Committee as you <u>quoted</u> this statistic from our Submission at Committee on 11 January 2024 (page 36 of the draft record). We are happy for this letter to be entered into Committee correspondence to correct the error.

Please let us know if there is anything else required and again, we extend our apologies.

Yours sincerely,

Shona Struthers Chief Executive