

**NOTES OF THE MEETING OF THE LEARNING AND TEACHING COMMITTEE  
HELD ON 16 NOVEMBER 2022.  
THE MEETING WAS HELD REMOTELY**

**PRESENT:**

|                    |                 |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Gordon McGuinness  | Committee Chair |
| Runa McNamara      | Board Member    |
| Atiqa Chaudhry     | Board Member    |
| Jon Vincent        | Board Member    |
| William French     | Board Member    |
| Maureen McKenna    | Board Member    |
| Ashleigh McCulloch | Co-opted Member |

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| Eric Brownlie  | Assistant Principal, Quality and Performance                  |
| David Marshall | Assistant Principal, Student Experience                       |
| John Rafferty  | Vice and Deputy Principal, Curriculum and Quality Enhancement |
| Kirsty Mavor   | Clerk (Minute Taker)  |

**22.24 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and extended a particular welcome to A Chaudhry, M McKenna and A McCulloch joining their first Committee meeting. Apologies were noted from A O'Donnell.

**22.25 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

R McNamara's involvement with the Glasgow Clyde Education Foundation and W French's membership of EIS was noted. There were no further declarations.

**22.26 DRAFT MINUTE OF MEETING HELD ON 18 MAY 2022**

The minute was accepted as a true record of the meeting of 18 May 2022.

**22.27 MATTERS ARISING ACTION GRID**

The Committee noted that all the actions were either on today's Agenda or complete.

**22.28 QUALITY AND PERFORMANCE REPORT**

E Brownlie spoke to the paper which provided the Committee with high level data in relation to the following areas:

- (1) Attainment 2021-22 (internal data)
- (2) External Verification Summary 2021-22
- (3) Student Satisfaction Survey May 2022
- (4) Annual Complaints Handling Summary 2021-22

## (5) Early Impressions Survey October 2022

The Committee considered each area in turn: -

**Attainment:** It was noted that attainment levels peaked in 2019-20 when the College was the equal highest performing large College for Full Time FE and HE attainment. It was disappointing to see that the attainment levels have dropped but understandable given the disruption over the last two or so years. It was noted that retention rates were a contributing factor and the position in relation to retention was looking more favourable for 2022-23. The Committee agreed that the return to campus and the focus on creating a sense of belongingness is likely to assist with increasing attainment levels.

**External Verification Survey:** It was noted that the overall position was generally strong with some areas undertaking additional activities to satisfy assessment requirements. E Brownlie confirmed that there is also an internal verification system.

**Satisfaction Levels:** The Committee was pleased to see such a high response rate and that overall student satisfaction levels for last year remained very high even though there had been disruption.

**Annual Complaints Handling Survey:** E Brownlie advised the Committee that the College encouraged complaints as a way of seeing what could be improved and also to ensure the student voice was heard. Early resolution is encouraged but where this is not achieved, the Committee was assured by the fact that the SPSO considered the College had investigated complaints satisfactorily.

**Early Impressions Survey:** This was carried out in October to evaluate the pre-entry and early learning experience. The Committee was pleased to note the favourable progress with enrolment following the implementation of the 'Come to Clyde' strategy. The Committee considered that the noticeable improvement in students feeling a sense of belonging should have a positive impact on attainment levels.

Overall, the Committee was reassured by the positive messages coming out of the various data sources and will continue to monitor whether the positive early feedback helps improve the College's attainment levels.

The Committee thanked E Brownlie for the update.

## **22.29 STUDENT ASSOCIATION'S REPORT**

A Chaudhry presented her first update to the Committee and advised that the Student Association has been developing training for Class Representatives. This is the first time the Student Association has provided this type of training and it will take place over the next few weeks. All Class Representatives are encouraged to attend.

The Chair thanked A Chaudhry for the update and confirmed that her role on the Committee was key to ensuring that student experience remains at the forefront.

### **22.30 STUDENT EXPERIENCE UPDATE**

D Marshall presented this paper and confirmed that the restructure is largely complete with the focus now being on planning the main priorities for the short and medium term. An overview of a number of initiatives was provided to the Committee with the focus being on enhancing the learner experience. The Committee was pleased to note that all staff across Student Experience have been participating in the Nurturing Training Programme and a 2-day Coaching Leadership programme will be delivered to all staff with management and supervisory responsibilities.

The Committee was pleased to note the College's focus on providing a nurturing environment for students. It was agreed that whilst counselling was an important service to provide, in the long term, the focus should be on creating a sustainable approach that encompasses all aspects of providing a nurturing environment.

The Committee thanked D Marshall for the update.

### **22.31 DIGITAL SKILLS**

In response to an action from the last Committee meeting, D Marshall provided a report detailing the College's approach to digital provision. During the pandemic the focus of digital provision was on ensuring that staff were both confident and competent in delivering online material. There is now an equal focus on the digital skills of both students and staff. D Marshall provided an overview of digital related initiatives including implementation of student Lapsafe schemes which loans devices to students and a focus on digital skills for students delivered through short videos. The College has focussed on the benefits of returning to campus but the advantage of e-learning will be incorporated into the overall learning experience.

The Committee thanked D Marshall for the update and confirmed that it would look for further information evaluating the impact of the digital approach on the student experience.

### **22.32 CURRICULUM AND EXTERNAL ENVIRONMENT**

J Rafferty spoke to the report and confirmed that the final audited credit position for 2021/22 was -3.7%. The primary reasons for not meeting the 2021/22 credit target were declining full time enrolment and increasing rates of early withdrawal.

The 2022/23 credits position is looking more positive with enrolment currently exceeding target by 4%. However, there is a noticeable reduction in full term learners which will have a consequential impact on credit achievement since those learners attract more credits.

Early retention figures show that 13% of all enrolments have withdrawn which is less than 16% level for 2021/22 (but still higher than pre-pandemic levels of 9-10%).

At the time of the meeting, the College's best-case credit outcome was -1.2% and the worst-case credit outcome was -1.5%. This is encouraging compared to the same time last year and the range is also within the SFC's 2% tolerance levels.

J Rafferty provided the Committee with an update on the Community Learning and Development review which is currently taking place. He advised that the funding model has been impacted by CLD workers being re-designated as lecturing staff and the reduction in external funding. The Committee will be advised of the outcome of the review.

Details were provided of the current buoyant labour market with 58% of 16-24 year olds in employment in Scotland, nearly 5% above the average for the UK as a whole. This positive position may impact on the College's recruitment levels and the impact of the current review of SDS may also impact on the modern apprenticeship scheme. Also, the Committee was advised of the GTCS's consultation currently taking place on a provisional category being set up for lecturers.

The Committee thanked J Rafferty for his detailed update.

### **22.33 KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS**

J Rafferty presented this report to the Committee which has been adapted to provide more details about how the statistics impact on particular student groups. Trends are beginning to emerge with the main messages being: -

- Student and stakeholder satisfaction remain high, despite difficulties last year.
- VLE use remains high, despite a move to on campus delivery.
- Retention remains a key concern for college performance and the activity of universities and the lure of employment has had a significant impact on retention.
- Attainment has also suffered significantly from online models of instruction as well as poor retention.
- MA growth remains broadly static, limited by sectoral restraints at a national level

The Committee thanked J Rafferty for the update particularly for the improved style of presentation.

### **Items for Noting**

#### **22.34 REMIT AND SCHEDULE OF WORK**

K Mavor advised that it is good governance practice to annually review the Committee's remit. The Committee agreed that no changes were recommended to the remit which remained fit for purpose. A copy of

the Schedule of Work was provided and Committee members were asked to advise of any additional matters for upcoming meetings.

**22.35 AOB**

The Committee agreed that all papers were disclosable.

The Chair recognised the contribution that Fiona Godsman had made to this Committee and, in particular, acting as Chair when required.

The Chair thanked the new Committee members for their attendance and advised that their fresh perspective is welcomed and encouraged input into the Committee's upcoming Schedule of Work.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will take place on 1 February 2023 at 4.30pm at Langside Campus.