

Learning, Teaching & Student Experience Committee

Date of Meeting	27 May 2025
Paper No.	LTSEC4-H
Agenda Item	4.3
Subject of Paper	AY2022-23 Student Leaver Destinations
FOISA Status	Disclosable
Primary Contact	Jon Gray Director of Excellence
Date of production	April 2025
Action	For Discussion

1. Recommendations

- 1.1. The Committee is asked to discuss the student leaver destination data for AY2022-23 published in 2025
- 1.2. This paper updates the Committee on the student destination survey results for AY 2022-23 published in 2025.

2. Consultation

- 2.1.** In return for funding from the Scottish Funding Council, every college is required to produce evidence of the destination outcomes of learners. This is one measure of success contained within the College's outcome agreement.
- 2.2.** Destination data is critical information to a successful college, telling us how well curriculum is aligned to employer demand and how well our higher education curriculum is planned and aligned, especially in terms of articulation to university. Each year, we want to see students moving into positive destinations, of which we are interested in how many enter work and or continue study but at a higher SCQF (Scottish Credit and Qualification Framework) level.
- 2.3.** Data is collected by colleges three to six months post-qualification, between January to March each year and includes both FE and HE full-time successful leavers. The results are then compared across the sector as whole. In this year, the survey was delayed by the SFC and the results published later than usual.
- 2.4.** For each successful full-time student, the aim is to record the firm arrangements that have been made for employment, further study or training following the end of the academic year of qualifying. A positive destination is defined by the SFC as a college qualifier who is in work, training and/or further study 3-6 months after qualifying.
- 2.5.** In considering the results we are mindful of the data's limitations, in particular the challenge of collecting responses and the myriads of reasons which can impact upon a successful destination.
- 2.6.** The paper reports the findings of the collation and analysis of SFC data. The paper's timing reflects data availability. The data are shared with Curriculum Teams using internal mechanisms and is housed on internal Quality Teams pages. Over the course of the year, Quality data will be shared with Faculty Business Managers on a regular / quarterly basis, as per its availability.

3. Key Insights

- 3.1.** The College surveyed 4607 leavers, the most in the sector
- 3.2.** Confirmed leaver destinations were obtained for 86% of all qualifiers in our sample
- 3.3.** Of those confirming a destination, 97% were in a positive destination, which was above the college sector average, and the highest in the sector.
- 3.4.** In total, 83% of all qualifiers in our sample were in a positive destination compared with 84% for the sector.
- 3.5.** Of all qualifiers, 15% were in work, and 89% do so at a higher level of study, 6pp above the college sector average.
- 3.6.** Overall, City performance better than most similar sized Colleges, including Edinburgh, Northeast Scotland College, and Clyde College.

4. Impact and Implications

- 4.1.** The number of college leavers securing a positive destination is a key performance measure of the Scottish Funding Council. The positive performance of the College means that there are no anticipated risks to funding.

Appendix 1: AY2022-23 College Leaver Destination Results

Appendix 2: College Leaver Destinations AY2022-23 Survey Sample: All Qualifiers

Appendix 3: Destinations by Curriculum Areas

Appendix 1

AY2022-23 College Leaver Destination Results

- As part of the survey, the College was required to track the progress of 4,607 qualifiers – **the largest number of all colleges** - within a sector total of 40,999 qualifiers. To track learners, the College used a range of methods including reconciliation with SDS and UCAS destination data, survey emails and survey phone calls. In support of the survey, SMT approved the use of administration staff from across the College to support a larger but more evenly distributed schedule of contact calls.

	Survey	% of sample confirming a destination	% of those confirming they were in a positive destination	Positive		Unemployed	Unavailable for work
				Work	Study		
College	4607	86% (3950)	97%	18%	79%	2%	1%
Sector	40,999	89% (36,503)	95%	19%	76%	3%	2%

- Across the sector a total of 36,505 qualifiers had a confirmed destination (89% of all qualifiers), up on last year. Of those with a known destination, and including those continuing at college, 95% found positive destinations.
- The number of Sector Leavers with a confirmed destination was the lowest of the last 8 years (14,301), in part reflecting the decline in college numbers overall. Of these leavers, 87% were confirmed to be in a positive destination.
- The College confirmed destinations for 3,950 qualifiers – a drop of 324 on last year, albeit the number was still the highest in the sector and, at 86% of the target sample, the proportion was consistent with last year.
- Of those confirming their destination, 97% were in a positive destination. This was the highest in the sector – excluding Shetland College with just 30 qualifiers.
- Counting only those who had left the College, and which were not continuing their studies in the College, 94% were in a positive destination, which was higher than all comparable Colleges.

College	Qualifiers	% Confirming a destination	% Confirmed in Positive Destination	Leavers Contacted – excluding those continuing their studies at the College	% Leavers in Positive Destinations
City	4607	3950 (86%)	97%	1805	94%
Edinburgh	4183	3585 (86%)	96%	1414	89%
Fife	2903	2868 (98%)	93%	1198	83%
Clyde	3343	2811 (84%)	96%	1049	90%
NESCOL	3378	3155 (93%)	94%	1470	87%

7. Overall, the College continues to perform above the sector on most of the performance indicators. We are especially pleased that, compared to the sector average, fewer leavers are unemployed for both FE and HE leavers, and we note the 5pp increase in the proportion of College leavers progressing to work related to their study, from 68% to 73%.
8. Further data is available at **appendix 2**.
9. Leaver destination data is reported against sixteen categories and is summarised in the table overleaf.

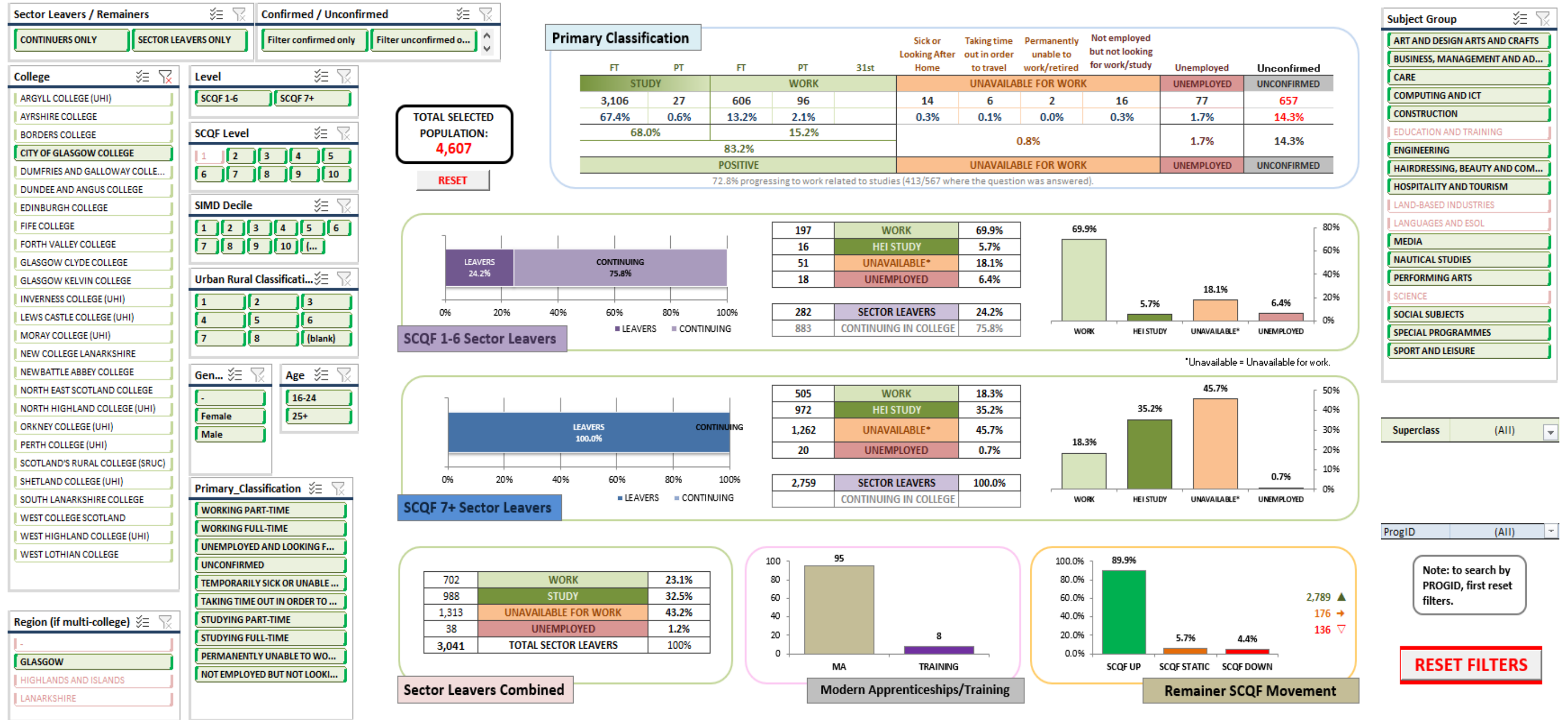
Summary of College Leaver Destination Data AY22-23

Category	College 17/18	Sector 17/18	College 18/19	Sector 18/19	College 19/20	Sector 19/20	College 20/21	Sector 20/21	College 21/22	Sector 21/22	College 22/23	Sector 22/23	College Trend
All Qualifiers													
% With Confirmed Destination	89.5%	89.6%	89.0%	89.0%	91.2%	89.3%	90%	87.2%	86%	88%	86%	89%	Stable
% of all sampled in a positive destination			86%	85%	87%	84%	88%	84%	84%	83%	83%	84%	Declining
% of sample confirming their destination and in a positive destination	96.1%	95.4%	96.2%	95.1%	95.5%	93.8%	97%	91%	97%	94%	97%	95%	Stable
Leavers													
% of leavers with a confirmed and Positive Destinations	92.3%	89.1%	92.5%	87.8%	90.5%	84%	91%	90%	94%	86%	94%	87%	Stable
% of leavers with a confirmed and Negative Destinations	7.7%	10.9%	7.5%	12.2%	7.5%	9.7%	5%	9%	6%	14%	6%	13%	Stable
% of leavers Progressing to work related to study			73.7%	66.2%	66.1%	60.6%	73%	69%	68%	68%	73%	67%	Increasing
Sector Leaver SCQF Level 1 to 6 - Work	68.5%	65.7%	70.3%	62.6%	65.2%	47.5%	81.5%	64%	75%	60%	70%	68%	Declining
Sector Leaver SCQF Level 1 to 6 - HEI Study	5.6%	16.0%	4.5%	17.5%	4.3%	27.0%	4%	20%	8%	18%	6%	18%	Below Sector
Sector Leaver SCQF Level 1 to 6 - Unavailable	9.5%	7.2%	9.1%	8.7%	9.5%	10.6%	5.5%	7%	8%	9%	18%	4%	Worsening
Sector Leaver SCQF Level 1 to 6 - Unemployed	16.4%	11.2%	16.1%	11.3%	21.0%	14.9%	9%	9%	9%	13%	6%	9%	Improving
Sector Leaver SCQF Level 7+ - Work	29.5%	37.9%	36.4%	38.9%	31.2%	31.5%	38.5%	40%	41%	40%	34%	37%	Declining
Sector Leaver SCQF Level 7+ - HEI Study	65.3%	56.3%	58.4%	53.7%	61.3%	58.8%	58%	55.4%	55%	51%	65%	60%	Improving
Sector Leaver SCQF Level 7+ - Unavailable	1.1%	2.1%	1.8%	2.4%	1.3%	3.1%	1.6%	2%	2%	2.5%	0%	2%	Improving
Sector Leaver SCQF Level 7+ - Unemployed	4.1%	3.7%	3.3%	5.1%	6.3%	6.5%	1.8%	3%	3%	5%	1%	5%	Improving
Student who remained in College progressing to higher SCQF level	91.4%	86.8%	92.6%	87.0%	87.1%	83.3%	86%	82%	85%	82%	89%	83%	Improving

Outcomes by Faculties

10. **Appendix 3** shows destinations across different curriculum areas including the numbers of those moving into work related to their study.
11. At a sector level, positive destinations for subjects at SCQF 1-6 range from 53% (Computing and ICT) to 92% (Nautical studies).
12. For SCQF level 1-6 subjects, across the sector most have seen a drop in positive destinations except for Care, Construction, Hairdressing, beauty and complementary therapies, Land based industries, Languages and ESOL, Performing arts, and Sport and leisure. Business, management and administration, and Computing and ICT saw the largest decrease in positive destinations at SCQF level 1-6.
13. At a sector level, positive destinations for subjects at SCQF 7+, range from 61.5% (Land-based industries) to 100.0% (Nautical studies). At SCQF level 7+ only Art and design, Arts and crafts, Hospitality and tourism and Performing arts saw a decrease in positive destinations.
14. **Within the College**, the following curriculum areas performed **above** the sector average in terms of the proportion of qualifiers in a positive destination:
 - Business Management
 - Computing and ICT
 - Engineering
 - Nautical
 - Sport and Leisure
 - Social Subjects
15. The following curriculum areas performed **below** the College and sector average in terms of the proportion of qualifiers in a positive destination:
 - **Art & Design**
 - Construction
 - Hair and Beauty & CT
 - **Hospitality and Tourism**
 - Performing Arts
16. The following curriculum areas perform **below** the sector average in terms of the proportion of qualifiers progressing to work related to their study:
 - **Art & Design**
 - Care
 - **Hospitality and Tourism**
 - Nautical
 - Social Subjects

College Leaver Destinations AY2022-23 Survey Sample: All Qualifiers



TOTAL SELECTED POPULATION: 4,607

RESET

SCQF 1-6 Sector Leavers

SCQF 7+ Sector Leavers

Sector Leavers Combined

Modern Apprenticeships/Training

Remainer SCQF Movement

Destinations by Curriculum Areas

Appendix 3

Curriculum Area	AY20-21 Leavers					AY21-22 Leavers					AY22-23 Leavers				Trend – College % progressing to work related study compared to baseline in 20-21
	Number of college qualifiers	College % Qualifiers in Positive Destination RAG rated against college average of 88%	College % of these progressing to work related to study RAG rated against Sector	Sector: % Progressing to work related to study		Number of college qualifiers	College % Qualifiers in Positive Destination RAG rated against college average of 84%	College % of these progressing to work related to study RAG rated against Sector	Sector: % Progressing to work related to study		Number of college qualifiers	College % Qualifiers in a Positive Destination RAG rated against college average of 83%	College % of these progressing to work related to study RAG rated against Sector	Sector: % Progressing to work related to study	
Art & Design	549	88%	34%	42%		483	84%	40%	46%		513	79%	32%	45%	↓
Business Management	1063	89%	63%	64%		880	86%	68%	70%		773	86%	76%	70%	↑
Care	322	87%	69%	80%		263	80%	73%	84%		233	84%	44%	80%	↓
Computing & ICT	445	94%	65%	62%		401	87%	65%	60%		327	86%	54%	52%	↓
Construction	346	86%	67%	72%		208	79%	65%	62%		251	82%	59%	57%	↓
Engineering	451	93%	85%	82%		344	89%	83%	68%		344	88%	96%	75%	↑
Hairdressing, Beauty & CT	524	80%	70%	72%		486	76%	70%	72%		473	70%	68%	68%	↓
Hospitality & Tourism	566	84%	83%	66%		407	85%	64%	68%		354	78%	48%	70%	↓
Media	551	88%	53%	44%		444	80%	40%	43%		518	81%	47%	45%	↓
Nautical	474	96%	98%	97%		499	83%	99%	99%		271	96%	97%	98%	↓
Performing Arts	66	70%	27%	47%		77	84%	47%	51%		67	70%	83%	44%	↑
Sport & Leisure	317	89%	53%	58%		234	86%	44%	54%		227	88%	62%	54%	↑
Social Subjects	237	88%	12%	35%		151	93%	0%	29%		175	94%	0%	28%	↓

