

EXECUTIVE NOTE

THE ACADEMIC AWARDS AND DISTINCTIONS (ADDITIONAL POWERS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN) ORDER OF COUNCIL 2008 (SSI 2008/220)

The above instrument was made in the exercise of the powers conferred upon the Lords of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council by sections 48 and 60 of the Further and Higher Education (Scotland) Act 1992. The instrument is subject to negative resolution procedure.

Policy Objectives

The University of Aberdeen derives its power to confer degrees from the University's Papal Bull of 1495 and is not designated under the Further and Higher Education (Scotland) Act 1992 ("the 1992 Act"). However, the powers under section 48 of the 1992 Act in relation to degree awarding powers extend to "any institution within the higher education sector". Section 56(2) of the 1992 Act confirms that 'references to institutions within the higher education sector are to (a) universities; and (b) designated institutions'. Therefore the Privy Council has the power to add to the degree awarding powers of the University of Aberdeen.

This Order of Council will give the University of Aberdeen the power to:

- Grant degrees and other academic awards and distinctions jointly with other institutions;
- Authorise other institutions to grant such awards on its behalf;
- And after due investigation, to deprive persons of such awards.

Such awards may be granted by the University of Aberdeen to any person who completes an appropriate course of study or supervised research on or after 1st September 2008.

Consultation

The Privy Council and the University of Aberdeen have been consulted during the preparation of the instrument.

Financial Effects

A Regulatory Impact Assessment has not been prepared as this instrument has no financial effects on the Scottish Government, local government or on business.

Lifelong Learning Directorate/Higher Education and Learner Support Division
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