



University of the  
Highlands and Islands  
Perth College

Development  
Trust



# Annual Report 2021

[www.perth.uhi.ac.uk/development-trust](http://www.perth.uhi.ac.uk/development-trust)



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## Chair's Report

**I have been looking back over the last few years and I am pleased to conclude that despite the unprecedented challenges faced by Perth College UHI, the Development Trust continues to make significant contributions to the welfare and fabric of our community.**

We now have some respite from Covid, and that has allowed college life to return to some semblance of normality. On the downside, funding and financial challenges remain, and this has had an impact on developments that we had expected to be more advanced. The new normal is not a return to the past, and we must accept and adapt to an economic landscape that will be ever more challenging. It is imperative that the Development Trust focuses on how we can continue to best contribute to the wellbeing of our community, and on how we can make material contributions that help move forward our key developments.

I am pleased to report that the Community Wellness Garden has now become a reality. The development is not complete and will evolve with time, but already we are seeing the benefits of having a place and space for quiet outdoor reflection on campus. I look forward to continuing contributions from the trust as we move the garden development forward.

On the scholarship front, I am pleased to report that again we have broadly maintained the number of scholarships we can offer. Scholarships remain at the core of the Development Trust activities and are a vital help to students to extend their learning experience. We have also continued to add to the hardship fund we established in 2020, allowing us to provide help to those of our learners in greatest need. This is a vital contribution to student welfare in these difficult times.

The Development Trust was a significant contributor to the establishment of the Academy of Sport and Wellbeing (ASW). We now plan to contribute to a project aimed at the creation of new outdoor playing surfaces. This facility will expand the capabilities of the ASW and will be open to the wider community. The project is in the advanced stages of planning and has received overwhelming support from local and national stakeholders.

I had hoped to be able to bring news with respect to the long-awaited development of our plans for the Aviation Academy of Scotland. Unfortunately, some challenges have arisen with respect to the affordability of a new build for the project and we are now in the process of revising the scope of the project. Clearly the Development Trust can play an even more important part in this development, and we are presently re-examining what we can do to help bring it to fruition.

The new Strategy for Perth College UHI is now in place, and we are looking at that so that we can determine an optimal model for the fund raising activities of the Development Trust. Financial challenges will not go away, and this makes our activities ever more important. I am grateful for the help and insight Development Trust and Committee members bring to planning our way forward.

Finally, thank you to everyone involved in our fundraising activities. This is a vital contribution to our community as we all continue to rise to the challenges set before us.

**Dr. Brian Crichton,**  
**Chair, Board of Management,**  
**Perth College UHI**

## HISA committed to supporting students

**Todor Pavlov-Kennedy, HISA Perth President 2021-2022 explained how HISA Perth has supported our students over the last year. He explains:**

HISA Perth is part of the Highlands and Islands Students Association, and we are the voice of all students at Perth College UHI - from Access courses to PhD candidates. We are here to ensure that the student voice is heard across the campus and that they have the best possible experience during their time here.

Offering unconditional, continuous, and constant support to our students, we help them run events, setting up sports clubs and societies as well as offering a friendly ear if they need a safe space. We also encourage them to tell us what they would like to see us do in terms of events - and generally what they want to see from their students' association.

HISA Perth has hosted a variety of fun events to help students to feel more comfortable returning to campus but most of all to bring life into our college community. These events varied from fun and interactive quizzes, a Valentine's Day heart hunt, treasure hunts, BBQ for halls students and many others. We also organised informative events, such as the Mental Health Day where we brought local MH charities to meet our students and our Anti - Racism visual campaign.

HISA Perth has a close working relationship with the staff of Perth College UHI. We collaborate with many different departments and subject areas on various topics, for example when we work with the Quality department to design and deliver training to Student Voice Representatives. We also signpost students to the correct departments when we are asked questions about funding, mental health support or library services. We also sit on various committees and sub committees including the Board of Management and Perth College Development Trust Committee where we represent the student voice, and make sure student interests are at the heart of all policies while working constructively with staff to achieve this goal together.

### What has HISA Perth been up to between 2021 and 2022?

Like everyone else HISA Perth has experienced a challenging time during the pandemic and a lot of adjustments had to be made such as working online, or in a reduced capacity on campus. But the team coped fantastically through these challenging times and continued to provide unwavering support and advice to students. We are so grateful to the Development Trust for the funding they raised to support students in hardship during the Covid Pandemic.



**HISA** | Highlands and Islands Students' Association  
[www.hisa.uhi.ac.uk](http://www.hisa.uhi.ac.uk) | **PERTH**

Between July 2021 to the present day, the HISA Perth team was delighted to have the opportunity to return to campus and be able to directly have a presence and support the students instead of being solely online. We have worked hard to help students go through the transition of being back on campus.

Throughout the last twelve months, the team has been working closely with Perth College UHI staff and our ever-growing working relationship has been further strengthened. We continue to support our students in any way possible, and we continue to build up the student community, encouraging students to engage in events and form their own clubs and societies. We are eager to continue working with the amazing staff at Perth College UHI to make life for the students, as well as their learner experience, even better than it already is.

If you have any questions about HISA, the work we do and how to get involved, you are welcome to get in touch by emailing us at [hisa.perth@uhi.ac.uk](mailto:hisa.perth@uhi.ac.uk) or popping in to see us at the Webster Building on campus.



**Help future generations of students to enjoy the rich benefits of an excellent education.**

Leave a gift in your will to Perth College Development Trust and help transform the lives of student by giving them a future and opportunities where they can reach their full potential. This could be the most significant gift you ever make.

- Pledge to help future generations of students
- Transform the lives of individuals in our community
- Leave a lasting legacy

For further information, please contact:

**Perth College Development Trust**

**07825 004 612 | [fiona.leslie@perth.uhi.ac.uk](mailto:fiona.leslie@perth.uhi.ac.uk)**



## Help Transform Lives - Provide a Scholarship to enrich the student experience

### A scholarship is a gift which could make an enormous difference to people's lives.

By supporting a student through the Scholarship Programme, you can transform their lives and create employment opportunities to help them succeed in their career. The awards are designed to support students who are committed to their studies and keen to develop their skills to reach their full potential. A gift of this nature will make a great impact on our students - and for our supporters, the ability to help individuals to realise their full potential is extremely rewarding. Each year we offer an increasing number of awards across the curriculum.

### By providing a scholarship, you:

- Transform the lives of successful students
- Invest in Scotland's economic future
- Gain a diverse opportunity to promote your business
- Recruit the best graduates to meet your business needs
- Enjoy an enhanced company perception
- Get a fresh insight into your business

To find out more, visit:  
[www.perth.uhi.ac.uk/scholarships](http://www.perth.uhi.ac.uk/scholarships)  
or contact: [fiona.leslie.perth@uhi.ac.uk](mailto:fiona.leslie.perth@uhi.ac.uk)



## Scholarship supports caring student with help from BLACKHILLS Specialist Dental Clinic

### In a local magazine, BLACKHILLS Specialist Dental Clinic described their experience partnering with us to offer students a fantastic opportunity.

*"Previous scholarship recipients involved the successful applicant spending work-placement time at the dental clinic. However, under Covid restrictions, it was agreed instead, their story would be used to illustrate the importance of local businesses partnering with Perth College UHI to support students to help them reach their full potential."*

*"The recipient of the 2022 Blackhills Specialist Dental Clinic UHI Scholarship Programme is Carrie-Ann Nelson, a first-year student on the HNC Healthcare Practice course."*

*"In her submission to the judging panel, Carrie-Ann explained how challenging it was for a single mother of two young boys to be able to undertake such a course. Having suffered from anxiety for many years, she doubted that she would ever be able to balance the demands of being a caring mother with her aspirations of joining the caring profession."*

*"Now in her early 30's, Carrie-Ann had never really found her career direction at school but studied Travel and Tourism at her local college on leaving. In her 20s, life was very busy, bringing up her boys, but into her next decade and it was Mum's turn to shine, although with no family support close at hand, things have not been easy."*

*"Carrie-Ann stated in her application how winning the scholarship grant would allow her to buy additional studying materials together with her own laptop to replace the one she currently has on loan from the college."*

*"She is currently on her second student placement in the Endoscopy Suite at Perth Royal Infirmary and really enjoying the experience. Her first placement was the busy Ward 4 at the same hospital, which was definitely "in at the deep end". Carrie-Ann's goal is to use her current course as a springboard to apply for a university nursing degree."*

**We wish Carrie-Ann every success in her career.**

## Prestigious Scholarship skills test hosted at Perth

### In November, The Hospitality Industry Trust (HIT) Scotland announced two outstanding chefs as recipients of this year's prestigious Andrew Fairlie Scholarship.

The two talented chefs who most impressed the panel of expert industry judges were Amy Stephenson, Junior Sous Chef at The Torridon, and Josh Wilkinson, Senior Chef de Partie, Isle of Eriska Hotel.

Positioned as the ultimate scholarship any aspiring chef could receive, the Andrew Fairlie Scholarship is awarded annually to one female and one male chef in light of Andrew's unwavering commitment to diversity in the kitchen.

The finalists had to prove their worth in a skills test, where they had to recreate a classic Andrew Fairlie dish, and showcase their knowledge, individuality and creativity. This took place on November 16th at Perth College UHI, with the winners announcement taking place at Gleneagles.

### David Cochrane MBE, HIT Scotland Chief Executive said:

*"A huge thanks to everyone at Perth College UHI who were part of making our Andrew Fairlie Scholarship Final a great success! The training kitchen environment gave the finalists everything they needed for the skills test, and the college team were very helpful throughout, from planning and pre-event storage of produce, to set up and organisation of the kitchen on the day, which all ensured the day went smoothly."*

*"The students that helped the finalists in a commis chef role on the day really did the college proud. It was great to have them involved and gave them the chance to see what their future chef careers could involve. I hope we helped to inspire them to perhaps enter this competition themselves one day!"*

### Stephen McLaughlin, Lead judge and Head Chef at Restaurant Andrew Fairlie, said:

*"The Perth College UHI student helpers were fantastic, really switched on and keen to help with anything required of them. The future looks bright! We've invited each of them to spend a day with us at Restaurant Andrew Fairlie where they will get to experience how our kitchen operates, and we look forward to showing them how we do things."*

### Ype van der Schaaf, Sector Manager of Hospitality and Food Studies at Perth College UHI added:

*"Hosting the Andrew Fairlie Scholarship final within our kitchens and facilities was a great opportunity to support HIT Scotland, and our students welcomed the chance to be involved. Many congratulations to the well-deserved winners, we enjoyed watching all of them work and create their fantastic dishes."*

Spearheaded by HIT Scotland and supported by the First Minister, Scottish Government, and Gleneagles, the scholarship was launched in February 2019 in recognition of Andrew Fairlie's significant and lasting contribution to the hospitality industry.



# Alumni Spotlights

We have recently showcased a number of our fantastic alumni stories. We love hearing how they progress after their time with us.



Adie Shepherd, as part of his role within a social work team, was keen to expand his experience and knowledge to support families within Perth and Kinross. He explained: "I find it important to put myself forward for new learning experiences to gain a better understanding. I support Young Carers who may have social work involvement.

"The Social Services (Children and Young People) qualification has given me the opportunity to be eligible for new positions in the social work field in the future. It has also benefited highly for if/when I start studying for my social work degree."

**Adie Shepherd**



Having always had an interest in Science, Jakki Jackson joined Perth College UHI on a Gateway course six years ago. After successfully graduating with a BSc (Hons) Environmental Science first-class Honours degree in 2021, she shared her experience studying:

"Science has always been a big interest of mine, so there was never any doubt about what I would study. However, during the Access course - where I studied a number of different sciences - was when I decided to focus on Environmental Science, and I applied to join onto the degree.

"I loved everything about the course - field trips, lab experiments and meeting new people. The field trips stand out for me, they are structured for you to learn and experience field work - but are also very fun and enjoyable!"

**Jakki Jackson**



Katie Henderson is now successfully working as the Perth College UHI Nursery Manager after graduating with a range of Early Years qualifications. She explained about her time at college, and her new job role: "I enjoyed studying at Perth College UHI as the support is so fantastic and would recommend the Childcare route to anybody interested. I work with other departments including Joinery, Woodwork, Art, and Music where they support us as a nursery to give children stimulating experiences."

**Katie Henderson**

To read more about these, and other great student stories, visit our blog: [www.perthcollegeuhiblog.com](http://www.perthcollegeuhiblog.com)



Magdalena Mazurkiewicz studied for a Hospitality Management qualification, giving her knowledge and hands-on skills. Now successfully managing a hotel near Aviemore, Magdalena remembers enjoying her studies at Perth: "The style of teaching I received from staff was extraordinary. They have patience, even if they must repeat things 10 times - so I found the whole study process very relaxing. I still remember when all the students had to learn how to make cocktails and try them. Trying them was the best part!"

**Magdalena Mazurkiewicz**



International student, Mati Flezar, studied for five years at Perth College UHI and is now successfully working as a chef. Originally from Poland, he credits Perth College UHI with: "My studies have definitely helped me with a career because when I first went to do cooking, I had no idea what I wanted to do in life. Without Perth College UHI, and the course, I wouldn't be where I am today.

"I have learned a lot, especially with all the placements and scholarships I have been through - during the Ryder Cup, Crieff Hydro, and the Gibby Scholarship. As well as that, I was chosen to go see Michel Roux senior at The Gleneagles Hotel, to see the launch of his new book about cheese, because of my hard work and achievements."

**Mati Flezar**



After a difficult period in her life, Kaytie Black turned to art as her own form of therapy. After graduating with a First-Class Honours degree, she shared her inspiring story: "I studied Art and Contemporary Practices, starting from HNC all the way to graduating with a First-Class BA Honours. I decided to pick this course as I have always had a love for art, as it is my own kind of therapy. After the death of my sister in 2013, I found art was a way of helping myself to express in a way without having to speak about it. Not only did it help me to deal with the loss of Megan, but it allowed me to create artwork in which people could also relate to.

"Since graduating, I have successfully obtained a job down at Perth and Kinross Council doing Art for Therapy with young people coming out of the care system. This is genuinely the perfect job, and I am so lucky to have secured this."

**Kaytie Black**

## Community Wellness Garden - A space and place for quiet reflection

**The Community Garden got off to an excellent start last year when a crowdfunding appeal was launched with the help of the Aviva Community Fund. It raised a fantastic £4,152! Many thanks to all who donated to this appeal.**

A further pledge of £1,000 from the Cairncross Trust boosted the fund and will provide plants for the garden. MKM builders generously donated wood and the students used their skills to create six planters. A further donation of compost and plants has enabled us to go ahead and create floral boxes.

We are keen to secure a further donation of more wood so the students can build another six planters. In addition, a number of benches are required to provide seating for users and already five benches have been purchased by Aramark, Pankhurst Decorators and individual donors. We have recently secured a further donation of wood from Murthly Joinery

Designs have now been drawn up to show the plans. We want to create an outdoor café area and a community Hub where people can gather to chat and interact. Thanks to the Cairncross Trust, we are now able to add another important feature in the garden - a water fountain where people can benefit from the tranquil sound of running water. Lighting too would provide atmosphere and highlight the plants.

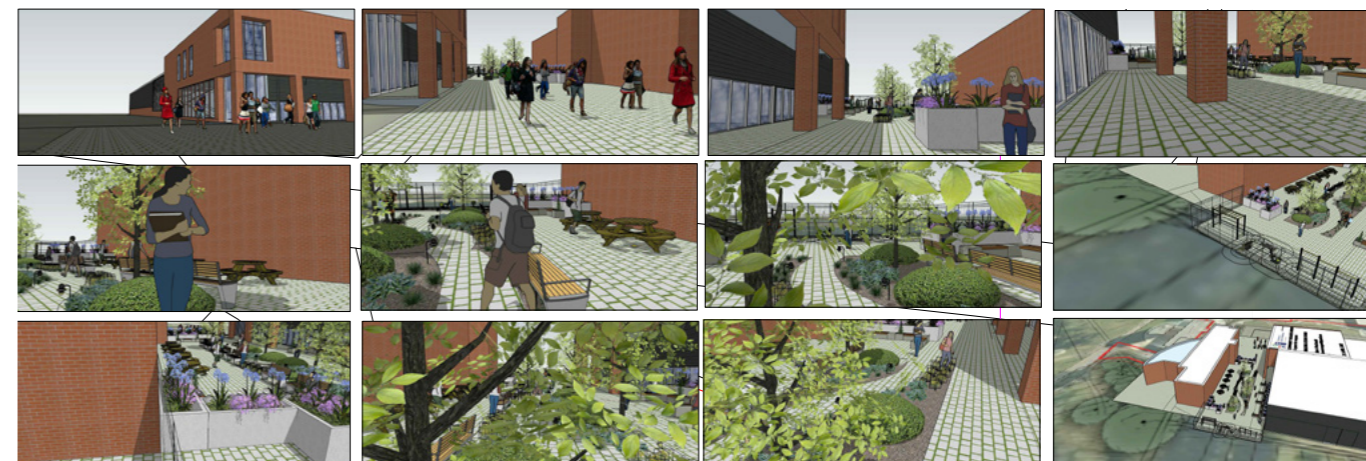
We are delighted so many people have contributed to provide a fantastic space and place for people to enjoy, and as more funding is secured, we will look forward to developing the garden further.

**If you would like to donate or for more information, please contact:  
[fiona.leslie.perth@uhi.ac.uk](mailto:fiona.leslie.perth@uhi.ac.uk)**



**In January, a tree planting and lunch took place to launch the campaign and Alex Butter Landscaping kindly donated two apple trees. This was planted in conjunction with The Queen's Green Canopy initiative.**

The photo shows Margaret Cook, Perth College UHI Principal; Fiona Leslie, Development and Alumni Relations Manager; Alex Cairncross, Deputy Lieutenant; Development Trust members and supporters and students and staff from the Horticulture department.





## Research and Innovation Hub opened

The Perth College UHI Research and Innovation Hub was officially opened by Dr Margaret Cook, Principal, and Dr David Gourley, Head of Learning and Teaching Enhancement.

### Dr David Gourley, Head of Learning and Teaching Enhancement, explained:

*"This is an important milestone for Perth College UHI, emphasising a strong commitment to cultivating a vibrant research culture."*

*"The Hub has been set up to expand, develop and sustain existing and emerging research within the College and the wider UHI. It will reflect a wide range of research areas and interests from business studies, environmental studies, creative industries, Viking studies, literature, music, education studies, and digital technologies."*

*"It will also enable a more focused and strategic approach to the way the college researchers work with industry and other external partners; providing a new platform to strengthen existing links and develop new networks and relationships."*

### Dr Margaret Cook, Principal and Chief Executive added:

*"The Research and Innovation Hub aims to support staff who wish to further their research within the College - including a programme of support and guidance for early career researchers."*

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Get started

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easyfundraising has partnerships with over 7,000 brands who will donate part of what you spend on their website to a cause of your choice. It won't cost you any extra. The cost is covered by the brand.

Brands pay us a commission because when you start your shop from the easyfundraising website or app, they can see we sent you to them and if you make a purchase, a commission is generated, and we turn that into a donation - magic!



## Easyfundraising - Support Perth College UHI for free!

### Supporting Perth College Development Trust has never been easier.

Sign up to easyfundraising, and we will receive funding for Perth College Development Trust when you shop at over 6,000 online retailers - for free.

<http://efraising.org/hodwsqhXpm>

Every time you use the easyfundraising website or app to shop online with over 6,700 websites like Amazon, Just Eat, John Lewis, Argos, Trainline and eBay, we will get a donation which will help support students. It's totally free, it won't cost you a penny and it will really help many students fulfil their dream. Thank you! More info here:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/perthcollegedevelopmenttrust>





**Become a Friend of Perth College UHI – join our ‘Circle of Friends’**

**We are very grateful to our current donors who already support us, and would like to thank you so much for your continued support.**

Your gift is extremely important to us at Perth College UHI. Gifts of any value, whether a modest or a major donation, will help to ensure future generations of students benefit from the best education and facilities the College has to offer. We want to help future generations of students benefit from the best up-to-date facilities and teaching possible, and so we need your help. Perth College UHI aspires to provide an excellent experience for our students but, in order to do this, we need to maintain and improve our great reputation and enhance our academic programmes to reach academic excellence.

Funding from alumni, friends and supporters has the potential to make a life-changing difference to many students every year. With this support, we will be able to plan our developments and better support our students. As a Friend of Perth College UHI, your continuing support allows us to raise funds for a number of exciting projects, develop key areas within the College and provide a first-class education.

**Whether you want to make a single gift, set up regular donation, or make a major contribution - every single penny is vital to help our students, staff and the community. There are many ways to give:**

- Single Gift: Cheques should be made payable to the Perth College Development Trust.
- Regular Giving: Join our “Circle of Friends” by donating to our regular giving programme, allowing us to provide the “margin of excellence” for our students. These establish a flexible pool of funds helping the College provide financial assistance to students and allows us to take advantage of opportunities as they arise. Alternatively, they can go towards a specific project.
- In Kind: Many companies can give gifts e.g. equipment, books, auction prizes.
- Volunteering (to help).



**Join our exclusive “Circle of Friends” and help fund the following:**

- Aviation Academy for Scotland - A innovative TAYSIDE-wide partnership project to provide specialist training in Aircraft Engineering.
- Wellness Garden – creating a tranquil space to enrich the experience for students, staff and the wider community as well as playing a pivotal role in our wellbeing agenda.
- Student Hardship Fund
- Unrestricted funds to use where the need is greatest
- To support curriculum areas

**Scholarships**

- For those who excel in their studies
- For students from care-experienced backgrounds
- For those needing a helping hand

**By giving a donation, you can make a real difference.**

If you do wish to donate, there are a variety of ways you can give. All you have to do is complete the donation form and return to:

**Fiona Leslie, Development and Alumni Relations Manager.** indicating which method of payment you prefer.

For further information, please contact:

**[Fiona.leslie.perth@uhi.ac.uk](mailto:Fiona.leslie.perth@uhi.ac.uk)**



## ASW Report

**ASW opened in 2017 and has grown significantly over that period. We operate 4 commercial businesses that support a vibrant campus and the health and wellbeing of our students, staff, and local community.**

We operate a gym, climbing, indoor sport and sports therapy clinic within ASW, this in turn supports over 10,000 participants per month locally, regionally, and nationally.

Over the last 5 years we have hosted many major events, including the Netball World Cup Qualifiers, Scotland v Samoa Netball Test Series, Scotland V England Volleyball International, College Expo 2018, National Lego League Finals, and several national climbing events.

This coming year we will be hosting the Home Nations Para Badminton Championships, National Under 15 and 19 Badminton Championships, National UCAS event and several National Dance Competitions.

We now have more than 850 gym members, over 5000 registered climbers and we are home to over 20 local clubs on a weekly basis who use ASW to play, train and compete.

In addition, we have supported over 150 students to experience work-based learning within the commercial side of the leisure industry through ASW. 60 % of ASW's current are current students or graduates of Perth College UHI.

Since we fully re-opened after COVID restrictions ASW reached pre-covid income within 2 months and 2022-23 year has been a very positive year.

Thanks to the Development Trust "ball on the wall" campaign and our "wellness garden project" we have raised approximately £185,000 which will see the development of a state-of-the-art 3G complex, supported by funding from Sport Scotland and vibrant Wellness Garden in front of ASW.

These 2 projects which will further support our commitment as a college to the health and wellbeing of our students/staff and local community and add to existing campus.

The Development Trust would like to than everybody who has contributed to these projects without your support these projects would not be possible.

# Annual Report Financial Activities

## Income and Expenditure Account

31 July 2020	31 July 2021
<b>£31,890</b>	<b>£29,865</b>
in Donations	in Donations
+	+
<b>£162</b>	<b>£136</b>
in Merchandise Sales	in Merchandise Sales
<b>Total Income =</b>	<b>Total Income =</b>
<b>£32,052</b>	<b>£30,001</b>

Expenditure in charitable activities	
<b>£39,297</b>	<b>£27,484</b>

Total Funds carried forward	
<b>£46,123</b>	<b>£48,640</b>

## Balance Sheet

Current Assets	31 July 2020	31 July 2021
Cash at bank	£46,180	£46,113
Debtors	£4,686	£20,278
Stock	£1,716	£1,609
<b>Total</b>	<b>£52,582</b>	<b>£68,000</b>

Creditors	31 July 2020	31 July 2021
Amounts falling due within one year	(£6,459)	(£19,360)
<b>Net assets/ (liabilities)</b>	<b>£46,123</b>	<b>£48,640</b>

Represented by	31 July 2020	31 July 2021
Unrestricted	£19,106	£19,591
General funds	£27,017	£29,049
<b>Total</b>	<b>£46,123</b>	<b>£48,640</b>



### President

Stephen Leckie, Lord Lieutenant of Perth and Kinross

### Trustees

Dr Brian Crichton

Dr Margaret Cook

Major General Adrian Freer

Hon Catherine Drummond Herdman

Mr Andrew Ritchie

### Development Committee

Dr Brian Crichton

Dr Margaret Cook

Alison Gillies

Timothy Laing

Neil McKay

Robert Stewart

Sue Warner

Development Trust as at 31st July 2020



**Perth College UHI - Crieff Road, Perth, PH1 2NX**

**For further information please contact:**

**Fiona Leslie**

**Development and Alumni Relations Manager**  
**07825 004612 | [Fiona.leslie.perth@uhi.ac.uk](mailto:Fiona.leslie.perth@uhi.ac.uk)**