

Call for additional support to be maintained in colleges

✘ Alison Johnstone, Green MSP for Lothian and education spokesperson for the Scottish Greens, expressed concern today about a report by the EIS showing cuts to Additional Support Needs in Scotland's colleges.

Alison said:

"If we're serious about overcoming barriers to education and ensuring access for all, we must maintain Additional Support provision in our colleges. The decline in students, courses and qualified staff highlighted by the EIS is a real concern.

"Students who need support with family, health or emotional challenges are in danger of being left out of our further education system, and I will be asking ministers to address the situation.

"I have already made clear my opposition to the Scottish Government's determination to cut part-time places, a move which goes against the principle of widening access to education. Colleges are key to providing people with opportunities, and we must challenge unfair cutbacks that limit people's options."