

## Board Meeting

Date of Meeting	Monday 11 August 2014
Paper Title	Review of Glasgow Region College Academic Performance Indicators: 2010/11 – 2012/13
Agenda Item	12
Paper Number	BM2-K
Responsible Officer	Julia Henderson (written by R Ashton, ROA Co-ordinator)
Status	Disclosable
Action	For discussion

### 1. Introduction

- 1.1** This report provides an overview of Glasgow Region College Academic Performance Indicators over academic years 2010/11 to 2012/13 within a national performance context and in relation to Regional Outcome Agreement commitments.
- 1.2** The data analysed is that published by the Scottish Funding Council and further information on this data is available in the SFC Statistical publication SFC/ST/01/2014.

### 2. Key Findings

- 2.1** Three-year trend data for all enrolments shows an average improvement of approximately 1% in successful completion rates both regionally and nationally (across all enrolments).
- 2.2** Successful completion rates in Glasgow Region lag approximately 4% behind national levels (for example, 69.1 % regionally compared to 73.4% nationally for all enrolments).
- 2.3** These variances in successful completion from national averages relate mainly to higher than average student withdrawal rates across the Glasgow Region. For example, across all enrolments approximately 5% more learners in the Glasgow region withdraw before the end of their course as compared to Scotland as a whole.
- 2.4** The variance in successful completion is greatest for Further Education (SCQF 6 and below) enrolments, with the full-time Further Education successful completion rate 3.3% below the national average (62.1% compared to 65.4%) and the part-time Further Education rate 7.3% below the rate for Scotland as a whole (70.2% compared to 77.5%).
- 2.5** In contrast to the lower than average performance of Further Education courses, Glasgow Region full-time Higher Education achievement levels compare favourably to national

averages (71.0% compared to 70.4%), but regional part-time Higher Education achievement is slightly below the rate for Scotland as a whole (75.2% compared to 76.3%).

- 2.6 In terms of performance related to Regional Outcome Agreement (ROA) targets, the 2013/14 ROA did not stipulate specific performance targets and the general overall upwards trend in terms of achievement is in line with commitments made within this document to improve the proportion of learners successfully achieving a qualification.
- 2.7 The 2014/15 ROA specifies three-year achievement targets for the four mode/level categories and current performance and trend data suggests that whilst the full-time achievement targets for both Further Education and Higher Education look likely to be met, data for part-time performance across both modes suggest risks to target achievement.

### 3. Performance Data Across All Enrolments

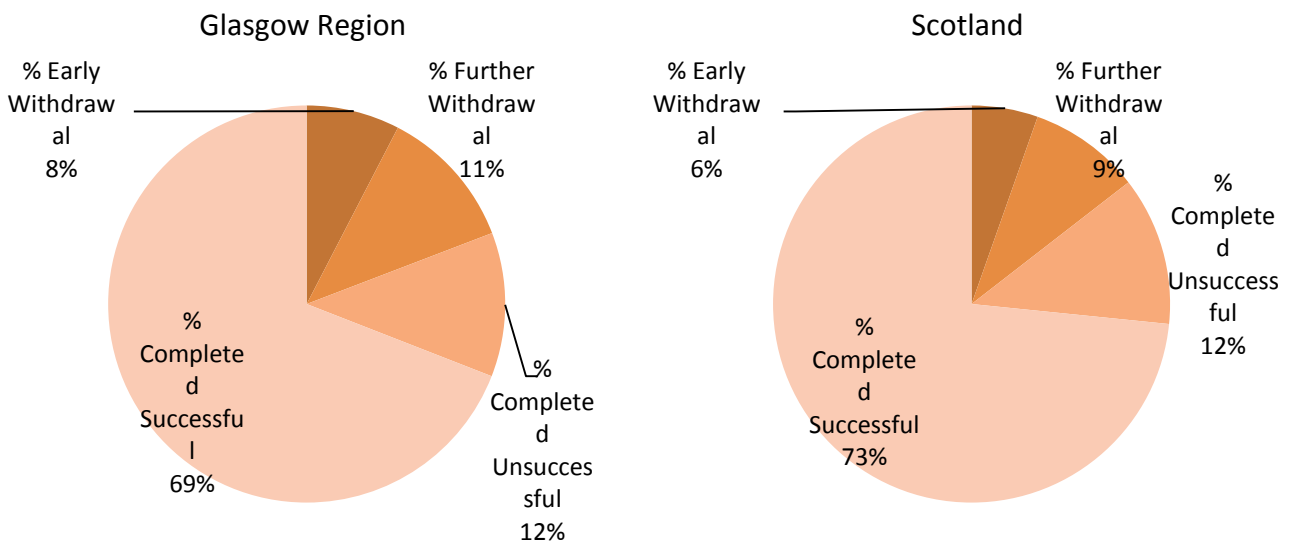
- 3.1 The majority of this report will focus on an overview and analysis of the four mode/level cohorts (full and part-time Further Education, and full and part-time Higher Education) regularly used by colleges, the SFC and Education Scotland to categorise and analyse academic performance. However, this section will provide a brief overview of student performance in terms of all enrolments.
- 3.2 The table below shows that in 2012/13, an average of 69.1% of Glasgow students successfully completed their course, with 19.2% withdrawing and 11.7% completing unsuccessfully.

Figure 1. Regional and National Performance Indicators for All Enrolments, 2012/13

College/Region	Total	% Early Withdrawal	% Further Withdrawal	% Completed Unsuccessful	% Completed Successful
Glasgow Region	35,174	7.6%	11.6%	11.7%	69.1%
Scotland	183,258	5.5%	9.5%	12.0%	73.1%
Scotland/Glasgow Variance	-148,084	2.1%	2.1%	-0.3%	-4.0%

- 3.3 In terms of comparison to national averages, with a national success rate of 73.1% 4% fewer college enrolments in the Glasgow region successfully complete their course. This variance relates mainly to higher regional withdrawal rates, as highlighted by the two charts below.

**Figure 2. Student Outcomes for Glasgow Region and Scotland, 2012/13 (all enrolments)**



**3.4** Across each of the colleges, whilst the percentage of enrolments leaving early (i.e. before 25% of the course is complete) are consistent across the region at approximately 7%, there are variances of approximately 2% – 3% in both further withdrawal and unsuccessful completion rates within individual regional colleges, as shown below.

**Figure 3. Individual College Performance Indicators for All Enrolments, 2012/13**

College/Region	Total	% Early Withdrawal	% Further Withdrawal	% Completed Unsuccessful	% Completed Successful
City of Glasgow College	12,462	7.9%	12.5%	11.3%	68.2%
Glasgow Clyde College	12,676	7.7%	12.1%	13.9%	66.3%
Glasgow Kelvin College	10,036	7.1%	9.8%	9.5%	73.7%

**3.5** The table below shows that whilst three-year trend data for both the Glasgow Region and Scotland shows mainly an increased proportion of enrolments leading to successful completion, the achievement gap between Glasgow and Scotland has remained fairly consistent at an average of approximately 4% over the three year period.

**Figure 4. Percentage of Enrolments Leading to Successful Completion of Course**

College/Region	2010/11	2011/2	2012/13	Change
City of Glasgow College	70.0%	70.8%	68.2%	-1.8%
Glasgow Clyde College	64.0%	65.6%	66.3%	2.3%
Glasgow Kelvin College	69.0%	74.3%	73.7%	4.7%
<b>Glasgow Region</b>	<b>68.0%</b>	<b>69.8%</b>	<b>69.1%</b>	<b>1.1%</b>
<b>Scotland</b>	<b>72.0%</b>	<b>73.1%</b>	<b>73.1%</b>	<b>1.1%</b>
Scotland/Glasgow Variance	-4.0%	-3.3%	-4.0%	0.0%

3.6 Whilst regional achievement rates have remained relatively stable, within this individual college performance is more varied, with City of Glasgow rates decreasing (-1.8%) and Glasgow Clyde College and Glasgow Kelvin College increasing (2.3% and 4.7% respectively).

#### 4. Further Education Performance Data

4.1 As with all enrolments, there is a significant variance (-3.3%) between Further Education achievement rates at a regional level, as compared to Scotland as a whole as shown by the table below.

Figure 5. Full-time Further Education Performance Indicators, 2012/13

College/Region	Total	% Early Withdrawal	% Further Withdrawal	% Completed Unsuccessful	% Completed Successful
City of Glasgow College	2,095	12.9%	17.2%	10.2%	59.8%
Glasgow Clyde College	3,617	9.2%	14.2%	14.5%	62.1%
Glasgow Kelvin College	2,099	11.0%	14.7%	9.9%	64.4%
<b>Glasgow Region</b>	<b>7,811</b>	<b>10.7%</b>	<b>15.1%</b>	<b>12.1%</b>	<b>62.1%</b>
<b>Scotland</b>	<b>48,750</b>	<b>8.7%</b>	<b>14.6%</b>	<b>11.3%</b>	<b>65.4%</b>
Scotland/Glasgow Variance	-40,939	1.9%	0.5%	0.8%	-3.3%

4.2 In part-time Further Education, an even more significant (-7.3%) attainment gap exists between Glasgow Region and Scotland as a whole, as shown below.

Figure 6. Part-time Further Education Performance Indicators, 2012/13

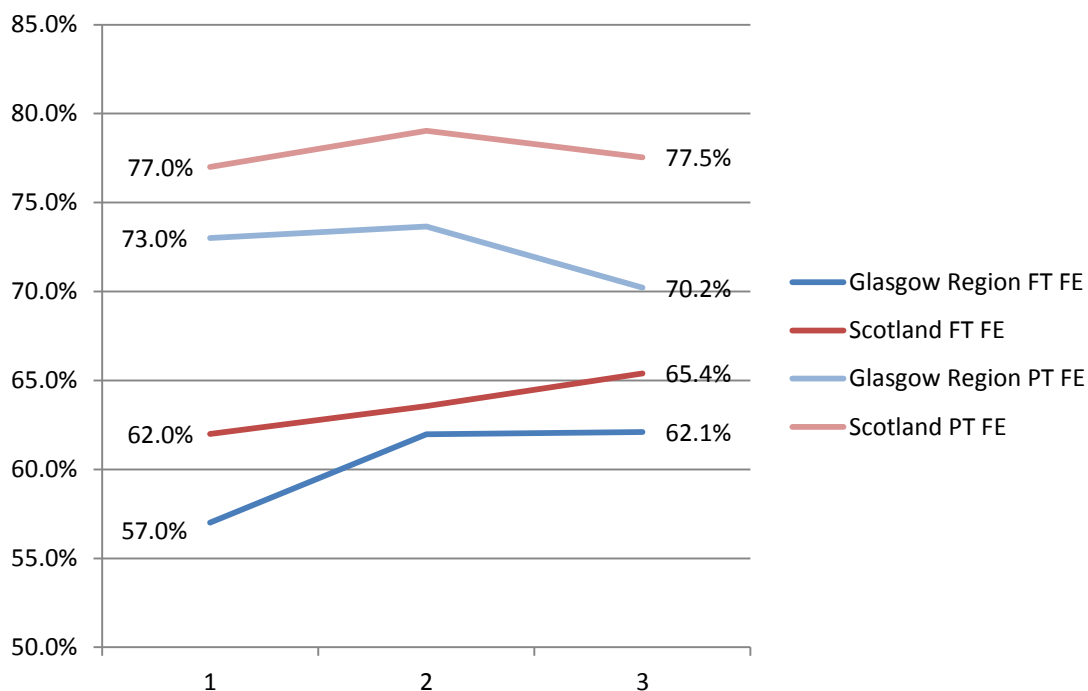
College/Region	Total	% Early Withdrawal	% Further Withdrawal	% Completed Unsuccessful	% Completed Successful
City of Glasgow College	3,566	9.3%	11.2%	11.0%	68.5%
Glasgow Clyde College	5,373	8.0%	12.0%	16.0%	64.0%
Glasgow Kelvin College	4,990	5.7%	7.6%	8.6%	78.2%
<b>Glasgow Region</b>	<b>13,929</b>	<b>7.5%</b>	<b>10.2%</b>	<b>12.1%</b>	<b>70.2%</b>
<b>Scotland</b>	<b>91,280</b>	<b>3.9%</b>	<b>6.3%</b>	<b>12.3%</b>	<b>77.5%</b>
Scotland/Glasgow Variance	-77,351	3.6%	3.9%	-0.2%	-7.3%

4.3 In terms of further regional/national variances, in both full-time and part-time modes, the main variances between Glasgow Region and Scottish non-achievement factors exist with respect to withdrawal (as opposed to unsuccessful completion) with an additional 4.2% of full-time and 7.5% of part-time Further Education enrolments in the Glasgow Region leaving their course before completion.

4.4 With respect to three-year trends, full-time Further Education attainment rates have improved both across the Glasgow Region and Scotland as a whole. However, part-time

Further Education attainment rates have decreased by 3% across the Glasgow Region as outlined in the diagram overleaf.

**Figure 7. Further Education Successful Completion Rates, 2010/11 – 2012/13**



**4.5** In terms of individual college performance over the three-year period, the table below shows an improving trend for full-time students, but a lowering of part-time achievement levels with only 1 college showing an increase in part-time Further Education achievement rates. Within these broad overall trends, there is also fairly significant variation in year-on-year performance.

**Figure 8. Three-Year Further Education Trend Data for Individual Colleges**

Mode/Level	College	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	Change
Full-time Further Education	City of Glasgow College	56.0%	64.9%	59.8%	3.8%
	Glasgow Clyde College	56.0%	60.4%	62.1%	6.1%
	Glasgow Kelvin College	60.0%	61.1%	64.4%	4.4%
Part-time Further Education	City of Glasgow College	77.0%	74.0%	68.5%	-8.5%
	Glasgow Clyde College	66.0%	65.1%	64.0%	-2.0%
	Glasgow Kelvin College	77.0%	83.5%	78.2%	1.2%

## 5. Higher Education Performance Data

5.1 For full-time Higher Education (SCQF 7 and above) enrolments, Glasgow Region has higher than average (0.6%) successful completion rates as shown by the table below.

Figure 9. Full-time Higher Education Performance Indicators, 2012/13

FTHE	Total	% Early Withdrawal	% Further Withdrawal	% Completed Unsuccessful	% Completed Successful
City of Glasgow College	5,743	5.9%	13.2%	11.5%	69.5%
Glasgow Clyde College	2,640	5.9%	11.1%	9.2%	73.8%
Glasgow Kelvin College	2,053	6.5%	11.6%	10.2%	71.7%
<b>Glasgow Region</b>	<b>10,436</b>	<b>6.0%</b>	<b>12.3%</b>	<b>10.6%</b>	<b>71.0%</b>
<b>Scotland</b>	<b>21,761</b>	<b>5.5%</b>	<b>11.9%</b>	<b>12.1%</b>	<b>70.4%</b>
Scotland/Glasgow Variance	-11,325	0.5%	0.4%	-1.5%	0.6%

5.2 As with Further Education performance, regional withdrawal levels are higher than national averages. However, in contrast, for those students who do complete, the number doing so unsuccessfully is lower (-1.5%) than for Scotland as a whole.

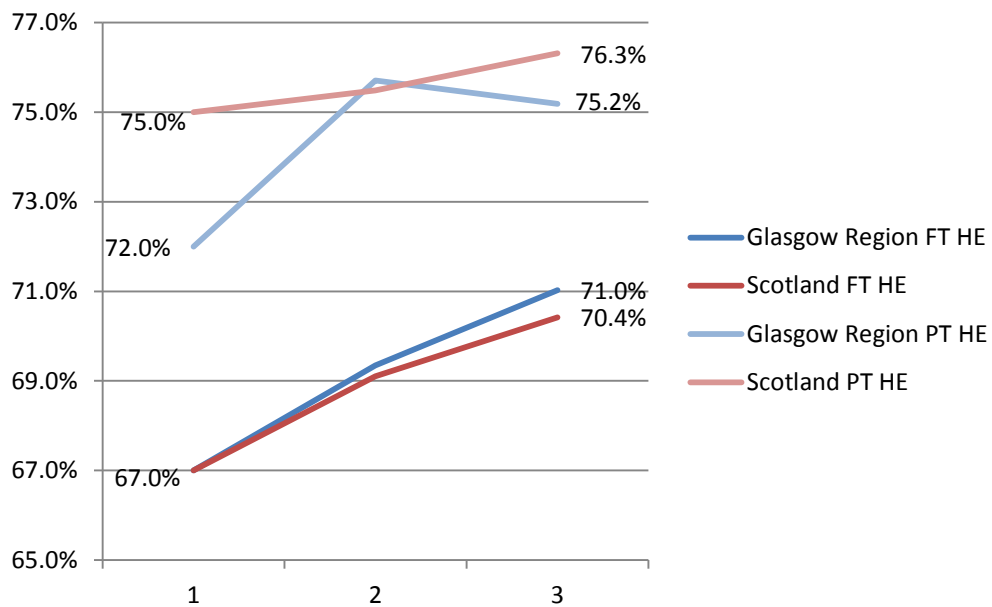
5.3 Part-time Higher Education performance shows a similar pattern. However, the better than average performance of completing students across the Glasgow region is not enough to outweigh the poorer than average retention levels and therefore regional successful completion is lower (-1.1%) than the rate for Scotland as a whole as shown below.

Figure 10. Part-time Higher Education Performance Indicators, 2012/13

PTHE	Total	% Early Withdrawal	% Further Withdrawal	% Completed Unsuccessful	% Completed Successful
City of Glasgow College	1,058	4.7%	4.3%	13.9%	77.1%
Glasgow Clyde College	1,046	5.4%	8.2%	13.0%	73.3%
Glasgow Kelvin College	894	7.2%	6.0%	11.7%	75.1%
<b>Glasgow Region</b>	<b>2,998</b>	<b>5.7%</b>	<b>6.2%</b>	<b>12.9%</b>	<b>75.2%</b>
<b>Scotland</b>	<b>11,050</b>	<b>4.0%</b>	<b>5.7%</b>	<b>14.0%</b>	<b>76.3%</b>
Scotland/Glasgow Variance	-8,052	1.7%	0.5%	-1.1%	-1.1%

5.4 In terms of Higher Education performance over a three-year period, whilst both national and regional successful completion rates have shown an upwards trend, regional successful completion rates have shown a comparatively greater improvements as shown by the diagram overleaf.

**Figure 11. Higher Education Successful Completion Rates, 2010/11 – 2012/13**



**5.5** In terms of individual college performance over the three-year period, the table below shows an improving trend for almost all mode/level categories, with only 1 college showing a slight reduction in part-time achievement rates. In contrast to Further Education achievement rates, this Higher Education data also shows much less year-on-year variation, with fairly consistent annual increases.

**Figure 12. Three-Year Further Education Trend Data for Individual Colleges**

Mode/Level	College	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	Change
Full-time Higher Education	City of Glasgow College	66.0%	69.2%	69.5%	3.5%
	Glasgow Clyde College	70.0%	71.0%	73.8%	3.8%
	Glasgow Kelvin College	64.0%	67.7%	71.7%	7.7%
Part-time Higher Education	City of Glasgow College	72.0%	77.9%	77.1%	5.1%
	Glasgow Clyde College	74.0%	74.0%	73.3%	-0.7%
	Glasgow Kelvin College	71.0%	74.5%	75.1%	4.1%

## 6. Comparison to Regional Outcome Agreement Targets

**6.1** The 2013/14 Regional Outcome Agreement (ROA) did not specify numerical targets for academic performance indicators but within outcome 3.1 (Learners sustain their learning and achieve qualifications) there is a commitment to deliver, “an increase in the proportion of learners achieving a nationally recognised qualification” and “an increase in the proportion of learners completing their course.”

**6.2** Although the data analysed in this report relates to the period before the 2013/14, it does suggest an improving picture regionally, with for example, a 1.1% increase in the

proportion of enrolments achieving a nationally recognised qualification. However, despite this improvement, regional withdrawal rates across all mode and level categories remain higher than across Scotland as a whole.

**6.3** In terms of the 2014/15 ROA, three-year achievement targets were set for successful completion rates for all four mode and level categories. The table below provides an overview of these and the current position as indicated by 2012/13 SFC performance indicator data.

Figure 13. Comparison between 2012/13 Actual Position and ROA 2014/15 Targets

	<b>2012/13 Actual</b>	<b>2014/15 Target</b>	<b>Variance between 2012/13 Actual and 2014/15 Target</b>	<b>2015/16 Target</b>	<b>2016/17 Target</b>	<b>Variance between 2012/13 Actual and 2016/17 Target</b>
Full-time Further Education	62.1%	63.0%	-0.9%	64.0%	65.0%	-2.9%
Part-time Further Education	70.2%	74.6%	-4.4%	75.6%	76.6%	-6.4%
Full-time Higher Education	71.0%	69.8%	1.2%	70.3%	70.8%	0.2%
Part-time Higher Education	75.2%	76.2%	-1.0%	76.7%	77.2%	-2.0%

**6.4** The table above shows that across both modes of Further Education, a gap exists between current actual achievement levels and ROA 2014/15 targets. However, trend data analysed earlier suggests that the region is on track to achieve the full-time Further Education targeted increases. In contrast, the planned part-time Further Education improvements would seem to be at greater risk of non-achievement given the recent downwards regional trend and the significant gap between regional and national achievement levels.

**6.5** In terms of Higher Education targets, as shown above, current achievement levels for full-time Higher Education exceed targeted increases and therefore maintaining the high level of current regional performance would mean that these planned achievement levels are fulfilled. However, for part-time achievement rates, current performance is below targeted levels and the recent trend was downwards. It should be noted though, that in contrast to the Further Education variances, the differences at Higher Education are smaller and with respect to the part-time figures, the base number of enrolments is significantly smaller and therefore relatively minor changes can have a significant impact. Overall, given this context, there does seem to be some risk to non-achievement of the part-time Higher Education targets, but less so than compared to the part-time Further Education targets.