

CDN STRATEGY 2023–2026



OUR PURPOSE

We know every learner matters. As Scotland changes, so do the needs of our learners.

To meet these needs our tertiary system, and the colleges within it, will need to transform.

CDN will be the catalyst for that transformation.



OUR FOCUS

CDN is creative, proactive, responsive and ambitious to ensure our colleges, and the people within them have the knowledge, skills and support to transform.



OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Ensuring that all we do is for the ultimate benefit of learners

Driving collaboration and co-creation to deliver transformational change

Living the values of equality, diversity and inclusion

Championing the tertiary system's transition to net-zero

➤ 1. SYSTEM

Support the development of a coherent, responsive and sustainable tertiary system

- Facilitating college regions to lead and deliver collaborative curriculum change in response to emerging changes in learner needs, business needs and technological advancement, working closely with our communities of practice and national partners.
- Leading targeted regional and national collaborative change projects, delivering creative solutions to service provision that respond to the national priorities of economic transformation, poverty and the transition to net zero.
- Delivering opportunities for senior leaders and board members to better understand and engage with partners in their regional and national economies.
- Working with the Scottish Funding Council, Scottish Government and tertiary partner agencies to lead collaborative approaches to tertiary education and research, and the sharing of resources and expertise.

Underlying Themes

SDG 1: No Poverty

SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities

SFC Strategic Objective: Building a responsive, coherent, sustainable system

NSET: Productive Businesses and Regions / A Fairer More Equal Society

NPF National Outcomes: Education / Fair Work & Business / Economy

➤ 2. PEOPLE

Equip and empower the workforce to transform learning and teaching

- Delivering and highlighting professional development pathways for college staff, leaders and board members which ensure that everyone who works in a college has a development pathway relevant to them regardless of their role and level.
- Strengthening and growing the digital capabilities of the workforce by expanding our Digital Capability Hub and leading enhancement in digital pedagogy.
- Leading the learning and teaching workforce to reimagine pedagogy and course design in the evolving tertiary system.
- Using our expert communities of practice to play a leading role in cross tertiary projects enabling the workforce to be aware of current and future developments and be confident in applying these within their practice.

Underlying Themes

SDG 4: Quality Education

SDG 8: Decent Work & Economic Growth

SFC Strategic Objective: Enabling people to learn and flourish

NSET: Skilled Workforce / A Fairer More Equal Society

NPF National Outcomes: Education / Fair Work & Business

3. KNOWLEDGE

Provide insight and knowledge as a catalyst for change

- Delivering a national research and insights service that provides a shared understanding of regional, national and international good practice in the tertiary sector, and cultivates fresh thinking and new approaches.
- Supporting colleges and their partners to use data more effectively by mapping the current data landscape, and facilitating the collective design of solutions.
- Building an insights and research community for college practitioners which develops their research skills, shares learning and supports innovative practice.
- Working with our partners to share knowledge and effective practice and undertaking collaborative project activity across the UK and internationally.

Underlying Themes

SDG 1: No Poverty
SDG 4: Quality Education
SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

SFC Strategic Objective:
Generating new ideas and diffusing knowledge

NSET: Productive Businesses and Regions / A Fairer More Equal Society / Entrepreneurial People and Culture

NPF National Outcomes:
Economy / Education / International / Poverty

5. INFRASTRUCTURE

Be a sustainable and well-run organisation

- Developing a range of non-SFC income streams that will maximise income from within the sector and develop new income streams from related sectors and organisations.
- Develop a collaborative culture with our colleges and key partners across tertiary that delivers joint commercial activity.
- Invest in and develop our staff to attract, engage, and retain the very best and ensure we have great people doing great things.

Underlying Themes

SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth

SFC Strategic Objective:
Building a responsible, coherent, sustainable system

NSET: Skilled Workforce / A Fairer and More Equal Society

NPF National Outcomes:
Education / Fair Work & Business

4. PROMOTION

Shine a light on the impact of colleges

- Telling the stories of the people that make a difference to our tertiary system through publications and media.
- Celebrating the success of our colleges through national events.
- Promoting the impact of colleges at regional, national and international level in order to raise awareness of the contribution colleges make to tertiary education, society and the economy.
- Delivering national campaigns that promote colleges as a first choice destination for learners right across Scotland.

Underlying Themes

SDG 4: Quality Education
SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth
SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals

NSET Vision: A Wellbeing Economy

NPF National Outcomes:
Communities / Economy / Education / International

SFC Strategic Objective:
Enabling people to learn and flourish

Key to Underlying Themes

- SDG** UN Sustainable Development Goals
- SFC** Scottish Funding Council Strategic Objectives
- NSET** Scotland's National Strategy for Economic Transformation
- NPF** National Performance Framework



College Development Network

www.cdn.ac.uk

