

**PUBLIC MINUTES OF
THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS STRATEGIC BOARD MEETING HELD ON
9 FEBRUARY 2023
C128a/b, Gloucester Campus**

Present:

Mr W Abbott (External) (Chair)
Ms K Blackbird (External)
Ms J Buckland (Staff)
Mr M Burgess (Principal)
Mr P Carr (External)
Ms L Dance (External) Item 4 onwards
Mr A Dover (External)
Mr S Harvey (External)
Mr D Humphreys (Staff Governor)
Mr P Lachecki (External)
Ms E Narey (External)
Ms H Ridler (External)

Apologies:

Ms M James (External)
Dr H Moyes (External)
Ms C Rosser-Mayo - HR Director

In Attendance:

Mr A Bates - Chief Financial Officer
Dr K Morris - Vice Principal, Curriculum and Quality
Mr D Kettleby - Director of Student Employment and Experience, Curriculum Innovation and Students
Ms J Cosson - Governance Professional and Clerk to the Board of Governors

Attendance: 85.7 %

1/23 Private Business

None.

2/23 Apologies

Were noted as above.

9/23 Declarations of Interest

It was confirmed that the Register of Interests recorded all of the current declarations of interests of those present.

4/23 Membership Proposals

Members considered the report and recommendations from GRS.

RESOLVED: Members:

1. **Noted the position with regard to Board Membership.**
2. **Approved the appointment of Lyn Dance as External Member of the Board and a member of the Curriculum and Quality Committee for a term of 4 years from 9 February 2023 to 8 February 2027.**
3. **Confirmed the designated Board size at 17 Members.**

LD joined the meeting and was welcomed as a new Member.

5/23 Confidentiality of Items

As marked (C) for a period of two years. All the marked items were declared confidential on the grounds of commercial sensitivity

6/23 Minutes of the Meeting of 15 December 2022

The minutes of the meetings were approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.

7/23 Matters Arising from the Minutes and Actions Matrix

Members were provided with an Actions Matrix and noted the status update of each item.

8/23 Strategic Discussion (C)

This was the first strategic board meeting in a new schedule of alternate strategic and business board meetings.

WA began by providing a summary of the Annual Strategic Conversation with the DfE on 18 January 2023, which he had attended. He highlighted the number of policy initiatives being driven by the Government and the timeline for them. These are in addition to the challenges the College is routinely dealing with.

He went on to set out the headlines from the AoC Chair's meeting on 16 January, which were:

- College challenges.
- Government policy.
- College funding.
- College finances.

MB outlined the purpose of the session, which was for the Executive Team to talk through the recruitment picture for the next few years and the financial implications for the College. They would not be asking for major decisions, just to discuss their thoughts on direction as a basis for the next strategic discussions in May, which will focus on curriculum and skills reforms.

MB then set the scene in terms of college challenges, Government FE policy, funding and the College's financial position.

9/23 Use of College Seal

RESOLVED: The Board noted and endorsed the use of the Seal as set out in the paper.

10/23 Governance Matters:

- **Regulatory Developments**
- **Governor Learning and Development Activity**

Regulatory Developments

JC presented a paper which included details of the following matters and the actions to be taken in relation to each of them:

1. Funding/Financial Sustainability/Audit/Risk including ONS reclassification
2. Curriculum
3. OfS
4. Legislation
5. LSIPs
6. Governance
7. Governor Training and Development

JC highlighted new guidance on Accountability Agreements, guidance on LSIPs and new bite-size guides on the implications of ONS reclassification, plus action that Members can take to highlight to their MP the impact of qualification reform on students' options and press for change.

RESOLVED: The Board noted the regulatory developments since the last meeting and the actions taken as a result.

Governor Learning and Development Activity

Members had been provided with the record of Governor Learning and Development activities since the last meeting.

The Chair thanked Members for giving time to the College and to their role.

RESOLVED: The Board noted the Governor Learning and Development activities, which enrich the Board's understanding and oversight of the College.

11/23 Any Other Business

None.

12/23 Date and Time of Next Meeting

30 March 2023, location tbc.