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## Performance & Resources Committee

Date of Meeting	Wednesday 8 December 2021
Paper Title	Delegated Decisions to Executive Director
Agenda Item	7
Paper Number	PRC2-B
Responsible Officer	Martin Boyle, Executive Director
Status	Disclosable
Action	For Noting

### 1. Executive Summary

- 1.1. This report notifies the Committee of two decisions delegated to the Executive Director under revised delegated decision-making procedures agreed by the Board in June 2021.

### 2. Recommendations

- 2.1. The Committee is invited to **note** decisions relating to:
- allocation of additional funding for free period products 2021-22;
  - arrangements for disbursement of Saltire Funding 2021.

### 3. Background

- 3.1. Under the procedure for the delegation of decision-making powers approved by the Board in June 2021, the Board Chair may decide, in consultation with the Chair of the Performance and Resources Committee, whether a decision on allocation of additional SFC funds may be made by the Executive Director, or the Performance & Resources Committee, or should be referred to the full Board.
- 3.2. Since the last Committee meeting in October, the Executive Director has brought the following allocations of funding to the attention of the Board Chair.
- Funding for free period products
  - Saltire Scholarship Funding
- 3.3. In both cases the funding allocation has been time-specific, and the Executive Director has confirmed with College Principals their support for the proposed allocation of funds. On that basis, the Chair of the Board determined, further to consultation with the PRC Chair, that the allocations were non-contentious and the allocation decisions should be made and implemented by the Executive Director.
- 3.5. In line with the agreed procedure, the Board was notified by email of decisions, and noted the decisions at its meeting on 29 November.
- 3.6. A more detailed report on each of the funding allocations has been saved onto BoardEffect for Members' reference:
- <https://gcrb.boardeffect.com/downloads/vfile/1395599>
- <https://gcrb.boardeffect.com/downloads/vfile/1395596>
- 3.7. A summary of the funds' purposes and decisions made is provided below.

### 4. Free Period Products

- 4.1. A regional funding allocation of £84,500 was allocated to Assigned Colleges on the following basis:
- Proportion of female student numbers (excluding school pupils) at each institution.
  - An estimated 5% uptake from students at colleges and a 10% uptake at universities, reflecting the estimated average uptake in Academic Year (AY) 2018-19.
  - An increased cost of 19.4p per product, reflecting the average unit price of period products purchased by colleges and universities during AY 2018-19.
- 4.2. The basis of the allocation is the same as has been used previously for 2020-21. Therefore, the proposed allocation (2021-22) for each college in Glasgow is as follows:

College Funding	Free Period Products	Administration	Total
City of Glasgow College	£32,647	£2,806	£35,453
Glasgow Clyde College	£26,034	£2,238	£28,272
Glasgow Kelvin College	£19,131	£1,644	£20,775
<b>Total</b>	<b>£77,812</b>	<b>£6,688</b>	<b>£84,500</b>

## **5. Saltire Fund**

- 5.1.** For the financial year 2021-22, the Scottish Government has provided additional funding to support scholarships in the college sector.
- 5.2.** The funding allocation is to allow institutions to cover a proportion of the tuition fees for some of their incoming students from the European Union (EU) and European Economic Area (EEA) starting in Academic Year 2021-22.
- 5.3.** Summarised eligibility criteria are:
  - This funding is to be used by institutions as an award against EU and EEA students' tuition fees only.
  - Students must be citizens, or permanent residents, of an EU or EEA country and have a conditional or unconditional offer of a place at a Scottish university or college on an eligible course that will be delivered physically in Scotland.
  - Courses must be full-time, in any subject area, at the Higher National (HN) level, i.e. Higher National Certificate (HNC) or Higher National Diploma (HND)<sup>1</sup>.
- 5.4.** One scholarship place is based upon an allocation of £4,000 for a college place. For colleges/college regions, the allocations were based on the average percentage shares of the sector total number of EU students in the academic sessions 2017-18 to 2019-20. This has resulted in an allocation of 9 places (£36,000) to the Glasgow college region (out of a total allocation to the college sector of 18 places and £72,000).
- 5.5.** Initial feedback from colleges executives, indicates that there are few current students who will meet the criteria. Applications, from eligible students, are submitted to the GCRB Executive Director (with an initial closing date of 30 November 2021). At this point, there is uncertainty as to whether the number of eligible students, in the Glasgow college region, will exceed the number of scholarships available.

## **6. Risk & Compliance Implications**

- 6.1.** Revised decision-making arrangements are designed to minimise risk (002) that "GCRB does not develop/maintain effective working relationships with key external stakeholders".
- 6.2.** The provision of additional funding mitigates the risk that 'Financial Sustainability is jeopardised by a reduction in funding and/or an increase in costs' (Risk 008).
- 6.3.** Reports available on BoardEffects (on the links above) include an assessment of risk in relation to individual decisions.

## **7. Equalities Implications**

- 7.1.** The provision of additional funding for free period products support equalities aims.

## **8. Finance and Resource Implications**

- 8.1.** Financial and resource implications are outlined in the report.

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<sup>1</sup> Within the College setting. Other courses are eligible within a University.

## **9. Learner Implications**

**9.1.** The funds will provide direct support to learners.