



Chair of Court

Esther Roberton

ERoberton001@dundee.ac.uk

Professor Emerita Cara Aitchison
Chair, SFC Board
Scottish Funding Council
Edinburgh, EH12 5HD

By email: chair@sfc.ac.uk

22 December 2025

Dear Professor Aitchison,

Thank you for your letter of 26 November setting out the context around the draft Conditions of Section 25 Funding, along with the document containing the draft Conditions. Following the meeting of University Court that took place today (22 December), I wanted to write to you to set out Court's views and thoughts on next steps.

During our considerations today, Court concluded that it would be content to accept a formal offer of grant funding on the basis of these conditions. If SFC are content with this as a way forward, we would ask that a formal offer is extended for discussion and approval by Court in January 2026.

In terms of the documents requested by SFC by 31 December, following discussions at Court today the University Executive Group intends to submit the first four products before the University closes on 23 December for the Christmas break. This submission will include some feedback from Court members, with other areas of feedback to be incorporated in early January 2026, particularly within the engagement plan. Court is clear that the development of these documents is an iterative process and it is in this spirit we wish to submit the products now: both to indicate our willingness to work to the draft Conditions and to demonstrate clear progress and direction of travel. The products will be sent to SFC executive colleagues under separate cover.

Finally, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you, and indeed the whole SFC team, for your continued support of our institution. We all share the goal of supporting the University of Dundee in securing its long-term future and we are confident of being able to make continued progress towards this goal in 2026.

I look forward to working with you and your colleagues in the months ahead. I wish you all the best for the festive season.

Yours sincerely,

Esther Roberton
Chair of Court