
FINANCE AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING

Date of Meeting	1 March 2017
Paper Title	Glasgow Clyde Education Foundation Update
Agenda Item	17.11
Responsible Officer	Janet Thomson, Vice Principal Resources and College Development
Status	Disclosable
Action	For Discussion

1 Report Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the activity of the Glasgow Clyde Education Foundation.

2 Recommendation

- 2.1 Committee Members are invited to note this paper.

3 Background

- 3.1 The Glasgow Clyde Education Foundation (GCEF) is a separate independent charitable organisation from the College.
- 3.2 The Foundation has four strands from which it will fund projects which are those that:
- support students and the life of the College;
 - support College staff, courses and programmes in the College;
 - support a sustainable infrastructure and buildings for the College; and
 - lifelong learning projects from outwith the College (although this will be at a much lower level than the first three strands)
- 3.3 A sum of £14.4Million was transferred to the Foundation from the College as at the end of March 2014, which was the College cash backed reserves. A further sum of £600k was transferred at end of March 2015.
- 3.4 To date, the College has had just over thirty applications supported by the Foundation (plus a further one extended) which total just over £8Million between capital and revenue projects. The Foundation had their most recent meeting on 29 November 2016 and their next meeting is on 21 February 2017.

- 3.5** At the meeting on 29 November 2016 the College presented the strategic priorities which the College would aim to pursue through use of the Foundation funding which had been discussed at the College's October Board of Management meeting. Following this and discussion with the Chair of the College Board of Management, the Foundation have fed back that they are planning to fund less new projects during their financial year 2017/18 and that there will be a maximum of £200k new funds available for the College during that time plus any recycled funds from savings on other projects. Other than the projects presented to the November meeting there is one project which they had already expected to fund following a feasibility study which is the Development and Research Centre (see paragraph 3.9 below).
- 3.6** From the requests made to their November meeting, the Foundation have agreed to fund an amended reduced project for the Professional Foundation Programme for Lecturers which is for new teaching staff and this award is now £37,800 over one year. Also they agreed to fund the additional remaining Landscaping and Horticultural New Build costs as approved in the College capital masterplan which are now at £1.73Million (previously was £1.54Million) for which costs had increased after incorporating changes required by planning and the underground tank needing moved.
- 3.7** The College plans to submit one application to the Foundation's February meeting as follows:
- On line commercial courses development – This is a revised and reduced bid from that previously submitted to the November GCEF meeting and is now an application for £75k for a number of courses planned to be developed.
- 3.8** There were two other applications to the November meeting which are now being reconsidered by the College, ie Student Entrepreneurship project and the Addressing the Talent Pipeline for an alternative approach or to be funded by the College.
- 3.9** The Glasgow Clyde Education Foundation (GCEF) previously funded a Research Feasibility study into the potential model for a Development and Research Programme (DRP) at Glasgow Clyde College. This feasibility study consisted of a literature review and extensive consultation and interviews with internal and external stakeholders and has now been completed. It found that improvement activities are currently limited by lack of knowledge of which factors are impacting most on student experiences and outcomes particularly on retention and attainment; and limited knowledge of research evidence and practice elsewhere or of effective improvement strategies. The detail of the implementation of this project and the staffing involved is being considered by SMT and an application for funding will be submitted to the next Foundation meeting in July. It is anticipated that the project will be upwards of £300k over a three year period.

3.10 The Foundation has an investment strategy which plans to grow their funding hence timing of withdrawals from investments is important. Cashflow projections are updated regularly and provided to the Foundation as required to enable their investment strategy to be considered accordingly.

4. Risk Analysis

4.1 There are no specific risks associated with this paper.

5. Legal Implications/Financial Implications/Regional Outcome Agreement Implications

5.1 The GCEF is a separate charitable organisation and hence is a separate legal entity. The financial implications related to this paper are that potential future projects will be dependent on future funding applications to the Foundation being approved by the Foundation.

6. Has an Equality Impact Assessment Been Carried Out?

N/A