

Performance & Resources Committee Meeting

Date of Meeting	Wednesday 27 September 2023
Paper Title	FWDF Progress Report 2022-23
Agenda Item	12
Paper Number	PRC1-G
Responsible Officer	Jim Godfrey, Finance and Resources Director
Status	Disclosable
Action	For noting

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1. This report provides an update in respect of the Flexible Workforce Development Fund (FWDF).

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. The Committee is recommended to **note** that the:

- FWDF funds held by GCRB (at 31 August 2023), that relate to 2021-22, are £184,473.
- Glasgow colleges provided the latest FWDF progress reports on 31 July 2023, with the next returns due by 30 September 2023.
- SFC allocated a further £106,930 for FWDF activity in 2022-23 on 10 July 2023.
- FWDF funds held by GCRB (at 31 August 2023), that relate to 2022-23, are £843,125.
- Of the funds held by GCRB (at 31 July 2023), £232,445 was paid to the Glasgow colleges in August 2023 for activity claimed at 31 July 2023.
- Funds for 2023-24 have yet to be confirmed by the Scottish Funding Council.

3. Background

3.1. The region has actively promoted the flexible workforce development fund since it was introduced in September 2017. The level of activity was impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic but has subsequently increased. Funding of £860k was unused, because of the pandemic, and has been returned to the Scottish Funding Council¹. In accordance with the SFC's monitoring arrangements, the latest reporting returns were submitted at 31 July 2023.

Flexible Workforce Fund	Revised allocation £'m	Training delivered £'m	(Over)/Under-utilisation £'m	% of funds used
2017-18	£1.92	£1.07	£0.85	56%
2018-19	£1.92	£1.89	£0.03	98%
2019-20	£1.79	£1.73	£0.06	97%
2020-21	£2.37	£2.32	£0.05	98%
2021-22	£2.81	£2.60	£0.21	93%
2022-23	£1.99	£1.15	£0.84	58%

3.2. The funding allocation for 2022-23 is significantly reduced compared to previous years. The allocation to the Glasgow colleges was agreed in January 2023 with further allocations in March and July 2023.

3.3. The detailed analysis, for each tranche of funding, is set out in Annexes A to E of this report.

4. 2021-22 Funds to be utilised by the Glasgow colleges (at 31 August 2023)

4.1 The amounts, that remain available to be claimed by each college, are set out in the table below. These funds are currently held by GCRB and can be paid when a college provides evidence that a course, that was contracted in earlier periods, has been delivered.

College	2021-22 Phase 1 ² £'000	2021-22 Phase 2 ³ £'000	Total £'000
City of Glasgow College	£69	£22	£91
Glasgow Clyde College	£79	£10	£89
Glasgow Kelvin College	£4	£0	£4
Total	£152	£32	£184

4.1.1. The Committee is recommended to **note** that the FWDF funds held by GCRB (at 31 July 2023), that relate to 2021-22, are £184,473.

¹ The amounts were £127k (2019-20), £634k (2020-21) and £99k (2021-22)

² Phase 1 funds are available to employers who pay the Apprenticeship Levy

³ Phase 2 funds are available to employers who are small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)

4.2. Flexible Workforce Development 2022-23

4.2.1. The Glasgow colleges progressed FWDF activity in 2022-23. Monitoring returns were submitted at the end of March, May and July 2023. Further returns are due at the end of September 2023. These returns are submitted to GCRB in the first instance before being consolidated and sent to the Scottish Funding Council. The information supplied also provides evidence to support the payments from GCRB to the three colleges.

4.2.2. The Committee is recommended to:

- **Note** that the Glasgow colleges provided the latest FWDF progress reports on 31 July 2023 with the next returns due by 30 September 2023.

4.2.3. On 10 July 2023, SFC offered an additional £106,930 of FWDF funding for the year ending 31 July 2023. The offer was accepted, and funding received by GCRB on 15 August 2023. The following additional amounts were allocated to each college:

College	2022-23
City of Glasgow College	£49,742
Glasgow Clyde College	£35,192
Glasgow Kelvin College	£21,996
Total	£106,930

4.2.4. The Committee is recommended to:

- **Note** that the SFC allocated a further £106,930 for FWDF activity in 2022-23 on 10 July 2023

4.3. 2022-23 Funds to be utilised by the Glasgow colleges (at 31 August 2023)

4.3.1. The amounts, that remain available to be claimed by each college, are set out in the table below. These funds are currently held by GCRB and can be paid when a college provides evidence that a course, that was contracted in earlier periods, has been delivered.

College	2022-23 Phase 1 ⁴ £'000	2022-23 Phase 2 ⁵ £'000	2022-23 Reallocated £'000	Total £'000
City of Glasgow College	£279	£81	£197	£ 557
Glasgow Clyde College	£119	£1	£35	£ 155
Glasgow Kelvin College	£51	£14	£66	£ 131
Total	£449	£96	£298	£ 843

4.3.2. The Committee is recommended to:

- **Note** that the funds held by GCRB (at 31 August 2023) that relate to 2022-23 is £843,125.

⁴ Phase 1 funds are available to employers who pay the Apprenticeship Levy

⁵ Phase 2 funds are available to employers who are small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)

5. 2023-24 Funds

- 5.1.** Currently, there is no information in respect of the FWDF programme for 2023-24. The absence of any information from the Scottish Funding Council is a risk to the programme as the teams are unable to commit to providing future training courses to levy payers and small medium enterprises.

6. Risk and Compliance Analysis

- 6.1.** The arrangements set out in this report, and those previously considered by the Committee, are designed to minimise risks. In particular, these actions are intended to minimise the risk that “Effective working relationships are not developed/maintained with key external stakeholders” (Risk 002). However, there is a further risk that funds the funds available are insufficient to meet employer demand.
- 6.2.** There are no legal, or compliance, implications identified in this report.

7. Financial and Resource Analysis

- 7.1.** The financial implications of the Flexible Workforce Development Fund are outlined in the report.

8. Equalities Implications

- 8.1.** There are no equalities implications as a direct result of this report.

9. Learner Implications

- 9.1.** The curriculum delivery, supported by these funds, provides support to the achievement of ambitions set out in the Glasgow Region Strategic Plan. Delivery, supported by the Flexible Workforce Development Fund, makes a significant contribution to meeting the aim of meeting Glasgow’s ambitions working with employers to deliver a range and depth of training opportunities.

FWDF Allocation 2021-22 – Phase 1

The fund is now closed and fully reconciled. Further funding, up to £163,000, remains available to be claimed.

Flexible Workforce Fund 2021-22 – Phase 1	City of Glasgow College £'000	Glasgow Clyde College £'000	Glasgow Kelvin College £'000	Total £'000
Revised allocation	£1,149	£583	£530	£2,262
Value of training delivered/started at 31 July 2023	£1,080	£504	£526	£2,110
Percentage of revised allocation delivered	94%	86%	99%	93%
Balance remaining	£69	£79	£4	£152
Value of training contractually agreed but not started at 31 July 2023	£69	£76	£0	£145
Funding paid at 31 July 2023	£1,080	£493	£542	£2,115
Funding to be paid 15 August 2023	£0	£11	£0	£11
Potential funding available to be claimed	£69	£79	£4	£163

FWDF Allocation 2021-22 – Phase 2

The fund is now closed and fully reconciled. Further funding, up to £38,000, remains available to be claimed.

Flexible Workforce Fund 2021-22 – Phase 2	City of Glasgow College £'000	Glasgow Clyde College £'000	Glasgow Kelvin College £'000	Total £'000
Revised Allocation	£245	£164	£108	£528
Value of training delivered/started at 31 July 2023	£223	£153	£108	£484
Percentage of activity delivered	91%	93%	100%	92%
Value of training contractually agreed but not started at 31 July 2023	£22	£3	£0	£22
Funding paid at 31 July 2023	£223	£148	£108	£479
Funding to be paid 15 August 2023	£0	£5	£0	£5
Potential funding available to be claimed	£22	£11	£0	£38

FWDF Allocation 2022-23 – Phase 1

The allocations were made by SFC, and GCRB, in January, March and July 2023. Work is underway to deliver this activity.

Flexible Workforce Fund 2022-23 – Phase 1	City of Glasgow College £'000	Glasgow Clyde College £'000	Glasgow Kelvin College £'000	Total £'000
Allocation	£587	£415	£258	£1,260
Value of training delivered/started at 31 July 2023	£308	£296	£207	£811
Percentage of activity delivered	52%	71%	80%	64%
Value of training contractually agreed but not started at 31 July 2023	£319	£153	£73	£545
Funding paid at 31 July 2023	£276	£221	£157	£654
Funding to be paid 15 August 2023	£32	£75	£50	£157
Potential funding available to be claimed	£279	£119	£51	£449

FWDF Allocation 2022-23 – Phase 2

The allocations were made by SFC, and GCRB, in January, March and July 2023. Work is underway to deliver this activity.

Flexible Workforce Fund 2022-23 – Phase 2	City of Glasgow College £'000	Glasgow Clyde College £'000	Glasgow Kelvin College £'000	Total £'000
Allocation	£147	£104	£65	£316
Value of training delivered/started at 31 July 2023	£67	£103	£50	£220
Percentage of activity delivered	46%	99%	77%	70%
Value of training contractually agreed but not started at 31 July 2023	£90	£33	£14	£143
Funding paid at 31 July 2023	£62	£91	£44	£197
Funding to be paid 15 August 2023	£5	£12	£6	£23
Potential funding available to be claimed	£80	£1	£15	£96

FWDF Allocation 2022-23 – Redistribution

The allocations below were made by GCRB in March 2023. Work is underway to deliver this activity.

Flexible Workforce Fund 2022-23 – Redistribution	City of Glasgow College £'000	Glasgow Clyde College £'000	Glasgow Kelvin College £'000	Total £'000
Allocation – March 2023	£194	£0	£112	£306
Allocation – July 2023	£50	£35	£22	£107
Value of training delivered/started at 31 July 2023	£47	£0	£68	£115
Percentage of activity delivered	19%	0%	51%	28%
Value of training contractually agreed but not started at 31 July 2023	£163	£0	£44	£207
Funding paid at 31 July 2023	£36	£0	£42	£78
Funding to be paid 15 August 2023	£11	£0	£26	£37
Potential funding available to be claimed	£197	£35	£66	£298