

A regional lens for enhancement: facilitating meaningful collaboration across the Tertiary Sector

What is REACTS?

- A collaborative sector-wide project aimed at strengthening regional partnerships across Scotland's Tertiary sector.
- Designed to improve enhancement-based collaboration between further education and higher education institutions.
- Responds to the recommendation of the Withers Review, which identified the need for regional coordination in skills planning, learner mobility, and access.



What is REACTS aiming to deliver and how?

- A regional collaboration framework
- A toolkit of resources to aid the creation of regional initiatives.
- Provide a space for open discussion and the development of new ideas.
- Proof of concept projects via two regional project areas.



Regions' Membership

Pilot – Southwest Region	Pilot – Northeast Region*
University of Strathclyde	University of Aberdeen
Glasgow Caledonian University	NESCOL
Dumfries and Galloway College	Aberdeen City Council
New College Lanarkshire	Aberdeenshire Council
SRUC	RGU
Glasgow Kelvin College	SFC
South Lanarkshire College	DYW Northeast
UWS	Skills Development Scotland
<i>Royal Conservatoire Scotland</i>	
QAA	
SPARQS	
SFC	*pre-established network

SW Region – Initial Directions

Focus on Regional Collaboration

The pilot will strengthen partnerships between tertiary institutions and employers to align education with workforce needs.

Learner-Centered Pathways

Learners face challenges due to incomplete information and unclear links between study and employability support.

Practical Collaboration Methods

Partners will co-design feasible interventions and build shared resources to address regional skills challenges.

Fairness and Inclusion Focus

The pilot aims to bridge access gaps for under-represented learners, supporting diverse needs and barriers.

Challenges in Student Mobility

Moving between institutions can be confusing due to inconsistent guidance and unclear credit expectations for students.

Tiered Approach for Improvement

Three tiers focus on quick wins, longer-term consistency, and sustainability to enhance student mobility and articulation.

Collaboration and Engagement

The pilot builds on existing regional groups, enhancing coordination and engagement across schools, colleges, and universities.

Link to REACTS Framework

Lessons from the pilot will inform governance, communication, and data needs for wider regional application.

NE Region – Initial Directions

Facilitated Discussion

Open Discussion

Want to know more or join our network?

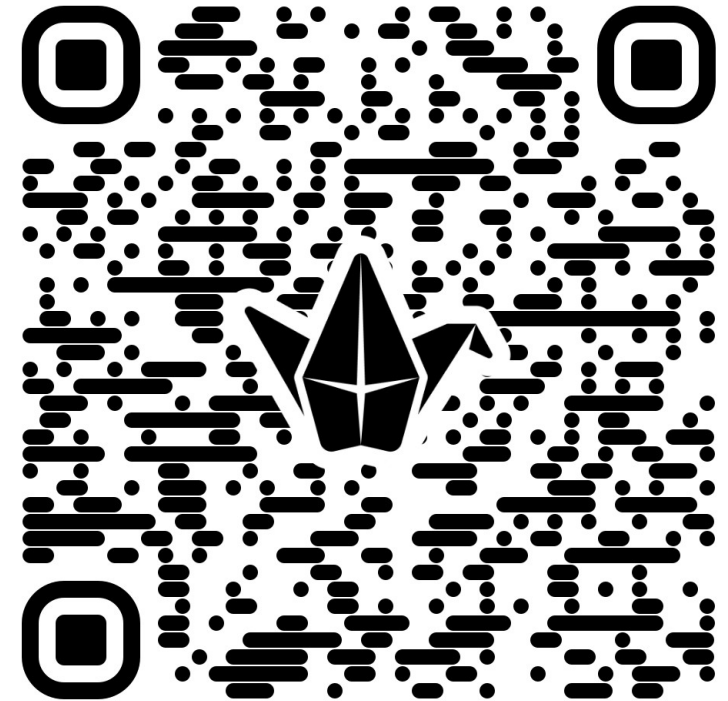
Email: **chris.bovis@strath.ac.uk**

Questions

What issues do **you** feel might have a regional dimension?

What are the potential benefits to regional collaboration (student, staff, employer, community)?

What needs to happen to enable these collaborative networks?



<https://padlet.com/gcuniv/reacts26>