Councillor Ellen Forson Leader of the Council

Ward 4 Clackmannanshire South (Multi Member Ward) Kilncraigs, Greenside Street, Alloa, FK10 1EB Email: membersservices@clacks.gov.uk



THIS PAPER RELATES TO ITEM 17 ON THE AGENDA

Motion to Clackmannanshire Council Meeting 2nd October 2025

Opposition to Closure of Forth Valley College Alloa Campus

Clackmannanshire Council expresses its deep concern at the potential closure of Forth Valley College's Alloa Campus.

Council recognises that the Alloa Campus is far more than just a building, but a vital resource for our community which provides accessible opportunities for learning, skills development, and personal growth. Council believes that its closure would have a serious and disproportionate impact on Clackmannanshire, particularly for vulnerable learners, working adults, carers, and those seeking to re-enter the workforce, many of whom would be unable to travel to Stirling or Falkirk.

Council further acknowledges the commitment and contribution of staff at the Alloa Campus and notes that the loss of their jobs would be a further blow to our community. Council recalls the assurances given at the time of the merger which created Forth Valley College—that there would always be a college presence in Alloa—and affirms that this commitment should be honoured if trust between our community and public institutions is to be maintained.

Council therefore records its unanimous cross-party opposition to the closure of the Alloa Campus, notes the collective letter already sent to Forth Valley College and the Scottish Government signed by all elected members of this Council, and reaffirms its commitment to working constructively with Forth Valley College, the Scottish Government, and other partners to secure a sustainable and permanent future for further education provision in Clackmannanshire.



Councillor Ellen Forson Ward 4, Clackmannanshire South

19th September 2025

Clackmannanshire Council Elected Members

Kilncraigs, Greenside Street, Alloa, FK10 1EB Telephone: 01259 450000



FAO – Dr Abhishek Agarwal Chair of College Board Contact: Jackie Davies

Business Support Administrator

Emailed to -

Telephone: 01259 452005

Email: jdavies@clacks.gov.uk

Our ref: EF/JD

Date: 9th September 2025

Dear Dr Abhishek Agarwal,

We write collectively as the elected members of Clackmannanshire Council to express our deep concern at the potential closure of Forth Valley College's Alloa Campus.

The Alloa Campus is far more than just a building—it is a vital resource for our community, providing accessible opportunities for learning, skills development, and personal growth to people across Clackmannanshire. Closing it would be the wrong decision, and we wish to place on record our strong opposition.

This campus supports vulnerable learners, working adults, carers, and those seeking to upskill or re-enter the workforce. Its loss would have a serious impact on students, staff, and families across our area, particularly those who may not be able to travel to Stirling or Falkirk. We are equally concerned about the potential job losses for dedicated staff who have given so much to education in our community.

While closing the Alloa Campus may appear to be the simplest solution to current challenges, the unique circumstances faced by our community mean it is incumbent upon both the College Board and the Scottish Government to find a way to protect this essential resource. To do otherwise would unfairly disadvantage one of Scotland's smallest and most vulnerable local authority areas.

We must also reflect a widely held view within our community—that services have been gradually withdrawn from Alloa over time in order to facilitate this very outcome. If assurances given at the time of the merger which created Forth Valley College—that there would always be a college presence in Alloa—are now broken, then trust between our community and public institutions will be deeply damaged.

That commitment was made in recognition of the importance of local provision to Clackmannanshire, and it remains just as vital today. To break it now would not only remove a key pillar of opportunity from our community but also undermine

confidence in the value placed on Clackmannanshire by decision-makers at both local and national level.

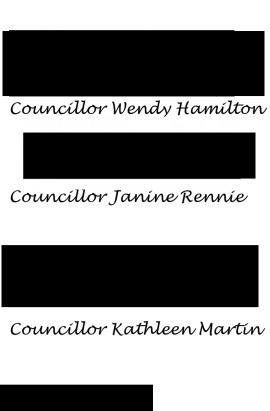
As a Council, we are committed to working with both the College and the Scottish Government to press for a sustainable way forward. We believe solutions can and must be found to protect provision in Clackmannanshire. The Alloa Campus is an essential part of our community infrastructure, and its loss would leave a gap which cannot be justified.

We therefore urge you to take all necessary steps to ensure that further education continues to have a strong and permanent presence in Alloa.

Yours sincerely, Councillor Ellen Forson Councillor Graham Lindsay Councillor Donald Balsillie Councillor Fiona Law Councillor Jane McTaggart Councillor Phil Fairlie



Councillor Scott Harrison





Councillor Kenny Earle



Councillor Mark McLuckie



Councillor William Keogh



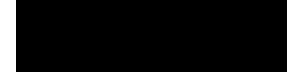
Councillor Craig Holden



Councillor Darren Lee



Councillor Denis Coyne



Councillor Martha Benny



Councillor Bryan Quinn

Clackmannanshire Council Elected Members

Clackmannanshire Council Elected Members

Kilncraigs, Greenside Street, Alloa, FK10 1EB Telephone: 01259 450000



FAO - Cabinet Secretary for Education and

Skills

Emailed to -

Contact: Jackie Davies

Business Support Administrator

Telephone: 01259 452005

Email: jdavies@clacks.gov.uk

Our ref: EF/JD

Date: 9th September 2025

Dear Cabinet Secretary,

We write collectively as the elected members of Clackmannanshire Council to express our deep concern at the potential closure of Forth Valley College's Alloa Campus.

The Alloa Campus is far more than just a building—it is a vital resource for our community, providing accessible opportunities for learning, skills development, and personal growth to people across Clackmannanshire. Closing it would be the wrong decision, and we wish to place on record our strong opposition.

This campus supports vulnerable learners, working adults, carers, and those seeking to upskill or re-enter the workforce. Its loss would have a serious impact on students, staff, and families across our area, particularly those who may not be able to travel to Stirling or Falkirk. We are equally concerned about the potential job losses for dedicated staff who have given so much to education in our community.

While closing the Alloa Campus may appear to be the simplest solution to current challenges, the unique circumstances faced by our community mean it is incumbent upon both the College Board and the Scottish Government to find a way to protect this essential resource. To do otherwise would unfairly disadvantage one of Scotland's smallest and most vulnerable local authority areas.

We must also reflect a widely held view within our community—that services have been gradually withdrawn from Alloa over time in order to facilitate this very outcome. If assurances given at the time of the merger which created Forth Valley College—that there would always be a college presence in Alloa—are now broken, then trust between our community and public institutions will be deeply damaged.

That commitment was made in recognition of the importance of local provision to Clackmannanshire, and it remains just as vital today. To break it now would not only remove a key pillar of opportunity from our community but also undermine

confidence in the value placed on Clackmannanshire by decision-makers at both local and national level.

As a Council, we are committed to working with both the College and the Scottish Government to press for a sustainable way forward. We believe solutions can and must be found to protect provision in Clackmannanshire. The Alloa Campus is an essential part of our community infrastructure, and its loss would leave a gap which cannot be justified.

We therefore urge you to take all necessary steps to ensure that further education continues to have a strong and permanent presence in Alloa.

Yours sincerely,

Councillor Ellen Forson

Councillor Graham Lindsay

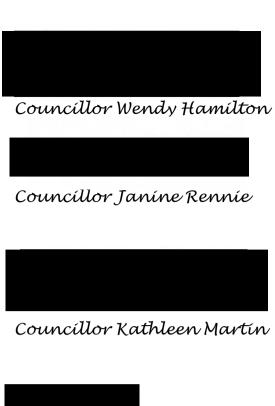
Councillor Donald Balsillie

Councillor Fiona Law

Councillor Jane McTaggart

Councillor Phil Fairlie

Councillor Scott Harrison





Councillor Kenny Earle



Councillor Mark McLuckie



Councillor William Keogh



Councillor Craig Holden



Councillor Darren Lee



Councillor Denis Coyne



Councillor Martha Benny



Councillor Bryan Quinn

Clackmannanshire Council Elected Members