



## MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

THURSDAY 9 APRIL 2020

**Report:** Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 26 March 2020  
**Author:** Clerk  
**Action:** Approve  
**Status:** Open

Meeting held via Google Meet

**Present:** John Hogg (Chair)  
Andy Cole (Interim Principal / CEO)  
Martin Gannon  
Darren Heathcote  
Andy Lorimer  
Chris Macklin  
David Mitchell  
Kirsty Paterson  
Claire-Jane Rewcastle  
Sarah Stewart

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

### 3037 Chair's welcome, apologies, conflicts of interest

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from John Taylor and Aneela Ali who were unable to join the meeting due to technical issues. The Chair agreed that he would provide an update to John Taylor after the meeting and the minutes would be circulated to Aneela.

The Chair confirmed that, due to the College closure for COVID 19, the meeting was being facilitated using 'Google Meet' and report authors would be asked to present key aspects of the reports. The Chair would then invite members to make comment on an individual basis.

No governor declared any conflict of interest at this stage but governors were reminded that if a conflict arose during the meeting, they should declare it as soon as they became aware of it.

**3038 Minutes of the last meeting dated 12 March 2020**

The minutes of the Board meeting held on Thursday 12 March 2020 were agreed as a correct record.

**3039 Matters arising**

The Interim Principal/CEO confirmed that Andrew Hadden had been appointed to provide high level financial insight into the College's business case that would support the Structure and Options Appraisal (S&OP). This augments the appointment of Steve Warburton, already providing the College with 2 days per week financial resource/support. The FEC were supportive of these appointments, the individuals being highly regarded by them.

**3040 Update on CV19, College response, next steps and future plans**

The report was presented by the Interim Principal / CEO.

The Deputy Principal: Curriculum & Quality advised that the response from the whole organisation in relation to actions taken has been fantastic. Both staff and students have responded extremely well and the support from the College's Health & Safety Manager has been superb. In response to a question from the Chair, the Deputy Principal: Curriculum & Quality confirmed that no staff or students had been directly affected by Coronavirus at this point. The Chair of the Teaching and Learning Committee asked for assurance that vulnerable students not currently attending College are still being supported. The Director of Student Experience confirmed that the College is aware of all vulnerable students and gave assurance that they are being contacted on a regular basis. Safeguarding referrals still are still being received and acted upon by the College's safeguarding team and the system for this is working well. The College's Learning Support Officers are working with curriculum teams to support students and this is also believed to be working well. The Chair asked that the Board's appreciation be passed on to staff for the work being undertaken. He felt that the College was responding in a very pro-active way. He felt that the decision-making process at Gateshead College had been managed very well.

[Post meeting note – stats circulated by Interim CEO/Principal regarding number of learners accessing online and distance learning]

*The report was noted.*

**3041 College financial statements and accounts**

The report was presented by the Interim Finance Director.

**THIS ITEM IS CONFIDENTIAL AND NOT FOR PUBLICATION.**

*The report was approved.*

**3042 Management accounts**

The report was presented by the Interim Finance Director.

**THIS ITEM IS CONFIDENTIAL AND NOT FOR PUBLICATION.**

*The report was noted.*

**3043 Recovery plan and action tracker – progress and next steps**

The report was presented by the Clerk.

Members were advised that actions were in progress and will continue to be completed at pace. The current lockdown due to Coronavirus will allow various desk-based activity to be completed. The Clerk will be looking particularly at the quadrant structure, Committee terms of reference and taking a strategic view of how the Board undertakes its business. Members were reassured that it will be very much business as normal on this element of the work despite the closure.

*The report was noted.*

**3044 Update on FEC and ESFA situation**

**THIS ITEM IS CONFIDENTIAL AND NOT FOR PUBLICATION.**

*The report was noted.*

**3045 Gateshead College Foundation**

The report was presented by the Clerk.

**THIS ITEM IS CONFIDENTIAL AND NOT FOR PUBLICATION.**

*The report was noted.*

*Martin Gannon left the meeting at 12.00.*

**3046 Secondary Tempest Investigation**

The Clerk gave a verbal update.

**THIS ITEM IS CONFIDENTIAL AND NOT FOR PUBLICATION.**

*The report was noted.*

**3047 Any other business**

**THIS ITEM IS CONFIDENTIAL AND NOT FOR PUBLICATION.**

**3048 Date of next meeting**

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Thursday 9 April 2020 at 10.00am.

**3049 Confidential – update from Remuneration Committee**

It was agreed to move this agenda item to the end of the meeting to allow those not required to be present to leave the meeting.

*The Staff and Student Governors and Executive Team left the meeting at 12.15.*

The report was presented by the Clerk.

**THIS ITEM IS CONFIDENTIAL AND A SEPARATE RECORD IS HELD BY THE CLERK.**