

Dear Colleagues,

Please see the following announcement released on Friday 28th May.....

The Student Loans Company (SLC) is pleased to announce the appointment of Ed Lester as Interim Chief Executive. Mr Lester, a former Chief Executive of NHS Direct, joins SLC as an experienced leader in both the public and private sector.

He was an independent consultant for the Office of Government Commerce (OGC) and a former chief executive of Motability Finance Limited, part of the Motability Car Scheme for the Disabled.

Mr Lester said: "I am delighted to be joining the Student Loans Company at this important time and I am looking forward to working closely with Sir Deian Hopkin and all the teams to help drive forward the progress that has already begun in improving the service for this year.

"I am aware of the important role that the company plays in enabling access to higher education, and I am committed to ensuring that the improvements continue with the urgency that is required."

Professor Sir Deian Hopkin who was appointed as interim Chair this week, said: "I am pleased that we have been able to secure the services of Ed Lester as interim Chief Executive.

"Ed has a strong background in service delivery through his leadership at NHS Direct and Motability Finance Limited and I look forward to working with him and the staff at the Student Loans Company to ensure the best possible service for students this year."

Mr Lester's appointment follows the resignations earlier this week of SLC's Chairman John Goodfellow and its Chief Executive Ralph Seymour Jackson and the appointment of Sir Deian as interim chair.