

Friday 3rd May 2024

Proposed Cuts at UHI Perth and the impact on UHI Perth students

Dear [INSERT NAME HERE],

I hope this message finds you well.

On behalf of the Highlands and Islands Students' Association, I am reaching out to express our concerns, and seek your input and support, regarding the proposed cuts at UHI Perth to teaching and professional services staff as well as the imminent closure of the on-campus Nursery and significant changes to our physical library space.

As referenced in and following our previous press statement

(<https://hisa.uhi.ac.uk/news/article/6013/Our-Statement-on-Proposals-to-Close-UHI-Perth-Nursery/>), we have been consulting with trade union colleagues, the Principal and Chief Executive at UHI Perth and some of our students that will be impacted by the potential cuts. We are offering support through our impartial advice service as well as meetings with students; but as an MSP for [INSERT ROLE HERE] we wanted to reach out about our concerns around the cuts across Scotland and the impact this will have on your local constituents, the wider Perth and Kinross economy, and the future of education in Scotland. These cuts are being driven by lack of funding to the tertiary education sector in Scotland and will have a detrimental impact on the opportunities available to people in your constituency and their long term prospects.

We are engaging with UHI Perth on these matters but the student voice has not yet been taken into account in these proposals. As primary stakeholders, their voices deserve to be heard, and decisions of this magnitude should not be made without student input. Since learning of these cuts, we have started engagement with our students and will pass on any relevant feedback to UHI Perth staff. However, given the magnitude of these proposals and the potential for them to negatively affect the future of such a unique tertiary education provider, we as elected student representatives would appreciate any support you can offer in your capacity as MSP and a meeting at your earliest convenience.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind Regards,