

**NOTES OF THE MEETING OF THE LEARNING AND TEACHING COMMITTEE
HELD ON 10 NOVEMBER 2021.
THE MEETING WAS HELD REMOTELY DUE TO COVID-19 MEETING
RESTRICTIONS**

PRESENT:

Gordon McGuinness	Committee Chair
Fiona Godsman	Board Member
Runa McNamara	Board Member
Johanna Thompson	Board Member
Jon Vincent	Board Member

IN ATTENDANCE:

Eric Brownlie	AP, Quality and Performance
David Marshall	AP, Student Experience
John Rafferty	VP, Curriculum and External Relations
Peter Connelly	Education Scotland
Ian Beach	Education Scotland
Christine McConnell	Clerk (Minute Taker)

21.29 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting including Peter Connelly and Ian Beach who attended from Education Scotland. Apologies were noted from Alan O'Donnell and Stephen Henson.

21.30 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

21.31 DRAFT MINUTE OF MEETING HELD ON 5 May 2021

The minute was accepted as a true record of the meeting of 5 May 2021.

21.32 MATTERS ARISING ACTION GRID

The Committee noted that all actions on the grid have been completed.

21.33 PROGRESS VISIT -EDUCATION SCOTLAND

P Connelly was welcomed to the meeting and explained that he was interested to hear the views of the Committee as part of his progress visit to the College.

The Committee discussed the impact of the pandemic over the last eighteen months commenting that learning styles had changed with the increased focus on online delivery. The Committee recognised that there had been some positive outcomes from the disruption and that the College had been fortunate as the infrastructure was in place to support the move to online learning. The Committee

praised the dedication and inventiveness of teaching staff during this time.

The Committee also recognised the importance of the Research and Development and e- learning teams who have provided support throughout to the teaching staff. The Committee discussed the value of student feedback which has been taken very seriously and the focus on ensuring a sense of belonging for students and staff- both from an academic and a social perspective. The Committee discussed the College's commitment to supporting staff through the difficult period and in the future. P Connelly advised that he would provide a verbal report to the Principal on the following day to be followed by a written report which would be brought to the next Committee.

EB

21.34 QUALITY AND PERFORMANCE REPORT

E Brownlie spoke to the paper which provided a summary of the following three main areas:

- (1) Performance Indicators 2020-21 and recent trends
- (2) College Leaver Destinations 2019-20
- (3) External Verification 2020-21.

The Committee was pleased to note that the Performance Indicators for 2019-20 placed the College in a very strong position as the highest performing large college for HE Full Time attainment and the second highest performing large college for FE Full Time attainment.

The Committee noted that due to the impact of the pandemic there was a drop in performance across all four modes of delivery for 2020-21. The Committee agreed that, although this was disappointing, the reasons behind the figures are understandable and the figures are better than expected. The Committee discussed steps which can be taken to encourage learners to return to College in future and suggested that short term interventions should be offered where appropriate.

E Brownlie advised that early indications from the most recent student satisfaction survey were very positive.

The Committee noted the leaver destination data provided in the report.

The Committee also noted the summary of External Verification activity reviews which identified 41 examples of good practice.

The Committee agreed that the College has produced very good results and that staff and students have responded well in the challenging environment.

21.35 STUDENT EXPERIENCE REPORT

D Marshall presented the report which provided the Committee with an overview of key Student Experience activities. The Committee noted the challenges being experienced by the Student Advice Office who are balancing online and on- campus activities to ensure coverage over 5 days.

The Committee was pleased to hear that funding for two additional key workers has been obtained and of the work being done with Action for Children in relation to the increasing number of Care Experienced Learners attending College.

The Committee also heard, that although additional funding has been obtained for roles to support the health and wellbeing of staff, the continuation of that funding remains a concern.

The Committee discussed the challenges being faced by ESOL students and the additional support which is being provided to help them to integrate, not only in the College environment, but also into wider society. The Committee encouraged the College to continue the work being done to liaise with other agencies across Glasgow City.

The Committee expressed its appreciation of the extensive work being done by the Student Association to support the whole student community and keep students engaged with activities across the College.

21.36 CURRICULUM AND EXTERNAL ENVIRONMENT

J Rafferty spoke to the report which provided the Committee with an update on the current credit estimates which are showing ranges from an outturn of -5.5% to -8% against target.

The Committee heard that there has been a significant amount of work done to identify reasons for the shortfall and that further analysis will take place. The Committee discussed possible reasons which essentially focus on the inability to offer full time on campus activity. The Committee recognised that, whilst this can provide welcome flexibility for some, students are more likely to remain and achieve on courses which are delivered on-site. Uncertainties around funding have also deterred students from committing to study.

The Committee heard of the increasing importance of the Schools College Partnerships and a recent CDN national report 'Co-Creating the Learner Journey: School-College Partnerships and Effective Skills Pathways which has made a number of recommendations for colleges to take forward.

The Committee discussed the Government response to the Scottish Funding Council Tertiary Review which signals a period of significant change for the College sector. The Committee noted that a question had been asked of the Minister for Higher Education and Further Education in the Scottish Parliament in relation to the Glasgow Region review and that it was expected that the Glasgow Colleges Regional Board would be attending a meeting imminently with Scottish Government to advise on progress.

21.37 LEARNING AND TEACHING KPI REPORT

J Vincent spoke to the report which provided the Committee members with a draft set of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for monitoring by the Learning and Teaching Committee on an on-going basis.

The Committee agreed that it would be advantageous to have a set of KPIs to assist with delivery of its objectives and recognised the need to ensure that these are consistent to allow for comparison and measurement. The Committee asked that there should be a visual representation rather than a list of statistics.

The Committee was asked to consider the proposed list and provide any feedback to the Principal by Monday 22nd November 2021. **ALL**

Items for Noting

21.38 LEARNING AND TEACHING COMMITTEE REMIT AND SCHEDULE OF WORK

CMcConnell asked the Committee to consider the Committee's existing Remit. The Committee agreed that the remit was fit for purpose. The Committee cautioned that, in the absence of a formal report from the Student President (which instead will be presented to the full Board) it needs to ensure that the contribution from the student representative remains an integral part of future meetings. The Committee noted the Schedule of Work and the suggestion to consider the use of co-opted members for future meetings.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place on 9th February 2022 at 4.30pm. Location to be confirmed.