

## Board of Management Learning and Teaching Committee

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>Tuesday 8 September 2015</b>
<b>Paper No.</b>	<b>LTC1-G</b>
<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Subject of Paper</b>	<b>Academic Appeals</b>
<b>FOISA Status</b>	<b>Disclosable</b>
<b>Primary Contact</b>	<b>Douglas Dickson, Head of Performance</b>
<b>Date of production</b>	<b>28<sup>th</sup> August 2015</b>
<b>Action</b>	<b>For Information and Noting</b>

### **1. Recommendations**

For information and noting

## 2. Purpose of report

This report identifies the academic appeals held related to delivery of qualifications during academic year 2012/13, 2013/14 and 2014/15.

## 3. Context and Discussion

It is an awarding body requirement to have a defined and communicated academic appeals procedure. The College's academic appeal procedure is available to all staff on the intranet. There is a student friendly leaflet on academic appeals available on the College website and MyCity. In addition the academic appeals process is covered at student induction.

The College receives a very low number of academic appeals –

2012.13	1
2013/14	0
2014/15	2

Over the last 3 years all academic appeals are related to SQA Higher National qualifications and specifically to a graded unit with the qualification. In all cases appeals regarding a graded unit are disputes regarding the grade awarded. Grades for graded units are awarded as follows –

A= 70% – 100%

B = 60% – 69%

C = 50% – 59%

In all instances of appeal students have achieved either a B or C.

There are 2 main reasons presented by students when appealing –

- Direct entry to university to year 2 or 3 is based on the student achieving an A.
- The student feels the grade is not reflective of their abilities.

## 4. Impact and implications

The appeals procedure identifies that student should obtain feedback on their grade prior to a formal appeal. It is clear in all cases this has happened and as a result this stage averts more formal appeals.

When student's appeal it is apparent from the evidence given at the appeal hearing that there have been further layers of scrutiny put in place by teaching

staff to ensure that grades awarded are reliable. This scrutiny takes place when students are at grade boundaries.

The outcomes from the College's appeals procedure are subject to SQA audit as part of their Quality Framework.