

## Board of Management

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>Wednesday 14 March 2018</b>
<b>Paper No.</b>	<b>BoM5-F</b>
<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Subject of Paper</b>	<b>Glasgow College's Regional Board – Regional Briefing</b>
<b>FOISA Status</b>	<b>Disclosable</b>
<b>Primary Contact</b>	<b>P Clark, College Secretary</b>
<b>Date of production</b>	<b>March 2018</b>
<b>Action</b>	<b>For Noting</b>

### 1. Recommendations

To note the Glasgow Colleges' Regional Board update for Board members.



# Glasgow Region Update for Board Members

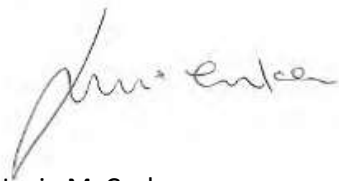
## Introduction from the GCRB Chair

In one of my first communications as Chair of GCRB, I am delighted to circulate this summary of the GCRB Board Meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2017.

It is my aim to help realise the region's full potential by building a truly integrated college system where all our efforts focus on improving the lives and life chances of Glasgow's people. December's Board meeting illustrates just how well and energetically the Glasgow Region is progressing towards that goal. I am passionate about inclusion and am pleased to be sharing reports of activities designed to widen access and create fair and meaningful opportunities for Glasgow's college learners.

Glasgow's colleges, the Board and all our partners have worked impressively together to build this regional approach. The same collective spirit is evident in our work on the ROA, the Curriculum Hubs and on the regional Stem Strategy. The strength of this collaboration will determine the success of everything we do to build Glasgow Region's inclusive, responsive and effective college system.

This is my 'listening phase'. I am meeting people from throughout the region and its college system to understand their work ambitions. In that spirit, if you would like to share your views on this Board Update, I would be pleased to hear from you.



Janie McCusker

Chair of the Glasgow Colleges' Regional Board.

## GCRB Board Meeting of 18 December 2017

### Reviewing shared progress

The Board considered and approved GCRB's Annual Report and Accounts for 2016-17. These now await government approval and the Board is now looking forwards to deepening regional collaboration and effectiveness by consolidating the colleges' accounts from this year onwards. This move will create a broad view of our resources and help us to deliver a more coherent and effective regional college system.

Based on the review of regional performance contained within the GCRB Annual Report, we are pleased to have published our Annual Review for 2016-17. It outlines the region's impressive and collective progress towards delivering the inclusive, responsive and effective college system that Glasgow and its learners deserve.

[Read our Annual Review here](#)

## Committee Annual Reports

### **Audit Committee**

Our Audit Committee reported on the scope of internal audit and on improvements recommended by these audits. It has also considered risk management processes, accounting policies, anti-fraud policies, whistle-blowing processes, and the relevant Audit Scotland Reports. The Committee will continue to monitor and develop these activities, while also focusing on:

- Consolidating the regional accounts to give an even and complete view of regional finances and support the longer term strategic financial planning.
- Ensuring that GCRB fulfils the arrangements for assurance, accountability, and internal control that are required of a fully operational fundable body.

[Read the Audit Committee's Annual Report in full](#)

### **Nominations & Remuneration Committee**

GCRB's rapid development, its new fully fundable body status, and increasing regional collaboration have meant that this has been an active year for the committee. Its priorities for the coming months reflect this progress and focus on:

- Further developing GCRB's employer arrangements, including our living wage accreditation and integration of Fair Work values;
- Board self-evaluation arrangements and an externally validated review processes;
- Planning development planning for the GCRB Board; and
- Extending and strengthening collaboration with the colleges

[Read the Nominations & Remuneration Committee's Annual Report](#)

### **Performance and Resources Committee**

Regionalisation has generated interesting and productive work for this committee. It will continue develop and strengthen our management of resources and performance and will address the following priorities:

- Development of regional strategies for Finance, Estates and ICT;
- Consolidating the regional annual accounts;
- Planning for the withdrawal of ESF funding;
- Supporting increases in additional childcare provision;
- Delivering ESOL provision across the Community Planning Partnerships;
- Delivering and developing the Flexible Workforce Development Funding;
- Building a regional approach to student data management.

[Read the Performance and Resources Committee's complete Annual Report](#)

## Curriculum Hub reviews

To support the development of curriculum planning for the 2018-19 ROA, the six Curriculum Hubs were asked to undertake evaluative reviews of current regional delivery. Reviews considered how well each curriculum meets regional economic and social needs, and the effectiveness of its learners' journeys. They identified strengths and opportunities to develop the work of each hub and ensure that the extent and nature of the college provision will:

- Match regional skills needs and support economic growth.
- Equip prospective and progressing student with the skills to build successful careers.
- Develop a truly inclusive college system.
- Continuously improve our effectiveness.

[Read their full reviews](#)

## Intensifying outcomes through the Regional Outcome Agreement

A draft report on the 2018-19 Regional Outcome Agreement addresses the Scottish Government's intensification agenda and the SFC's consequent expectations in the areas of: widening access; articulation; attainment and retention; gender; Developing the Young Workforce (DYW); skills; innovation and; apprenticeships.

The draft report suggests that the GCRB focus on a subset of key targets which align to, and exemplify, regional strategic ambitions. These are:

- Increasing the participation of learners from deprived postcodes and other priority groups.
- Improving regional retention and attainment rates.
- Delivering more coherent Senior Phase pathways.
- Increasing opportunities for learners to progress to degree level.
- Increasing work-based learning.
- Delivering an inclusive and supportive student experience.
- Supporting every learner into a positive post course destination.

[Read the report on our ROA](#)

## Taking the Scottish Business Pledge

The Board agreed to make the Scottish Business Pledge; a values-led partnership between Government and business. This College Region's ambitions and policies already align closely with the nine-point pledge and whose aims are to boost productivity, competitiveness, sustainable employment, and workforce engagement and development.

[Read the Board Paper](#)

## A regional STEM strategy

In October, the Scottish Government published a STEM Education and Training Strategy for Scotland. It envisages “... a Scotland where everyone is encouraged and supported to develop their STEM skills throughout their lives, enabling them to be inquiring, productive and innovative, in order to grow STEM literacy in society and drive inclusive economic growth.”

The Glasgow Colleges’ mission dovetails well with the national strategy and, for the first time, we can offer a regionally coherent response. A STEM Hub will strengthen regional collaboration. It will also support the development of our curriculum; of learning and vocational pathways; of gender inclusion and; of professional excellence. All this will contribute to our building Scotland’s most inclusive, responsive and effective college system.

[Read about the regional STEM strategy](#)