

Draft Minute of the Performance and Resources Committee held on Wednesday 28 September 2022

Present	
Dave Brown (Chair)	Sheila Meikle
Emma Leslie	Paul Smart
In Attendance	
Robin Ashton (Vice-Principal, GKC)	Marianne Philp (Interim Board Secretary)
Jim Godfrey (Finance and Resources Director)	Stuart Thompson (Vice Principal, CoGC)
Janie McCusker (Board Chair)	Jon Vincent (Principal, Glasgow Clyde College)
Wendy Odedina (Executive Assistant)	Anwulika Umeh (Co-opted Member)
Apologies	
Moira Connolly	Martin Boyle (Executive Director)
Sakshi Sircar	Derek Smeall (Principal, Glasgow Kelvin College)
	Paul Little (Principal, City of Glasgow College)

1. Introduction and Welcome

Paper Number: Verbal

1.1 Discussion

The Chair welcomed members and attendees to the meeting. He informed members that he had been asked to Chair the meeting in the absence of Moira Connolly who was unable to attend. Members agreed to this proposal.

The Chair welcomed Robin Ashton, attending in place of Derek Smeall, and Stuart Thompson, attending in place of Paul Little.

In particular the Chair welcomed Emma Leslie, new student member of the committee to her first meeting. He noted this would also be the first meeting of new committee member Sakshi Sircar who is unable to attend on this occasion.

2. Apologies

Paper Number: Verbal

2.1 Decision

Apologies were received for Moira Connolly, Sakshi Sircar, Martin Boyle, Paul Little and Derek Smeall.

3. Declarations of Interest

Paper Number: Verbal

3.1 Decision

The Chair reminded members that it is their personal responsibility to indicate to the Chair at any point during the meeting if they have, or may be perceived as having, a conflict of interest under any item on the agenda.

4. Chair's Business

Paper Number: Verbal

4.1 Discussion

In the absence of the usual Committee Chair, there were no matters to note.

5. Minutes of the Committee Meetings

Paper Number: PRC1-A

5.1 Decision

The minute of the Committee meeting held on 8 June 2022 was **agreed** as an accurate record.

6. Evaluation of Delivery of Outcome Agreement 2021-22

Paper Number: Verbal

6.1 Decision

In the absence of the Executive Director, it was agreed to defer item to next meeting. The GCRB Executive will share any information in advance where possible.

7. Programme of Action Progress Update 2021-22

Paper Number: Verbal

7.1 Decision

In the absence of the Executive Director, it was agreed to defer item to next meeting.

8. Capital Funding 2021-22

Paper Number: PRC1-B

8.1 Discussion

The Finance and Resources Director presented the paper noting progress made in relation to capital funding 2021-22. He noted that these projects are now drawing to a conclusion as they related to the financial period of end March 2022.

He noted that information has now been received from Glasgow Clyde College. The Principal of Glasgow Clyde College gave apologies for the delay in providing this and provided assurance around the projects in his college.

8.2 Decision

The Committee **noted**:

- the progress made by the colleges in respect of the capital projects in the financial year ending 31 March 2022.
- that Glasgow Clyde College has not provided the up-to-date information (despite several requests). This was the same situation at the last meeting of this committee in June 2022.
- the GCRB Executive Director will discuss the matter of financial reporting with the Principal of Glasgow Clyde College and agree how this can be improved.

9. FWDF Progress Report 2021-22

Paper Number: PRC1-C

9.1 Discussion

The Finance and Resources Director presented the report noting that activity has now returned to a more normal level following Covid restrictions and the impact on businesses seeking training. He noted that guidance is still awaited from Scottish Government regarding funding for 2022-23 with an element of risk that this could be reduced.

The Principal of Glasgow Clyde College acknowledged that his college has struggled to fully utilise its allocation and are working to address this moving forward.

It was discussed that Covid recovery, and current cost of living pressures, are still affecting some businesses in prioritising training. It was also noted that moving commercial activity to FWDF carries risk in terms of financial sustainability.

9.2 Decision

The Committee **noted**:

- Of the original 2019-20 allocation (£1,919,000), training totalling £1,734,000 has been delivered, an amount of £127,000 has been returned to SFC and a balance of £58,000 remains.
- Of the original 2020-21 allocation (£2,878,000), training totalling £2,317,000 has been delivered, an amount of £508,000 has been returned to SFC and a balance of £53,000 remains.
- Of the 2021-22 allocation (£2,968,000), training totalling £1,301,000 has been delivered/commenced at 31 July 2022, with a further £1,210,000 contractually committed.

10. GCRB Costs 2021-22

Paper Number: PRC1-D

10.1 Discussion

The Finance and Resources Director presented the GCRB costs for 2021-22 for financial year ending 31 July 2022. He noted that the end result is in line with budget with some movement across individual budget headings.

10.2 Decision

The committee **noted** the actual outturn against budget for 2021-22.

11. Student Funding Review 2021-2022

Paper Number: PRC1-E

11.1 Discussion

The Finance and Resources Director presented the paper noting positive progress from the regional working group set up in this area and noted the summary of actions from its latest meeting for members' information.

11.2 Decision

The Committee **noted** the progress to date.

12. Outcome Agreement 2022-23 Progress Update

Paper Number: Verbal

12.1 Discussion

In the absence of the Executive Director, it was agreed to defer this item to next meeting. In the interim, the Chair asked each college representative to provide a short update on the start of the academic session for 2022-23.

The Principal of Glasgow Clyde College noted his college on profile for the most part for its recruitment at this stage in year, noting a challenging external environment which may affect withdrawals. He noted that financial outlook is the biggest concern for the college currently and the affect on students.

The Vice Principal from Glasgow Kelvin College noted that students are very happy to be back on campus which is a positive start to the session. He noted that HE recruitment is down at Glasgow Kelvin and spoke to the factors that may be influencing this. He echoed concerns around financial challenges.

The Vice Principal at City of Glasgow College noted consistent themes with the other two colleges around financial sustainability. He explained that the student profile at City of Glasgow College is different in that there is more full time HE and that Year 2 HN enrolment was very poor across a mix of curriculum subjects, which the college is investigating to ascertain the factors behind.

The committee discussed the current work place trends, the effects of the pandemic and Brexit on the economy and businesses.

12.2 Decision

The committee noted the verbal reports.

13. Revised Credit Target 2022-23

Paper Number: PRC1-F

13.1 Discussion

The Finance and Resources Director presented the paper which he noted follows discussions at the June meetings of the P&R committee and board. He noted that GCRB have met with the SFC to discuss this matter and SFC acknowledged that they could have handled the matter differently. He noted that it is now very difficult to make any changes and the GCRB Executive therefore recommend to allocate the reduction in credits to City of Glasgow College, in line with the SFC decision.

The college colleagues agreed with this proposal noting that Glasgow is not well funded under the current national funding model compared with other college regions. They noted that further reductions in activity will be required in future years if the financial outlook does not improve.

The committee discussed the opportunity for the college sector to influence government on future funding and basis for allocations, and the importance of a holistic solution rather than a piecemeal approach as has been the case in this instance.

13.2 Decisions

The committee **approved** that the credit target for City of Glasgow College is reduced by 3,000, effective from 1 August 2022, and in line with the decision of SFC.

14. Capital Funding 2022-23

Paper Number: PRC1-G

14.1 Discussion

The Finance and Resources Director presented the paper with updates in capital projects for the current session.

The Vice Principal from City of Glasgow College reminded the committee of his college's position with regard to the unitary charge for the new buildings and challenges with replacing and maintaining equipment.

The committee discussed the national work on infrastructure and estates and the need for updated information to evidence the risk to effective delivery of education, and the importance of being on the front foot to address this.

14.2 Decisions

The committee **noted**:

- the progress made by the colleges in respect of the capital projects in the financial year ending 31 March 2023.
- that Glasgow Clyde College has not provided the up-to-date information (despite several requests). The information provided in this report is as of 31 May 2022.

- the GCRB Executive Director will discuss the matter of financial reporting with the Principal of Glasgow Clyde College and agree how this can be improved.

It was also **agreed** that the Board Chair and GCRB Executive should consider setting up a working group to consider the points raised in the wider discussion around capital and delivery, linking this to sustainability and the circular economy.

15. GCRB Costs 2022-23

Paper Number: PRC1-H

15.1 Discussion

The Finance and Resources Director presented the paper noting limited expenditure due to the period covering the start of the financial year.

The committee discussed the funding for the Programme for Action and it was noted that movement is expected on this before the next meeting of the committee.

15.2 Decision

The committee noted the report.

16. Financial Forecast Return 2022-23

Paper Number: PRC1-I

16.1 Discussion

The Finance and Resources Director presented the FFR for GCRB noting that colleges submit these individually to the SFC. He noted that he will consolidate for the region and send to members for information.

The committee discussed the assumptions that the FFR is based on as not being fully realistic and the colleges explained the additional work they are undertaking to plan more realistically.

The Vice Principal from Glasgow Kelvin College noted that his college is expected to rapidly downsize to avoid becoming insolvent. The Principal of Glasgow Clyde College agreed that volume in his college will have to reduce and this will have most impact on support staff. The Vice Principal of City of Glasgow College echoed concerns noting that his college has already been significantly affected due to Covid having affected their income profile, and additional budgetary pressures meaning that the college will have to become smaller to survive, noting that they are too seeking to reduce staff numbers substantially.

16.2 Decision

The committee **noted** the financial forecast return.

17. Long Term Agenda

Paper Number: PRC1-J

17.1 Decision

The Committee **agreed** the long-term agenda.

18. Review of Disclosable Status

Paper Number: Verbal

18.1 Decision

The Interim Board Secretary confirmed all papers as being disclosable.

19. Date of Next Meeting

Paper Number: Verbal

19.1 Decision

The date of the next meeting was **agreed** as 14 December 2022.