

# FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE REPORT

<b>Subject:</b> Enterprise and Business Innovation Update	<b>Purpose:</b> <b>For Approval</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>For Discussion</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>For Information</b> <input type="checkbox"/>
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**Purpose:** To update the Committee on the progress of Enterprise & Business Innovation across the college in relation to budget performance and planned activity

## Linked to Strategic Ambition:

We will create high quality learning and training opportunities which are relevant, enabling and flexible.

We will proactively engage with our community and stakeholders to ensure our practice reflects their needs.

## Specific Aims:

Expand partnerships and innovation projects

Meet budgetary targets

Develop MA programme and the FWDF

Increase employer engagement – 5 potential new customers per month

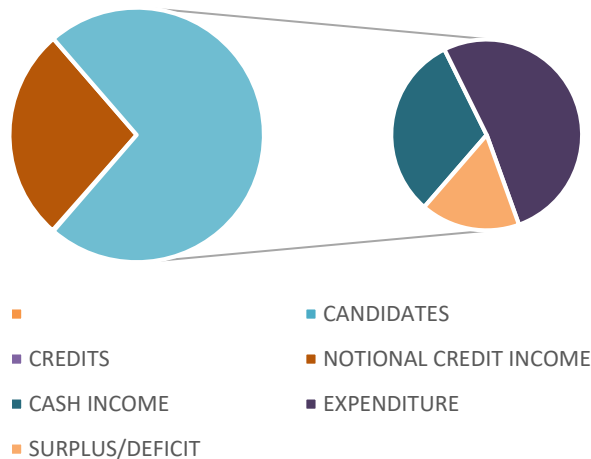
Increase alternate funding projects across the college

## Executive Summary:

### CROSS SECTOR ENTERPRISE & BUSINESS INNOVATION UPDATE

G400	ANNUAL TARGET	TARGET TO DATE	ACTUAL TO DATE	VARIANCE
<b>CANDIDATES</b>	1,500	750	1,200	450
<b>CREDITS</b>	3,400	1,700	1,513	-187
<b>NOTIONAL CREDIT INCOME</b>	£ 924,174	£ 462,087	£ 411,204	-£ 50,883
<b>CASH INCOME</b>	£ 775,914	£ 387,957	£ 531,098	£ 143,141
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	£ 1,282,672	£ 641,336	£ 719,799	£ 78,463
<b>SURPLUS/DEFICIT</b>	£ 417,416	£ 208,708	£ 222,503	£ 13,795

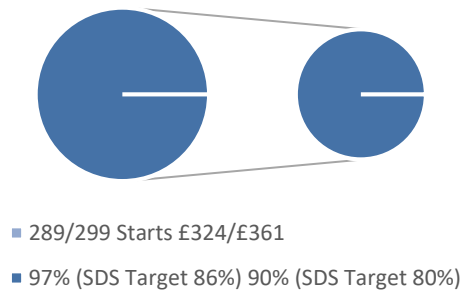
### ANNUAL TARGET



### Vocational Learning

Our MA contract is on track and this table gives an outline of our current position; Foundation Apprenticeships (FA) continue to be off target due to school disengagement due to Covid. Currently reviewing FA commitment for 22/23 in advance of college budget confirmation from Scottish Funding Council (SFC). Despite this, faculty are promoting the Civil Engineering SCQF Level 6 FA with a new video.

### Monthly MA Starts



% MA starts against contract	289/299 Starts	97% (SDS Target 86%)
% MA funding against contract	£324/£361	90% (SDS Target 80%)
Monthly MA Starts		9
Monthly MA Completions		1

### Tenders

Reference	Name	Buyer	Status
CT2132	Open Framework	The City of Edinburgh Council	<b>Awaiting further information</b>

JAN405009	Development and delivery of leadership and development pathways	Clackmannanshire Council	<b>Expression of interest made Feb 21. No further update</b>
JUL421186	Dynamic Purchasing System for Provision of Training	Aberdeen Council	<b>Awaiting further information</b>
NOV433635	Network of Employability Support and Training – Vocational Training Framework	Capital City Partnership	<b>Awaiting further information</b>
JAN438644	Network of Employability Support and Training – Vocational Training Framework	Capital City Partnership	<b>Deadline date 24/2/2022 DMcK taking lead</b>

Working closely with South of Scotland Enterprise (SOSE), Borders Council and partners to prepare potential Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF) bids for the regional investment plan required to bid into the £2BN fund in June 2022. This is principally conducted through the newly reconvened Borders Economic Development Group with new economic development lead Sam Smith.

Other potential bids opportunities emerging in City Region Deal Big Moves projects and new City Region Deal Phase II monies, as well as preparedness for Borderlands 25/26.

### **Flexible Workforce Development Fund (FWDF) & CRF & Community Courses**

**FWDF 2021/22** – Draw Down £9040 against allocation of £181,679

**Phase 2 SME 2021/22** – Draw Down £9726 against allocation of £107,587

We are currently bidding for a further £65K FWDF in year and £100K FWDF for 22/23; in live negotiations with SFC on this.

Many of our Community Renewal Fund short courses are oversubscribed, including our new Carbon Management courses. Our new programmes of Community Courses have just been released.

Engineering & Built Environment teams are currently working on producing Carbon Literacy packages for use with the schools, students, businesses, and the local communities. We are also arranging discussions about Carbon Literacy with Borders Council including the work we are doing in the CRF bid.

### **HOSPITALITY & TOURISM ENTERPRISE & BUSINESS INNOVATION UPDATE**

Teams in Hospitality & Tourism are actively engaging with Sandy Maxwell- Forbes at the Great Tapestry of Scotland for our apprenticeship programmes as well as starting 6 students on a fast track SVQ2 for Borders Council.

We have a number of opportunities around sector campus development and rural skills programmes linked to the Prince's Foundation.

The Restaurant is opening now for a minimum of 3 lunch services per week & one evening service. Gareth and Michelle are developing a suite of masterclasses for our students before Easter (chefs, barista & bakers) as well as a course for parents/children for Easter holiday delivery. The team are also piloting a food service for Newtown students.

Hospitality students have been interviewed for our Turing project with 6 students being chosen for a two-week placement in May in Canada.

### **ENGINEERING & BUILT ENVIRONMENT ENTERPRISE & BUSINESS INNOVATION UPDATE**

We have been in dialogue for sometime with Borders Council to meet the training demands around Retrofit. This has also been developed through our excellent relationship with Energy Skills Partnership (ESP) and Energy Savings Trust (EST). Having brought SOSE and Skills Development Scotland (SDS) into the conversation, we now have identified a number of funding options and partners to move on this.

Our Green Skills webspace is generating bookings including Electric Vehicle Charging Point Installation to local contractors. This website booking space is acting as a guide for other colleges to develop similar spaces; ESP and EST having asked us to develop this pilot which was presented to the sector last month.

We also sit on the Engineering Leads network and Construction Leads network. We are also involved in the Wind & Marine Network and the Hydrogen Network, the STEM Leads Network and are part of the ESP Strategy Group.

We have recently agreed to participate in a Pilot project with regards to VR equipment and software with a value of approximately £200k related to the Construction Industry, to become one of three host colleges in Scotland for this equipment which will be accessible for all Scotland's Colleges to book out and use. The Pilot will run from the 9th February until the 11th March 2022.

We have also been asked to be part of the Heat Decarbonisation Sub-group to represent the College Sector and are meeting with the Construction Innovation Centre people in March to formalise that partnership.

All of this activity puts us in a very strong position to lead of bids for projects in this area; a key pillar of our Business Growth and Employer Engagement Strategy to be developed this year.

### **HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE ENTERPRISE & BUSINESS INNOVATION UPDATE**

The Team have been working on the final installation of equipment in the Borders College Technology Enhanced Care Hub (BTECH) at Galashiels, including a dedicated VR room for all areas of the curriculum to use. This is part of a wider discussion about our estate future development and work with the Digital Health Innovation Centre (DHI) and Robotarium team and Heriot-Watt with a view to bigger partner projects around robotics and digital assisted living spaces.

We have also re-engaged with our Care Academy plans in partnership with NHS Borders and SB Cares to formalise career building programmes around Health & Social Care, using a number of funds to deliver; credits, FWDF, Employability and NTTF. Currently this is being led by an employment guaranteed Skills Boost course bespoke to NHS Borders requirements.

**DIGITAL ENTERPRISE & BUSINESS INNOVATION UPDATE**

The team are hoping to run an Easter Coding Club. Our Cyber Lan continues to roll out. An Ecommerce Fast Track course developed with SDS in partnership with Glasgow City and Edinburgh will roll out in May 2022.

**RURAL SKILLS & LANDBASED ENTERPRISE & BUSINESS INNOVATION UPDATE**

We are planning a Carbon Literacy event with the Riddell Estate and the Ale Water Valley Group as part of CRF which we hope to roll out to other groups.

In addition we are connecting into funds to look to tap into innovation projects with Innovate UK and Agritech, as well as James Hutton Institute through links to QMU.

**Marketing & PR**

With a number of high profile visits scheduled for 2022, and our clearer PR & Comms planning process, we will make an addition to future F&GP papers for Enterprise & Business Innovation updates to report back on these activities and successful PR & marketing campaigns.

**Recommendation:** Enterprise and Business Innovation teams will continue to review budget and planned activity to ensure projected contribution and growth ambitions realised.

**Previous Committee Approvals:**

**For publication** ☒

**For publication with  
redactions** ☐

**Not for publication** ☐