# Dundee University faces financial crisis with potential job cuts



Dundee University is currently facing a substantial financial crisis, prompting grave concerns regarding its future and potential job losses within the institution. The university has disclosed a £35 million deficit, which has led to plans that could result in the elimination of approximately 632 full-time equivalent (FTE) positions. Interim principal Professor Shane O’Neill indicated in a recent communication to Holyrood's Education Committee that the job cuts could ultimately impact around 700 individuals.

The announcement has sparked fears of a possible collapse of the university, raising alarms among staff and the wider community. To address the financial distress, the Scottish Funding Council recently approved £22 million in emergency funding for the university and initiated an external investigation into how the financial issues arose.

Mary Senior, the Scotland official for the University and Colleges Union (UCU), voiced strong opposition to the proposed cuts, describing them as “tantamount to academic and economic vandalism.” Speaking about the potential implications, she said, “This level of job cuts would be catastrophic for the city of Dundee and the surrounding area.” Senior emphasized the need for improved support for students, education, and job retention within the community, calling for decisions that would prevent the cuts from proceeding.

Scottish Conservative education spokesman Miles Briggs shared similar sentiments, expressing that the impending job losses at the university represent “an absolute hammer blow for staff who were still reeling from the initial level of cuts announced.” He attributed the situation to years of mismanagement at Dundee University, compounded by what he described as “brutal cuts from the SNP government.” Briggs also critiqued the Scottish Government's response, stating that they are “asleep at the wheel” and called for immediate action to address the unfolding crisis.

The growing concern surrounding Dundee University's financial stability highlights a significant challenge for both the institution and the local community, as stakeholders seek a resolution that balances the need for fiscal responsibility with the preservation of educational and employment opportunities.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## References

* <https://www.parliament.scot/-/media/files/committees/education-children-and-young-people-committee/correspondence/2025/ducu-written-submission-of-17-march-2025.pdf> - This document from the Dundee University & College Union details the university's financial crisis, critiquing the recovery plan proposed by the University Executive Group and expressing concerns about staff cuts and their potential impact on the university and Dundee.
* <https://sites.dundee.ac.uk/ducu/crisis-at-uod/position-papers/ducu-position-paper-2/> - This position paper by DUCU discusses the financial crisis at Dundee University, highlighting the expected deficit, potential job cuts, and the need for better management and government support to prevent the university's collapse.
* <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-tayside-central-64608508> - This article covers the financial crisis at Dundee University, including job losses and the potential impact on the community, which aligns with concerns raised about the university's future.
* <https://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/local/dundee/3390801/financial-crisis-possible-job-cuts-at-uni/> - This news piece outlines the financial challenges facing Dundee University, including the potential for significant job cuts, echoing the concerns about academic and economic impacts on Dundee.
* <https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/education/22129211.scottish-government-approves-emergency-funding-dundee-university/> - This article reports on the Scottish Government's provision of emergency funding to Dundee University, which is part of efforts to address the financial crisis and stabilize the institution.