

## Board Meeting

Date of Meeting	Monday 6 October 2014
Paper Title	Curriculum and Estates Review
Agenda Item	4
Paper Number	BM3-B
Responsible Officer	Laurence Howells, Chief Executive, Scottish Funding Council
Status	Disclosable
Action	For Approval

### **Glasgow Regional Strategic Board – 6th October 2014**

#### **Covering paper for Agenda Item 4**

#### **Laurence Howells, Chief Executive, SFC**

I wrote to the Chair of the Regional Strategic Board in early August to inform the Board of progress during the period April-July 2014 with the work that SFC has been jointly undertaking with the three Glasgow Colleges on the curriculum and estates review. Overall I reported good progress with this work and commended the approach taken by the three colleges to address the regional issues and challenges referred to in the Strategic Agreement between the Regional Chair (on behalf of the Glasgow Regional Strategic Board), the Boards of the three Glasgow colleges (now assigned colleges) and SFC.

I am delighted to now report the outstanding work undertaken by the three Principals and the Glasgow Colleges' Strategic Partnership working groups since that time. This work has led to three major plans which the Boards of the assigned colleges will consider at their meetings on 1<sup>st</sup> October. The plans are:

- Draft Curriculum and Estates Plan (Appendix 2)
- Initial Transition Plan (Appendix 3)
- GCSP Strategic Plan – flowing from Strategic Intentions 2020 – which the Regional Board may use as a contribution to their Strategic Plan (Appendix 4)

The process that the colleges have followed in the planning and preparation of the plans adheres to the underlying principles outlined in the *Strategic Agreement* and the overall model/approach taken has been exemplary. It has the potential to deliver for Glasgow a curriculum that:

- Offers provision that is aligned to the needs of learners and offered in the location that best meets their needs (right provision in the right place);
- Provides opportunities in Glasgow for all learners including those furthest from employment and those seeking to progress into higher level study;
- Increases the proportion of activity provided at Further Education levels, offered in the campuses where that provision meets the needs of learners;

- Offers greater opportunity for school/college collaborative working and addresses the priorities identified in the final report of the Commission for Developing Scotland's Young Workforce (I particularly welcome the exciting progress that has already been made on the joint development of the STEM Academy);
- Responds appropriately to ensure pathways to employment, through a strong evidence base and ongoing dialogue with employers and industry partners to understand their needs; and
- Makes the best possible use of the resources and facilities across the three colleges.

**I recommend that the Regional Strategic Board considers all the plans attached and the directions therein, alongside advice from the Boards of the three assigned colleges following their meetings on 1st October, and makes a decision to support the next steps outlined below.**

### **Next steps**

At their Board meeting on 1st October, jointly and then individually, the three Chairs will be invited to formally record their endorsement of the papers and the directions therein.

The attached covering paper (Appendix 1) for the joint meeting of the Boards of City of Glasgow College, Glasgow outlines the recommendations considered by the individual Board with the following critical timeline.

<b>What</b>	<b>When</b>
Plans considered and endorsed by each individual college Board following a joint meeting of the three Boards of the assigned colleges	1 <sup>st</sup> October
Plans and next steps considered at Regional Strategic Board meeting	6 <sup>th</sup> October
Curriculum and Estates Plan (C&E Plan) out for consultation with key stakeholders	October- early November
Consultation ends	End of 1 <sup>st</sup> week in November
C&E Plan revised in light of next round of consultation	End November
Transition Plan more fully developed	November / Early December
C&E Plan presented to Regional Board for consideration and Approval	8 <sup>th</sup> December
If approved – consultation with staff on arrangements for TUPE transfers as appropriate	January 2015 onwards

**Laurence Howells, Chief Executive, SFC**