

Board of Management

Date of Meeting	Wednesday 5 December 2018
Paper No.	BoM3-I
Agenda Item	15
Subject of Paper	Glasgow College's Regional Board – Regional Briefing
FOISA Status	Disclosable
Primary Contact	P Clark, College Secretary
Date of production	November 2018
Action	For Noting

1. Recommendations

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

GCRB Update for College Board Members

Board Meeting of 29 October 2018

This is the last Board Update of 2018 and, before I write anything else, I'd like to thank all Board Members for your work throughout the year. I appreciate that, in contributing your skills, experience and ideas, you are also committing your time and energies to the work of the Board. We are making significant progress in building an excellent college system for Glasgow and this is due, in no small measure, to you.

Evidence of progress is clear in the recent ROA evaluation, where we were able to show that we have exceeded most of our targets and that we have effective plans in place to address work that still needs to be done. I look forward to integrating the SFC's new priorities into the development of our next ROA.

Collaboration is a key component in delivering the aims of the Glasgow College Region and, as such, is one of our core values. The Board heard evidence of further valuable collaboration from our Regional Leads and through the Joint Boards event in September.

Following the publication of the Enterprise and Skills Strategic Plan and of the 2018 Glasgow Regional Skills Assessment, we are working with partners to align our regional curriculum and delivery with the needs of Glasgow's economy.

I thank Maureen McKenna for her insightful presentation at our Board meeting on 'Getting it right for every child in Glasgow'. GCRB is committed to supporting its aims of inclusion, access and attainment.

This Board update includes, for the first time, a summary of our recent connections with our stakeholders. I hope that you find this to be a useful insight into our ambitions and collaborative approach.

I hope to see you all at our Christmas Reception on 11 December but would like, in the meantime, to wish you all a Happy Christmas and New Year.



Janie McCusker

Chair, Glasgow Colleges' Regional Board

ROA evaluation and development

The Board considered an evaluation of progress towards the goals of our 2017-18 Regional Outcome Agreement. We were pleased to report that the region had met or exceeded regional targets and expectations in the following areas.

- Delivering core and additional European Social Funded Credits.
- Improving skills alignment to regional and national economic needs.
- Delivering (over target) on Childcare training at SCQF levels 7-9.
- Widening access.
- Student outcomes.
- Positive leaver destinations.
- Developing the Young Workforce.

The Board noted the evidence the report provided of the significant commitment and contribution of the colleges to delivery of regional goals. We were also able to report and explain mitigated successes in learner attainment and student satisfaction.

[Read the report.](#)

The Board reviewed and discussed the SFC's guidance for the development of College Outcome Agreements: 2018-19 to 2020-21. The new ROA guidance is broadly similar to that of previous years but will focus more strongly on mental health and well-being, widening access for priority groups, and on aspects of high performing institutions.

The Board agreed that for 2019-20 it would give particular focus to progressing the following six priority areas:

- **Skills Alignment and Employer Engagement:** improving the alignment of skills training to employment needs, with priority given to Childcare, Digital Skills and STEM.
- **Access and Learning:** widening access to the full regional curriculum and improving retention and attainment.
- **Developing the Young Workforce:** delivering on national DYW commitments and tackle gender imbalances at subject level.
- **Learner Journey:** creating seamless inter-college progression and increasing successful progression to work or further study.
- **Mental Health and Wellbeing:** providing access to high quality and consistent support for good mental health and well-being.
- **Professional Learning and Development:** nurturing a regional learning community through participation in collaborative CPD opportunities.

[Read the report.](#)

Regional collaboration

The Board considered and endorsed evidence of successful regional collaboration.

They heard about the work of our Regional Leads and their combined work on Continuing Professional Development, Student Data, Student Experience, Developing the Young Workforce and on Foundation Apprenticeships. New Regional Leads will drive collaboration to achieve our goals in Attainment, Articulation and STEM.

At the first Joint Boards Development Event in September, board members and staff from throughout the region learned about and discussed the importance and possibilities of diversifying boards' membership to reflect and represent Glasgow's population. The Boards are now planning activities to support diversity.

The same event was used to identify opportunities to optimise collaboration between the boards. As a result of strongly positive feedback, the four Board Secretaries are planning further joint events.

[Read the report.](#)

Working Collaboratively for a Better Scotland - Enterprise and Skills Strategic Plan

The Enterprise and Skills Strategic Board has published its strategic plan, *Working Collaboratively for a Better Scotland*, which outlines actions to improve productivity and inclusive growth. It focuses on four connected missions: Skills for the Future; Business Models and Workplace Innovation; Business Creation and Growth and; Exports. As colleges will contribute heavily to the plan's success, the Board considered its content and agreed to support its aims.

[Read the report and the strategic plan.](#)

Improving educational outcomes; Getting it right for every child in Glasgow

Maureen McKenna, Executive Director of Education for Glasgow City Council and GCRB board member, presented on the challenges and barriers to education facing too many of Glasgow's children. She illustrated recent progress in addressing disadvantage and outlined plans to raise attainment and achievement and to support children in the context of a Nurturing City.

2018 Glasgow Regional Skills Assessment

The Board discussed Skills Development Scotland's 2018 Regional Skills Assessment (RSA). This provides robust evidence to support colleges' strategic skills investment planning.

Glasgow's 2018 RSA shows that:

- The region's economic and employment growth is expected to outperform the Scottish average over the next decade, driven largely by the private services sector.
- Glasgow's productivity is lower than that of the Scottish average.
- Employment growth will be mainly in full time work. The construction; administration and support services and; professional, scientific and technical activities sectors will grow, while the service sector will generate most jobs.
- The region's population is expected to grow by almost 71,000 by 2041.
- Expansion and replacement demands will result in 222,800 job openings in the next decade.

Board members' views are being integrated into curriculum planning for the 2019-20 Regional Outcome Agreement.

[Read the Report](#)

Connecting with stakeholders

Richard Lochhead MSP, Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science, visited the Glasgow College Region on 10 October. After a productive meeting with GCRB and our colleges' Chairs and Principals, the Minister met students, staff and Students' Association Leaders. Glasgow Clyde College hosted the visit at its Langside Campus.

GCRB released a video, [Building our dynamic early years profession](#), in October. This shows how regional collaboration is delivering the training needed to meet the government's promised childcare expansion and focuses on how it benefits students, staff, children and their families.

The Board is about to distribute its first e-newsletter to college staff throughout the region. This describes, contextualises and promotes opportunities for staff to get involved with regional working. We anticipate producing three such newsletters each year.

Staff and teaching colleagues in schools throughout the region also received information on regional CPD opportunities.

Glasgow College Region's Christmas Reception will take place on Tuesday 11 December. The event is designed to express our appreciation to all those who have contributed to regional success.