

Performance and Resources Committee

Date of Meeting	Wednesday, 28 September 2022
Paper Title	Revised Credit Target 2022-23
Agenda Item	13
Paper Number	PRC1-F
Responsible Officer	Martin Boyle, Executive Director
Status	Disclosable
Action	For Decision

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1. This report addresses the matter of the reduction in the credit target for 2022-23, which was carried forward from the previous meeting.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. The committee is recommended to **approve** that the credit target for City of Glasgow College is reduced by 3,000. Subject to approval, this would be effective from 1 August 2022 and is in line with the decision of SFC.

3. Student Activity (credit) targets

- 3.1.** At the previous meetings of this committee, and the Board in June 2022, the regional outcome targets were determined. There was one matter that was carried over from this meeting and is now brought forward for decision.
- 3.2.** The final funding allocation from the Scottish Funding Council (SFC) contained one notable change compared to the indicative allocation. The SFC did not provide any advance information to GCRB prior to the publication of the national announcement. The change related to ‘Reductions in activity targets for large city-centre colleges’¹. The reduction was 3,000 credits per college region and the relevant text is reproduced below:
- “We have reduced the student activity targets for two colleges and one region from the indicative announcement whilst maintaining their teaching funding allocations. This will allow for an increase in the price per place for Edinburgh College, City of Glasgow (CoG) College and North East Scotland College (NESCol) to create greater alignment across the sector.
 - As SFC’s funding responsibility is to the Glasgow Region, it will be for the Glasgow College (sic) Regional Board to decide how to allocate the reduced credits (and unchanged teaching funding) the Region will receive to its assigned colleges.”
- 3.3.** The reduction in the regional target was not allocated to the colleges in June 2022 due to the last-minute nature of the SFC announcement. Further discussions have since taken place with the SFC, and assigned colleges, regarding this matter.
- 3.4.** It is now necessary to reach a decision on the final credit target. It is worth noting that the final target does not change the funding allocation but does enable colleges to prepare their resource plans to deliver credit activity.
- 3.5.** The following factors have been considered in making a recommendation to this committee:
- The decision to reduce the credit target (of City of Glasgow College) has already been taken by the SFC. This decision was based upon the information sourced by its officers of the SFC.
 - Had the information been considered jointly with GCRB, in advance of the announcement, there would have been an opportunity to review the proposal and determined the way forward.
 - To amend the decision of the SFC, after their decision, would require research into the alternatives. In the absence of such research, and compelling evidence to the contrary, there isn’t a strong case to change the earlier decision.
 - It is necessary to reach a decision as soon as possible to enable the colleges to plan the allocation of resources to deliver its credit target.

¹ Sections 14 and 15 of the final allocation.

3.6. The committee is recommended to approve that the credit target for City of Glasgow College is reduced by 3,000. Subject to approval, this would be effective from 1 August 2022 and is in line with the decision of SFC.

4. Risk and Compliance Analysis

4.1. There are no specific risks, or legal implications, associated with this report. The revised credit target enables the college region to progress its resource planning.

5. Financial and Resource Analysis

5.1. There are no financial implications for GCRB as a result of this report. The allocation of the credit target does not result in any change to college funding.

6. Equalities Implications

6.1. There are no direct equalities implications as a result of this report.

7. Learner Implications

7.1. The income received, and resources deployed enable the college region to support its curriculum plans and deliver the learner outcomes in 2022-23.