



MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

FRIDAY 7 JULY 2017

Report: Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 6 April 2017
Author: Clerk
Action: Approve
Status: Open

Present: Ian Renwick (Chair)
Judith Doyle (Principal)
Emily Cox
Josh Everest
Darren Heathcote
Christine Jones
Chris Macklin
Sally Hancox
Mark Taylor
Ewan Fenwick-Donaldson

In attendance: Emma Moody (Clerk)
Suzanne Clark (Minutes)
John Holt
Nadine Hudspeth
Chris Toon
John Gray
Mark Thompson
Ivan Jepson

2018 Chair's welcome, apologies and conflicts of interest

Apologies were received from Robin Mackie, David Mitchell, Nick Hurn, and Kevin Fitzpatrick. In the absence of the Chair to the Corporation Ian Renwick took the Chair.

The Chair welcomed all to the meeting and asked Committee members to declare any interests they may have in items on the agenda. Members were reminded to declare any conflicts that arose during the meeting.

2019 Minutes of the meeting dated 16 February 2017

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 16 February 2017 were agreed as a correct record.

2020 Matters Arising

The Principal advised that she has received notification that the Area Review Report will be published within the next week. The Principal will circulate the report when it is received.

In response to a question from a member, the Deputy Principal: Operations / Finance Director confirmed that the lease for the letting of the Construction Centre Phase 2 building to Sevcon PLC has been signed off and is now complete.

2021 Strategic update / horizon scanning

The report was presented by the Principal.

THIS ITEM IS CONFIDENTIAL AND NOT FOR PUBLICATION

The report was noted.

2022 Equality & Diversity Annual Report 2015/16

The report was presented by the Director of Student Experience.

The Principal advised that the report highlights the culture of the organisation. Gateshead College is highly inclusive and welcomes all members of the community. Many events and initiatives take place to raise awareness and the Principal often receives feedback from visitors on how welcoming the College is.

In response to a question from a member, the Director of Student Experience advised that the College has an Equality and Diversity Steering Group and Equality Characteristic Groups. The Director of Student Experience advised that currently the groups are very inward looking and he is working with a group of staff with a view to having a more outward focus. A meeting recently took place with the group with a view to looking at other organisations that the College can learn from. It is felt that this will further enhance the work taking place. The member asked whether targets can be set for this. The Director of Student Experience responded that the College has a Single Equality Action Plan in place to measure impact and the new group has been given a brief. The group will initially research other organisations and then plan activity that will build the profile of the College. It is important that the individual groups have ownership of their specific area of responsibility. The member was very encouraged by the work taking place and is looking forward to a further positive report for 2016/17.

The report was noted.

2023 Policy Review: Stage 1 Complaints Processes

The report was presented by the Clerk.

In response to a question from a member, the Clerk advised that the review had identified that the procedure for dealing with anonymous complaints was not sufficient. A section has been added to all complaint procedures on the management of any anonymous complaints.

The Director of Student Experience reported that the College was currently finalising a new customer feedback system and it is felt that this will be of significant benefit to how complaints are managed.

The report was approved.

2024 Student Union Constitution Review

The report was presented by the Support Staff Governor and the Sabbatical President.

A member questioned why it was felt that an interview panel was appropriate for the position of Sabbatical President. The Sabbatical President responded that the interview process would prepare students and give good experience of recruitment processes when moving on from College.

The updates were approved.

2025 College Strategic Plan

The Principal presented the film which has been created to support the College's new Strategic Plan. A plan is in place to disseminate this to the wider college community and the Principal felt it was appropriate, at this stage, to share this with members.

The Chair felt that the film was very powerful. The Principal confirmed that College staff will be asked to own the message and will be very much engaged in the delivery of the Strategic Plan. In response to a question from a member, the Director of Marketing & Communications confirmed that the film will be shared with Governors but stressed that the version would be for internal use only due to the background music.

The Principal thanked the Director of Marketing & Communications and her team for their work in putting the film together.

2026 Any other business

There was none.

2027 Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Thursday 6 July 2017 at 12.30pm.

2028 Confidential Board Paper

Members of the Executive Team and the Staff and Student Governors were asked to withdraw from the meeting at this point.

The report was presented by the Clerk.

A separate record of this discussion is held by the Clerk.

The report was approved.