

**NOTES OF THE MEETING OF THE LEARNING AND TEACHING COMMITTEE
HELD ON 1 FEBRUARY 2023
THE MEETING WAS HELD AT LANGSIDE CAMPUS**

PRESENT:

Gordon McGuinness	Committee Chair
Runa McNamara	Board Member
Atiqah Chaudhry	Board Member
William French	Board Member
Maureen McKenna	Board Member
Ashleigh McCulloch	Co-opted Member

IN ATTENDANCE:

Ian Beach	Education Scotland
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)

23.01 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and extended a particular welcome to I Beach from Education Scotland. Apologies were noted from A O'Donnell and J Vincent.

23.02 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

23.03 DRAFT MINUTE OF MEETING HELD ON 16 NOVEMBER 2022

The minute was accepted as a true record of the meeting of 16 November 2022.

23.04 MATTERS ARISING ACTION GRID

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

23.05 EDUCATION SCOTLAND – ANNUAL ENGAGEMENT VISIT

I Beach was welcomed to the meeting and he provided the Committee with an overview of the recent annual engagement visit. Four themes were explored during the visit being recruitment, retention, attainment and progression. There were three possible outcomes with the College achieving 'Option 1' meaning that Education Scotland was "*confident the College has made satisfactory progress and has the capacity to continue to improve*". It was noted by the Committee that this was the best possible outcome.

I Beach went through each theme setting out the relevant findings in each area. Overall, there was a strong picture across the four themes

with many strengths identified. One main point for action was identified relating to the level of learner withdrawal rates at all curriculum levels.

The Committee asked about the level of engagement across the College for the annual engagement visit. I Beach advised that all staff and students approached the visit in a positive and professional manner with high levels of engagement.

The full report of the annual engagement visit will be made available to both this Committee and the Board. A letter summarising the findings will also be published. The Chair thanked I Beach for his presentation.

23.06 QUALITY AND PERFORMANCE REPORT

E Brownlie spoke to the paper which provided the Committee with an overview of three connected strategies aimed at enhancing the pre-entry, on-boarding and in-college learning experience for all College students. The three strategies are:

1. ***Come to Clyde*** strategy to help improve recruitment levels
2. ***Get Ready for Clyde*** strategy to improve the onboarding and induction process and overall retention levels
3. ***Succeed at Clyde*** strategy to improve retention, learning and teaching approaches and student outcomes

Details were provided of the initiatives under each area and how they should have a positive impact on recruitment, retention, learning experience and student outcomes.

The Committee welcomed the connected strategies including the streamlined recruitment process which should attract and improve access to the College. It was noted that this approach should be balanced with the College's safeguarding obligations and the Committee was reassured to hear that requirement for disclosures remained for certain courses.

E Brownlie also provided the Committee with a demonstration of the 'live data' approach now utilised by the College. This allows all staff to access key data to evaluate how certain courses and areas are performing.

Lastly, statistics on College Leaver Destinations for 2020/21 were presented which shows that the College is performing well against the sector.

The Committee thanked E Brownlie for the update.

23.07 STUDENT ASSOCIATION'S REPORT

A Chaudhry presented her update to the Committee and advised that the Student Association was currently focussing on producing a student support guide which will bring together all the avenues (internal and

external) for support. This support guide will shortly be available on canvas.

23.08 STUDENT EXPERIENCE UPDATE

D Marshall presented this paper providing an overview of student experience activity. He advised that the recent student experience restructure is now completed and the 6-month review of implementation will shortly be commencing. As part of the implementation of the new structure all management and supervisory roles have taken part in a 2-day coaching leadership programme. D Marshall confirmed that this supports leadership development across the team, will promote a consistent, collaborative culture in all areas and has been positively received.

As part of the College's ongoing development work toward the Emily Test Charter, pilot delivery of LISTEN Training has been organised which supports College staff in dealing with GBV disclosures.

Work is also being undertaken to improve communication and transparency within the Student Association and the overall working relationship with GCCSA. The Committee referred to the importance of the ongoing positive relationship with GCCSA and how it enhances the student experience. It was agreed that an update should be provided at the next meeting.

DM

23.09 CURRICULUM AND EXTERNAL ENVIRONMENT

J Rafferty spoke to the report and referred to the importance of January recruitment in meeting the College's credit target. At present the college has enrolled **1,418** learners for the January programmes against a target of **1,657**. Both recruitment and enrolment are continuing so there is still an opportunity to make target.

J Rafferty confirmed that the College is taking all steps to minimise the impact of Anniesland campus closure on recruitment and retention levels. Course leaders have been asked to prioritise Anniesland January starts for face to face delivery at external venues where possible.

So far, retention levels remain similar to last year with around 16% of all enrolments leaving before the funding date. The KPI report records the most common reasons for drop out which include family reasons and health, but also course related reasons which the College will take steps to address.

At the time of the meeting, the College's best-case credit outcome was -0.3% and the worst-case credit outcome was -1.4%. The Committee was pleased to note that this range is within the SFC's 2% tolerance levels. Also, against an original global target of 14,867 this session, the College has so far enrolled 14,023 students with a number of further courses yet to recruit in the Spring.

An update was provided on the Scottish Government's draft budget and the impact on College funding. Overall, there has been a 3.8% increase across the sector but this is a 'one-off' payment and will not be part of standard budget lines. Also, the Flexible Workforce Development Fund has been reduced by £10 million which may challenge the College's current levels of allocation.

Given the financial challenges facing the College, a review of possible curriculum delivery models is currently being undertaken. J Rafferty confirmed that discussions have taken place with Trade Unions and other stakeholders to highlight the reasons for change and possible solutions available with the terms of nationally negotiated terms and conditions. This may unlock significant savings and minimise the impact of diminishing resources on learner choice and the student experience.

The Committee was advised of two possible strategies (a) adjusting courses so they are shorter and more focussed on core content and (b) striking a better balance in the ratio between face-to-face content, supported online learning, timetabled guidance and self-directed study. These two initiatives could potentially save the College more than £1 million.

The Committee thanked J Rafferty for his detailed update and requested an update at the next meeting on the curriculum delivery model review. **JR**

23.10 KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

J Rafferty presented this report to the Committee which provides some interim data in relation to retention rates highlighted in yellow.

The key messages from the KPI data are that: -

- Attendance levels are improving.
- Withdrawal levels may be slightly improving on last session.
- Course related issues still feature too highly in withdrawal motives but to a lesser extent than last year. As referred to above, steps will be taken by the College to try and improve this position.

Items for Noting

23.11 SCHEDULE OF WORK

Committee members were asked to advise of any additional items for upcoming meetings.

23.12 AOB

The Committee agreed that all papers were disclosable.

The Chair thanked I Beach for his attendance.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place on 24 May 2023 at 4.30pm via teams.