

The City of Liverpool College

Minutes of a Confidential Meeting of the Corporation Board held on

27th January 2016 at 4.30pm

Present: Louise Barry (via video conferencing), Elaine Bowker (Principal), Martin Carey, Sue Carmichael, Peter Grieve (Chair), Lawrence Kenwright, Viv Lacey (Vice Chair), Stephen Sankson, Peter Tavernor

In attendance: Angela Cox (Deputy Principal), Nicola Kumar (Strategic Development Manager), David McIntyre (Deputy Chief Executive), Simon Pierce (VP Curriculum), Christine Lenderyou (Clerk to the Corporation).

16.1. Confidential Minute

The Executive and the Principal joined the meeting at this point.

[Removed for reasons of confidentiality]

Dr Tavernor left the meeting at this point.

16.2 Update from Performance and Quality Task and Finish Group Including recommendation on Self-Assessment Report (SAR)

Sandra Oddy (Head of School for Business, Professional and Enterprise) had attended the meeting and the group had interrogated the school's Quality Improvement Plan (QIP). All key indicators had been discussed as well as performance management in the area. The group had been able to take assurance that Ms Oddy was aware of the level and pace of improvements required and was supported by the management team to deliver.

Performance monitoring information had been reviewed. The new style Post Inspection Action Plan (PIAP) had been welcomed as it provided a clear summary of key areas for improvement.

The PQTFG had reviewed the SAR and on the basis of assurances received during the meeting and the consistency with information which had come to the Board from 2014/15 recommended that the Board approve the SAR. Governors requested further details of the assurances received and were informed that the SAR was based on curriculum SARs and had also taken into consideration the recent Ofsted report. There had been scrutiny of the quality processes. The outcomes were in line with Ofsted's judgements, with adults and high needs being graded as "good" and study programmes, English and maths, leadership and management all "requiring improvement". The PQTFG had challenged why schools appeared to have gone backwards in terms of grading but it had been clarified that this was largely as a result of English and maths being included. If the old SAR format had been used schools would have been seen to be performing better than the previous year, but including English and maths depressed the performance. The PQTFG had also raised questions about leadership and management, the differences in areas being graded good against those being graded as requiring improvement and the grading for pastoral support. Governors noted attendance for English and maths was down which was disappointing with the efforts which had been made, although governors had previously heard the new strategies and approached which had been put into place.

Governors asked for assurance on how the challenge, rigor and objectivity of the self-assessment process had been improved following the disappointment of the Ofsted inspection. The Deputy Principal advised that the Director of Learning now wrote judgements in terms of self-assessment and fed back on the QIPs based on evidence from the quality team. Historically the information in the PIAP had come from the curriculum teams but it was now provided by quality which enabled some separation and greater impartiality. The Director of Learning fed back to the VPC each Friday with the tracker report (tabled).

The Board agreed with the suggestion that PQTFG look at the issues which had been raised by the inspection, mapped across the dashboard; each time the quality team reviewed an area, they would feed back to the PQTFG and a view would be formed as to whether improvement was evident. [Removed for reasons of confidentiality].

Retention looked positive and some areas of TLA continues to improve. Recent GCSE results had also been better than expected and had exceeded the target set but it was a small cohort.

The Vice Chair asked about how comfortable managers found attending the PQTFG given the necessary degree of challenge the process required them to face? In response managers explained that although governors were clearly supportive, it was always essential to be well prepared as the information and assurance required by the challenge process was wide ranging and stretching.

[removed for reasons of confidentiality]

The Chair thanked the members of PQTFG for their dedicated scrutiny. The Board approved the SAR.

Health and Safety Termly Report – Autumn 2015

16.3 The report outlined that there had been no reportable incidents in the period covered and that year on year comparison between the terms showed a reduction in accident/incidents relating to students. It was not possible to provide on accurate year on year comparison for staff due to the creation of SharEd.

[removed for reasons of confidentiality].

The Board noted the report.

Safe College Termly Report – Autumn 2015

16.4 The report provided an overview of the safeguarding disclosures and activities which took place during the autumn term and an update on measures taken to strengthen the College's safeguarding response.

The Board received confirmation that all College policies and procedures were up to date and in line with the legal requirements and that 100% of College staff have been recorded as trained in both Safeguarding and Prevent procedures. OFSTED feedback had been very positive about how students were kept safe in and out of the College.

Despite the reduction in recurring cases there has been an increase in safeguarding cases this year. Two concerns from [XX] were received and acted upon.

Governors noted the report and the actions taken.

16.5 Any Other Business

The Principal reported that the College had been represented at a positive Captains' Table meeting.

Approval had been given for the College to run a Royal Academy of Culinary Arts which was a significant endorsement.

An [XX] Bid was in progress.

[Removed for reasons of confidentiality]

16.6 Confidentiality of Items

All items related to the Principal's briefing and subsequent related discussions or which were commercially sensitive or related to a third party/individual would remain confidential.

16.7 Date of Next Board Meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for 16th March.

The Chair thanked everyone for their patience and closed the meeting.