



Regional Update for College Board Members

Board Meeting: 29 January 2024

Dear all,

This regional briefing is provided to give you an overview on discussions at GCRB's board meeting, which took place on 29 January at City of Glasgow College's Riverside Campus, as well as provide some information around board appointments and recruitment.

In our last briefing, we indicated that succession planning for the role of the Chair of Glasgow Colleges' Regional Board was in progress. I can confirm that I have been reappointed by the Minister for Further Education to the role of GCRB Chair for a period of up to two years. I look forward to continuing to work with the regional board, college boards, Glasgow's colleges and colleagues across the sector to continue our important work for the Glasgow college region.

GCRB is currently recruiting for four non-executive board members, and we will share appointment information with you once available.

Thank you for your continued commitment to the Glasgow college region.

Janie McCusker

Chair, Glasgow Colleges' Regional Board

External Presentations

Dr. Mairead Wood provided a training session to board members on the definitions and principles of GDPR, along with an update on the legislative landscape. She highlighted the specific responsibilities of GCRB as an organisation and for board members individually.

Financial Sustainability

Following the announcement of the draft Scottish budget at the end of the calendar year, the board discussed financial challenges facing the sector, advocating for the reinstatement of the Flexible

Workforce Development Fund, and the impact on staffing decisions, student experience and regional college provision. Board members discussed planning for changes, utilising resources effectively and reviewing opportunities for collaborative working.

The Chair also suggested that the four boards across Glasgow should seek to work collaboratively to plan for the future and identify regional solutions.

Risk Register

Following the risk workshop, hosted in October 2023, the region's risk register has been reviewed to take account of the current financial outlook and review agenda. College risk registers were also reviewed as part of this process to ensure alignment. This was presented to the board, who agreed to adopt the region's updated risk register, which will be refined based on feedback.

Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements 2022-23

The Annual Report of the External Auditor 2022-23, Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements 2022-23 for the whole region and Annual Report of the Internal Auditor 2022-23 were presented and approved/noted by the board.

Governance Matters

The board confirmed the appointment of Sonique Noreiga as a Student Member of GCRB with effect from the end of the meeting on 29 January 2024. The board also noted the status of nominations for incoming Trade Union Board Members and the status of GCRB non-executive board member recruitment arrangements.

The board also noted the status of arrangements for the recruitment of Chairs for Glasgow Clyde College and City of Glasgow College and approved recruitment panel memberships for appointments.

Glasgow College Regional Student Executive Team

The Chair of the GCRSE delivered a presentation regarding a survey on student mental health, completed at City of Glasgow College, which they hoped to use at Glasgow Clyde and Kelvin colleges to enable regional data to be gathered. The GCRSE are working together to collaborate on campaigns and regional sign posting of support services. Board member and mental health expert

Moira Connolly has also offered support and advice in this area, while the Principal of Glasgow Clyde College provided an update on work taking place nationally.

Environment and Sustainability Survey

GCRB presented an environment and sustainability survey which was completed across the region, noting the strengths and opportunities identified from the results and highlighting the engagement on next steps with the Glasgow Colleges Groups. The project manager discussed the detail of the report, its alignment with the CDN roadmap for sustainability and potential for further collaboration.

Board Meeting

GCRB's next board meeting will be hosted on Monday 29 April 2024.