



RELEASE TO STUDENTS
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Glasgow University Students Representative Council (SRC) today call for the SNP to review its proposed policy of allowing higher education institutions in Scotland to set fees for students from the rest of the UK [RUK] at up to £9,000 per year.

The SRC are announcing their objection ahead of the University of Glasgow' scheduled discussions on how the proposal would be implemented at the university. GUSRC President, Stuart Ritchie, who will be part of the discussions representing students said;

“We fundamentally believes this option will not be a long term solution to the problem of higher education funding in Scotland, and is disappointed on behalf of students from the rest of the UK that other options laid out by Mr Russell's green paper were not considered further. We call now on the SNP government to reconsider their approach and reevaluate how the proposed regulations on increasing fees would impact the Scottish Higher Education sector.”

The SRC believe that whilst the Scottish Government is under pressure following the major changes in the fee structure in England, the prospect of £9,000 fees for RUK students exceeds what is necessary to protect Scottish students and institutions.

Furthermore, the measure will only serve to narrow access to higher education, and further the culture fostered in England by the Westminster government of creating a divide between those who should go pursue higher education and those who can afford to.

Adoption of a fee system akin to that implemented by the UK government could see the cost per year of a Scottish degree for RUK students multiply by up to five times, and in Glasgow and other universities offering a four-year degree - price a degree above that of the majority of English institutions.

Should the proposal be passed to allow institutions to set fees of up to £9,000 per year, the SRC are committed to lobbying university management to consider the socio-economic impact that setting fees at the maximum level would have on the University of Glasgow.

The SRC welcomes student feedback on this issue and would like to extend the invitation to contribute to the discussion via facebook or emailing president@src.gla.ac.uk