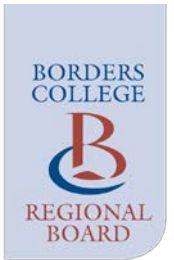


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BORDERS COLLEGE REGIONAL BOARD



Actions from the
Meeting of the Virtual Extraordinary Regional Board held at 1.30pm on
Thursday 30 July 2020

Item	Action	Responsibility and Date	Action Status
08/20	Carry forward Committee Terms of Reference to next meeting	I Earp	Carried forward to next meeting
12/20 (conf)	Maintain joint working group of the two Boards – Principal to take forward with Board Secretary	A Cox	Ongoing
54/20	The SIM would host a consultation session to define a plan going forward	V Grant	Ongoing

BORDERS COLLEGE REGIONAL BOARD

Minutes of the virtual Extraordinary Meeting of the Regional Board
held on Thursday 30 July 2020 at 1.30 pm



ITEM	MINUTE
<p>Present:</p> <p>In Attendance:</p>	<p>Elaine Acaster (Interim Chair) Angela Cox (Principal) Liz Parkes David Peace Jess McBeath Virginia Grant David Johnson Dave Black (Academic staff member) Ann Letham (Student member)</p> <p>Hazel Robertson (Vice Principal, Finance & Corporate Services) Ingrid Earp (Board Secretary) Sheila McColm (Minutes)</p>
<p>63/20</p>	<p>CHAIR'S OPENING REMARKS</p> <p>The Chair welcomed everyone to the Extraordinary meeting of the Regional Board and thanked them for attending. Board members agreed that during the current period where home working was prevalent, the timing of recent meetings (1.30pm) was preferable to the traditional time of 5.30pm.</p>
<p>64/20</p>	<p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from B McGrath, N Broderick, P Scrimger, J MacKenzie, H Anderson and S Shinton.</p> <p>The Chair reported that Sara Shinton's term of office would conclude on 4 August and noted formal thanks for her contribution to the Board over the past four years.</p>
<p>65/20</p>	<p>MINUTES OF REGIONAL BOARD MEETING HELD ON 18 JUNE 2020 (Paper A)</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on 18 June 2020 were agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.</p>
<p>66/20</p> <p>08/20</p> <p>12/20</p> <p>54/20</p>	<p>MATTERS ARISING</p> <p>Committee Terms of Reference were deferred to the next meeting.</p> <p>The action to maintain the joint working group with D&G Board was ongoing.</p> <p>The action for the SIM to hold a consultation session was ongoing.</p> <p>All remaining actions were complete.</p>

67/20	<p>DECLARATION OF ANY CONFLICT OF INTEREST/REGISTER OF INTERESTS UPDATE</p> <p>J McBeath reported an update to her Register of Interests. She was congratulated by Board members on her appointment as Non-Executive Director of Ofcom's Advisory Committee Scotland.</p>
68/20	<p>Budget 2020-2021 (Paper B)</p> <p>The VP Finance & Corporate Services presented the Annual Budget 2020-2021 for approval.</p> <p>The Finance & General Purposes had discussed the budget in great detail at its meeting on 23 July and endorsed it for recommendation to the Board.</p> <p>The following points were highlighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The budget has been produced using the pessimistic scenario from the three scenarios modelled as part of the FFR. • The budget presents a surplus of £67k which is dependent on cost reduction activity. • Grant-in-Aid funding is protected for 2020-21 and will not be affected by our credit outcomes. This offers a significant degree of certainty in our income budgets. • Pay assumptions include estimated cost of living increase at 2% with talks currently ongoing around an increase of 3%. Job evaluation costs remain uncertain with an assumption of all costs being covered. • Any reductions in commercial income are reflected in a reduction in delivery costs. Commercial income has not reduced as much as expected due to the conversion of training to digital, and good engagement with employers allowing flexible delivery. • Total savings of £772k have been included in the budget, which is a much higher level than would normally be expected. Delivery of savings is considered low to medium risk. • There is a significant amount of uncertainty in the budget however but this would not always be negative. There could be some positive changes if income or expenditure was better than expected in the pessimistic scenario. • Staff savings of around £245k have been assumed through the proposed restructure. <p>Following discussion and clarification of several points raised by Board members the budget 2020-2021 was unanimously approved.</p>
69/20	<p>SFC SUSTAINABILITY REVIEW (Paper C)</p> <p>The Principal presented the call for evidence from SFC to assist with their review of coherent provision and sustainability in further and higher education.</p> <p>Colleges and universities were asked to consider the following areas in their contribution towards an inclusive social and economic recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What currently works well and should be kept; • What they should stop doing; • How they can best support Scotland's international connectedness and competitiveness;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunities and challenges and how to address these; • The forms of collaboration within the tertiary education eco-system that would best enable a coherent and effective response to these opportunities and challenges; • How SFC and other agencies can best support colleges and universities to make a full contribution to Scotland’s inclusive, green and education-led recovery. <p>The Principal outlined key themes that would be included in the document which included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A continuation of partnership working, especially with D&G and University Partners in the East, with a Federal model under consideration. • The importance of Borders College in responding to an inclusive economy, especially with a focus on people and place. • The necessity for adequate funding to enable equality of access for further study opportunities in the Borders. • The need for colleges to have access to a greater proportion of Innovation funding to support the many SME/Micro businesses we work with. <p>Submissions were due to be submitted by 10 August. Any feedback from Board members would be welcomed by 4 August.</p>
70/20	<p>DECISION OF THE CHAIR’S COMMITTEE</p> <p>The Chair provided an update from the Chair’s Committee on 23 July, which had met to consider the redesign and alignment of the curriculum and associated services. The Board had previously delegated authority to the Chair’s Committee to discuss and agree any significant business on behalf of the full Board.</p> <p>Savings of around £245k had been identified by implementing the programme of redundancy set out in the paper presented by the Principal. The Chair’s Committee agreed with the principles behind the proposal. The impact of the human side of the proposal and the financial impact were discussed at length.</p> <p>The Head of HR and Development had advised that consultations were taking place with the Trade Unions. The Committee was satisfied with proposals to ensure the impact on individuals and wider staff will be dealt with sensitively.</p> <p>The Chair’s Committee agreed to the proposed restructure and savings of around £245,000.</p>
71/20	<p>STRATEGIC AMBITION</p> <p>The Board approved the Strategic Ambition 2020-2025.</p> <p>The Principal thanked Board members for their participation in the consultations around the new Strategic Ambition 2020-2025. The document was now ready for publication.</p>
72/20	<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</p> <p>There was no further business for discussion.</p>

73/20	DATE OF NEXT MEETING The next meeting of the Regional Board will take place on Thursday 22 October 2020 at 5.30pm.
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Signed:.....
Chair

Signed:.....
Board Secretary