

CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COLLEGE

Minutes of the meeting of the Standards Committee of the Board of Governors held on Monday 9 May 2011 at 4.00pm in the Conference Centre, Paget Rd

PRESENT

Dr M Hardacre (Chair) Mr G Peebles
Ms T Campbell Mr N Spencer
Mr I Millard

Ms S Meddings (Clerk)

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr B Dhir (for item 5)
Ms S Nicholson
Mr J Stretton

In the absence of the Chair, who had been unavoidably delayed, the Principal chaired the first part of the meeting.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Mr J Crockett.

07/11 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING – 31 JANUARY 2011

Resolved:

That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 31 January 2011 be approved as a correct record.

08/11 IQER INSPECTION REPORT AND COLLEGE ACTION PLAN

The Committee received the Inspection report and associated Action Plan following the IQER (Integrated Quality Enhancement Review) Developmental Engagement (DE) review of the College's Higher Education provision undertaken in December 2010.

It was reported that the outcomes of the IQER included an identification of areas of good practice for dissemination. Of particular note was the "highly effective practice" operating in the PGCE/Cert Ed provision.

In respect of the recommendations arising from the review, it was reported that there were a number of actions that would be "desirable" for the College to action but no "essential" or "advisable" recommendations which was an excellent result for the College.

The Committee further noted the College's Action plan developed to address the developmental issues identified by the IQER and to inform the scope of the Summative Review scheduled for Spring 2012.

The Vice Principal Quality reported that the IQER had been a very productive exercise for the College and that the College was in a good position relative to the summative review scheduled for Spring 2012

The Committee agreed that preparations for the next visit should be reported to the Committee periodically.

Dr M Hardacre joined the meeting and in taking the Chair, welcomed Ms Tonia Campbell to her first Standards Committee meeting.

The Committee congratulated Dr Hardacre on his recent election as a City Councillor for Wolverhampton.

09/11 EMPLOYER RESPONSIVE AND REGENERATION PERFORMANCE

In the context of the Committee's responsibility for oversight of the quality of all areas of the College's provision, Governors received a summary of performance relating to Employer Responsive provision and Regeneration projects.

In respect of Employer Responsive provision, it was explained that this is split into two main delivery programmes, Apprenticeships and Train to Gain and that the success measure for Employer Responsive provision is MLP (Minimum Level of Performance).

The Committee considered MLP data on Apprenticeships, Train to Gain and Train to Gain ESF delivery by subject sector area and noted that overall provision was good.

Areas which fall below the MLP threshold of 53% for Apprenticeship provision and 68% for Train to Gain provision were flagged as "Red" because provision in these areas could be withdrawn from April 2012.

In response to a question from the Chair, the Committee received assurance that the areas of provision flagged as "Red" were being dealt with appropriately.

In respect of the College's Regeneration projects, Governors' attention was drawn particularly to the success of the College's graduate internship programme. It was reported that the College became involved in this programme only last year and had placed 265 graduates across the sub region with 73% achieving jobs in the Black Country compared to 30% nationally.

10/11 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY REPORT

The Committee received the latest Equality and Diversity action plan 2010/11 together with copies of the finalised Equality and Diversity annual review of student performance for 2009/10.

The Committee noted the new framework for identifying current gaps in the College's staffing data which aimed to construct a more comprehensive overall E and D workforce profile.

Governors further noted that the College has developed a comprehensive Equality Analysis process to further support the requirements of the 2010 Equality Act with the first policies scheduled for analysis over the coming weeks.

11/11 SELF ASSESSMENT REPORT (SAR) IMPROVEMENT PLAN UPDATE

The Committee received a progress report on the Self Assessment Report (SAR) Improvements Plans for 2010/11.

The progress report outlined the progress made by each Subject Sector Area using a RAG (Red, Amber, Green) flagging system as well as identifying the 2009/10 SAR grade.

The Chair welcomed the new RAG format and also endorsed the use of colour photocopying to highlight important areas of reports to Governors.

It was clarified that “progress” flagged as “Green” means progress against the Subject Sector Area Improvement Plan.

The Committee gave detailed consideration to the review of SSA 2 – Science and Maths, which was the only SSA flagged as “Red”