M

REGIONAL BOARD REPORT

Subject: Update on Annual Priorities for 2016-17	**Purpose:** **For Approval** ☐ **For Discussion** ☐ **For Information** ☒
Prepared by: SMT	**Date:** 2ND March 2017

Purpose:
To update the Board with a summary of progress against our key priorities.

Executive Summary:

Good progress has been made against all goals apart from Goal 2 where despite targeted interventions such as "Special Measure to Improve Performance" have been put in place, a reduction in student withdrawal has not been seen. Other interventions such as an 'At risk' system are now being progressed.

Recommendation:
Board are asked to note the update for information and raise any questions during the Board meeting.

Previous Committee Approvals:
None

For publication ☐	**For publication with redactions** ☐	**Not for publication** ☐

Signed:

Author **Principal**

BORDERS COLLEGE

Strategic Plan - Towards 2020 – Annual Priorities for 2016/2017	Regional Outcome Agreement Reference	Lead Manager	Progress February 2017
Goal One – Respond to the needs of our Region			
AP 1 To implement fully the planned curriculum offer review with a focus on an enhanced curriculum offer for 2017/2018	Outcome 1-4	Vice-Principal Curriculum with Head of Faculty and Programme Leaders	New course planned NC and PEO Fabrication & Welding and improved school offer.
Goal Two – Deliver successful outcomes for all learners			
AP 2 To drive an improvement in quality standards and address declining PI's through targeted intervention such as "Special Measure to Improve Performance"	Outcome 1-4	Vice-Principal Quality and Innovation with special measures team	PI data demonstrates that the decline in FEFT PIs is broader based than for a few specific programmes. SMT also note the lower PIs for young students and students from our most disadvantaged Borders communities. College will look to address how it keeps these groups engaged and attending College through a risk based approach. Identifying those at risk early and intervening to improve attendance.
AP 3 To develop an Access and Inclusion Strategy for the College including the development of a new Learning Support Service	Outcome 2	Vice-Principal Quality and Innovation with Director of Learning and Teaching Development	The Access and Inclusion Strategy has been drafted and presented to Curriculum and Quality Committee. The draft was submitted to SFC as part of the Outcome Agreement. Initial feedback from SFC is favourable.
Goal Three – Provide a high quality college experience			
AP 4 To maintain a positive college culture for our staff and to improve the impact of that culture on the learner experience	Outcome 4	Principal with College Management Team	Principal has been to all college campuses and ran a number of open forums to gather staff and student feedback. SMT presenting to staff from 20th February key priorities and follow up discussions

			with teams to ensure all staff are aware of our future focus. Amendments to monitoring of student progress against PIs and staff performance reviews are in motion to support improved student outcomes. Concerted effort from SMT to encourage staff to use Yammer (260 registered). Purpose is to have an informal communication platform sharing with peers good examples of student delivery and college outreach work fostering pride in Borders College achievements.
AP 5 To drive forward a new approach to supporting and embedding technology enhanced learning	Outcome 4	Head of ISLT	New structure for learning technology function now in place, with allocation of development time to faculties to allow release of staff in 2017-18.
Goal Four – Grow our business			
AP 6 Investigate and develop new markets created by the Borders Railway	Outcome 5	Vice-Principal Curriculum with Head of Business Development Unit	Significant increase in applications and subsequent enrolments to full time courses from Midlothian area. Marketing and Curriculum Teams attending careers and parents evenings at Midlothian schools. Increase in work placement opportunities outwith Borders Region as city is more accessible.
Goal Five – Build sustainability			
AP 7 Work with the SFC to develop a sustainable funding model and three year budget for the College	Outcome 6	Principal with Vice-Principal Finance and Resources	Discussions have taken place with SFC as part of the Outcome Agreement process; however, SFC still are only able to give single-year budgets. We also have had no further clarity on our requests to re-model the rural funding element of grant.
AP8 To deliver the implementation phase of the new site at Tweedbank and develop a sustainable	Outcome 6	Vice-Principal Finance and Resources with	The fit-out contract is progressing, with completion expected on schedule to allow decant over the

plan for the site at Newtown		Head of Facilities	period April – July 2017.
AP9 To deliver the implementation phase of the ICT infrastructure improvements	Outcome 6	Vice-Principal Finance and Resources with Head of ISLT	Tender process has been completed and contracts awarded, to allow implementation throughout spring 2017.