Agenda

11 June 2015
STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Falkirk Boardroom, Falkirk Campus at 4.30 pm
(Refreshments available from 4 pm)

AGENDA

1.   Student Funding Presentation   Louise Burnett

2.   Apologies for Absence

3.   Declarations of interest

FOR APPROVAL

4.   Minutes of meeting held on 26 February 2015

5.   Matters Arising

6.   FVC Foundation Annual Project Plan   Alison Stewart

7.   Heads of Term – Falkirk Council Arts Theatre   Tom Gorman

FOR DISCUSSION

8.   Protection of Children, Young People and Adults at Risk of Harm   Jean Duff
      - Annual Report

9.   Developing Scotland's Young Workforce   Fiona Brown/Colette Filippi
      – Progress on Recommendations

10.   Student Association Report   Lorraine Simpson

11.   Operational Plan Monitoring   David Allison

12.   Operational Plan 2015/16   David Allison

13.   Review of Risk

14.   Any Other Competent Business

FOR INFORMATION

Student Activity Report

Room S1.19, Stirling Campus (commencing at 4.30pm)

Present:	Mrs Anne Mearns (Chair)
	Mrs Fiona Campbell
	Ms Lorraine Simpson, Student Association President
	Mrs Caryn Jack
	Mr Andrew Carver
	Mr Colin Alexander
Apologies:	None
In Attendance:	Mr David Allison, Executive Director of Information Services
	Mrs Fiona Brown, Executive Director, Learning and Teaching
	Mr Stephen Jarvie, Corporate Governance and Planning Officer
	Mr Andrew Campbell, International Manager (for item S/14/028)

The Chair opened the meeting by updating members on changes to the membership of the Committee since the last meeting in November 2014.

S/14/025   Declarations of Interest

None

S/14/026   Minutes of meeting held on 20 November 2014

The Minute of the meeting of 20 November 2014 was accepted as an accurate record.

S/14/027   Matters arising

a) S/14/019 Outcome Agreement Self Evaluation 2013/14

The Chair referenced the recommendation from the committee that a sub-group be established to review the College self-evaluation report prior to its submission to SFC. The Executive Director of Information Services confirmed that this would happen prior to the next submission deadline in October.

b) S/14/020 Student Association Update

The Chair noted the interest from members on links with Universities and noted that this would be covered in the Student Association Update paper.

S/14/028   International Strategy

The International Manager presented members with an overview of the new international strategy for the College. He highlighted the drivers for the strategy, the key areas for development and the importance of partner engagement.

Members queried the potential impact of international recruitment on the College's Highly Trusted Status (HTS) with the UK Visa and Immigration (UKVI). The International Manager updated members on the rules governing this and acknowledged the potential risk re dropout rates from having a small number of international students. The Executive Director of Information Systems confirmed that, based on previous experience, the UKVI could be approached to discuss any potential issues on a case by case basis. This helped to mitigate the risk associated with a small number of international students.

Members queried the links to Universities in place to take best advantage of existing international relationships and expertise. The International Manager confirmed that the College had begun to liaise directly with Universities and that this work would continue.

a) Members welcomed the creation of the strategy and noted the intended development of the College in this area

b) Members withheld full approval pending the completion of an Equalities Impact Assessment on the strategy

c) Members recommended that a risk assessment of each new development (sector or country) should be conducted before committing the College to any activity

S/14/029   **2015-17 Outcome Agreement**

The Executive Director of Information Systems presented members with the latest draft of the Outcome Agreement and noted that he was seeking approval from the Committee to take this document to the full Board of Management.

He highlighted that the draft presented to SFC had been seen by the College's SFC Outcome Agreement Manager and that positive feedback had been received.

Members queried some of the figures relating to targets and response rates; noting that the figures appeared to be open to interpretation. The Executive Director of Information Systems agreed to review the figures and surrounding text to ensure this was clarified.

Members also requested a final proof reading to correct minor inconsistencies in the use of language between sections. The Executive Director of Information Systems confirmed that this would occur prior to its submission to the Board of Management.

a) Members approved the document, subject to highlighted changes, to be taken to the Board of Management for approval
b) Members agreed to forward any further comments directly to the Executive Director of Information Systems

S/14/030   **Student Association Report**

The Student Association President presented an update on the activity of the Association. She highlighted the developing links with Stirling University and also noted that the College had been invited to bid to be the host for the "Gathering" which was held in Stirling University last year.

The Student Association President also updated members on the restructure of the Student Executive team which will be going to SMT in the near future for approval.

She also informed members that the Student Association had been shortlisted for the NUS Scotland Awards 2015 in the following categories –

- Lorraine Simpson for the Officer category
- Lyne McClelland for the Staff category; and
- The Student Association in the Students' Unions – Colleges category

Winners would also be submitted to the NUS UK awards 2015 for consideration.

a)   Members noted the content the update
b)   Members congratulated the Student Association on the awards nominations and wished them luck for the ceremony on 20 March

S/14/031   **Protection of Children, Young People and Adults at Risk of Harm – Annual Report**

This item was postponed to the next meeting of the Committee.

S/14/032   **Scotland's Youth Employment Strategy**

The Executive Director, Learning and Teaching presented a report on the new Scottish Government Strategy. She outlined the key themes within the strategy and the implications for key College partners, such as Schools and Employers.

She informed members that the College was well placed to meet the challenges of the new strategy and outlined the arrangements already in place.

Members noted that employer engagement should be led by employers rather than umbrella groups and encouraged the College to interact directly with employers, highlighting the benefits to them of participation.

a)   Members noted the content of the report

S/14/033   **Student Activity Report and PI Demonstration**

The Executive Director of Information Services presented a report to members based on the SFC data for the sector on student performance.

He demonstrated the system which allowed College departments to drill down to individual subject area and compare how the College performs against the rest of the sector. He showed that the College overall was the best performing College across all modes of FE and HE provision.

Members noted the leading position of the College in a number of subject areas but expressed concern regarding the underperformance of the College in Social Sciences compared to the sector.

a)   Members noted the content of the report

S/14/034   Operational Plan Monitoring

The Executive Director of Information Services provided an update on progress against the College operational plan targets. He highlighted three areas where activity had been delayed and discussed the reason for each of these delays.

Members welcomed the user friendly nature of the report format.

a)   Members noted the content of the report.

S/14/035   Review of Risk

No new risks were identified.

S/14/036   Any Other Competent Business

None.