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## BOARD MEETING

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Date of Meeting	29 March 2017
Paper Title	Credits Projection 2016/17
Agenda Item	17.21
Paper Number	17.21A
Responsible Officer	B Hughes; Vice Principal Curriculum and External Relations
Status	Disclosable
Action	For Noting

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### 1. Report Purpose

This paper provides members an update of our current projections in respect of our progress against target credits for the academic year 2016/17.

### 2. Recommendations

The Board is asked to **note** this paper.

### 3. Background

As previously reported to members, the college has an overall target for 2016/17 of **127,091** credits, comprising 121,401 of Core activity and a further 5,690 of European Social Fund [ESF] activity.

The Board has been regularly updated on our progress towards achieving these targets and this paper provides a further snapshot of the position at 17<sup>th</sup> March 2017.

The attachment indicates that;

Current credits estimate: 127,025 [117,441 at December 2016] and

Credits to start: 892 [10,033 at December 2016]

This would provide an overall figure of 127,917 against a target of 127,091

The significant decrease in “credits to start” since the December report is a result of our January start programmes being underway. Any student who is in attendance on a course when the course passes its “qualifying date” [normally the date on which 25% of the course has passed] will contribute credits towards our overall activity target. At this point in March all courses that are underway have passed their qualifying date and therefore there is greater security in the figures being reported.

The college has been offered an additional 10 associate students places by the University of the West of Scotland. Currently we have 46 such students with that University. These students however are not eligible for credits and therefore, if we accept their offer, the current credit estimate above will be reduced by 150 credits. We will however receive direct funding of circa £30,000 from the University for these students. This has been fully discussed at SMT and it is likely that we will accept their offer.

#### **4. Risk Analysis**

Our credit activity is impacted upon directly by student attendance on courses. Students who leave courses before the qualifying date as outlined above are not eligible to be counted in our credit activity. As that date has now passed for the majority of courses the remaining risk is that some students who did leave their course have not yet been withdrawn from the student records system and their status may be showing as still in attendance. Regular cleaning of the data and monitoring of the figures very frequently helps to minimise this risk.

#### **5. Legal Implications**

There are no specific legal implications relating to this paper.

#### **6. Financial Implications**

Failure to achieve our annual credit target has financial implications in the form of clawback of funding by SFC / GCRB. Actions to minimise this risk are identified in (4) above and by setting a higher internal college target than is required by SFC/GCRB.

#### **7. Regional Outcome Agreement Implications**

Our credit target is agreed at the level of the ROA and therefore our contribution to meeting the Glasgow Region figure is vital to the region's ability to meet its required outputs.

#### **8. Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out (Y/N/NA)**

N/A