

Board of Management Meeting

MINUTE OF SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON 1 OCTOBER 2014 AT 1900 HRS (CoGCSM1)

Present	
Douglas Baillie, Chair (DB)	Paul Little, Principal (PL)
David Eaton (DE)	Mark McCafferty (MM)
Peter Finch (PF)	Colin McMurray (CM)
Jim Gallacher (JG)	Lesley Woolfries (LW)
In attendance	
Janis Carson (Vice Principal) (JS)	Fares Samara (Exec. Director) (FS)
Paul Clark, College Secretary (Minute)	Stuart Thompson (Exec. Director) (ST)
Alex Craig (Depute Principal)	
Apologies for absence	
Tasmina Ahmed-Sheikh (TA)	Alan Mackay (AM)
Alisdair Barron (AB)	John Macleod (JM)
Charlie Kaur (CK)	Debbie McNamara (DM)
Sanjay Lago (SL)	Eric Tottman-Trayner (ETT)

CONTEXT:

A briefing on behalf of the Glasgow Colleges Strategic Partnership was presented jointly to the Boards of the three Glasgow Colleges – City of Glasgow College, Glasgow Clyde College, and Glasgow Kelvin College. The presentations were made by members of College Executives leading the respective collaborative working groups, supported by Laurence Howells, Chief Executive, Scottish Funding Council, and Dame Ruth Silver.

Following the joint briefing, the three Boards were invited to meet separately to discuss the presentations and associated papers, with a view to confirming their endorsement of the draft plans at the conclusion of the meeting.

CoGCSM1-01 Apologies for Absence

RECEIVED: Apologies for absence were received from AB, CK, AM and JM.

CoGCSM1-02 Glasgow Colleges' Strategic Partnership:

- **Draft Glasgow College Region Curriculum and Estates Plan 2015-2020**
- **Draft Initial Transition Plan**

▪ **Draft Glasgow Colleges Strategic Partnership Strategic Plan**

DISCUSSION:

The Chair reiterated that the Board was invited to endorse the principles and approach of the proposals as presented prior to the individual Board meetings, and opened the meeting for discussion.

Board members contributed the following points to the discussion:

- Reflecting upon the past 10/12 years of sector developments in Glasgow, the sharing of ideas and objectives was welcomed. The proposal was also considered in the context of the lack of an alternative. It was noted that the plans should be seen as an opportunity to energise the sector in Glasgow, and not just as a “top-down” solution.
- The Principal highlighted the tendency towards collaboration and co-operation in governance across sectors, but also noted the importance of the colleges making their own decisions within the overall strategic agreement.
- It was recognised that the plans represent an enormous step forward for Glasgow, and comprised a large and effective piece of work. Optimism was expressed over the ability to create a regional solution.
- Significant challenges for CoGC were noted, but a degree of confidence was expressed that these challenges could be met.
- The Executive Leadership Team contributed to the discussion, highlighting that there would be a need for careful allocation of the curriculum, supported by appropriate resources. ELT also emphasised that CoGC faces a contractual consideration in respect of the new campus development. Some consideration was also given to the implications of a failure to endorse the proposals unanimously, in the context of the new governance arrangements.
- Staffing issues were highlighted as a particular challenge.
- The issue of finding appropriate accommodation for courses in the new campus was raised by the student member, as was the matter of added costs to students who may be required to travel further to attend their chosen courses.
- ELT highlighted student support funding issues, given the balance of FE and HE in the respective Glasgow Colleges.
- The Board also recognised the need to maintain a level of flexibility in order to adapt to future needs and demands.

- The Board also noted that the challenges ahead were no more daunting than those that have already been overcome.
- The Board also noted that the colleges currently have a level of control, which may be lost if agreement was not achieved.

DECIDED:

The Chair concluded the discussion and proposed that, in the light of the consensus of views expressed by Board members, the proposals as presented be endorsed. The Board unanimously endorsed the proposals and plans without qualification.

The meeting closed at 1955 hours.

Signed _____ Chair

Date _____

ANNEX TO THE MINUTE

ACTION POINTS ARISING FROM THE MEETING

Item	Description	Owner	Target Date
CoGCSM-02	Minute: Members agreed that the Chair report the Board's endorsement to the joint meeting of the three Boards following the current meeting.	DB	Report back to joint meeting