

## BARNSELY COLLEGE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE HELD ON 11 NOVEMBER 2014

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<b>PRESENT</b>	J Thirkell	Governor
	N Bowen	Governor
	C Booth	Governor
	P Helm	Governor
	P Bird	Governor (Staff)
	S Burkinshaw	Governor (Student)

<b>IN ATTENDANCE</b>	A J Oaks (Clerk)
	D Harding (VP Quality & Adults)
	J Miccoli (VP Teaching, learning and Student Support)
	C Webb (Deputy Principal)

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#### TERMS OF REFERENCE

14.01 The Committee had been established by the Board on 21 October 2014. This being the first meeting of the Committee, draft Terms of Reference were presented for consideration and discussion. The Chair of the Board proposed that N Bowen be appointed Chair to the Committee. The proposal was seconded by C Booth.

N Bowen took the Chair.

14.02 The Constitution and membership had been agreed at the Board. All members who had volunteered for membership were present.

14.03 The Terms of Reference had been drafted to ensure the Committee would receive and consider routine reports for monitoring on all quality issues on a timely basis. The Committee would have the opportunity to drill down and scrutinise the data in a much more detailed way. The frequency of the reporting cycle was agreed. It was proposed that a report on predictive grades in-year be presented for consideration in the spring term. The VP Q&A suggested ways in which data could be gathered for Governors perhaps using Pro monitor.

14.04 Discussion took place with regard to the format of reports and the importance of ensuring the format allowed SMT to present data in a variety of ways from that which currently exists.

#### OFSTED DATA DASHBOARD

14.05 The VP Q&A presented the Ofsted data dashboard to the Committee, explaining how it could be used to inform Governors, and demonstrating different ways of interrogating the data. The data used in the dashboard was that in the public domain already, and benchmarked the college against other institutions. He emphasised that the data within the dashboard was reflective rather than real time which could be an issue in terms of monitoring performance.

- 14.06 Changes to the Common Inspection Framework from September 2015 would also need to be taken into consideration in terms of how data was used as national performance measures were changing. Discussion took place with regard to the types of data the Committee would want to review and monitor, which would include mainly the areas under performing. It was possible that the College could produce its own data dashboard, tailored to Governors' needs and in real time.
- 14.07 The Chair believed there were four areas the Committee should focus on, these being benchmarking against national performance, performance of SFC and individual departments compared to other departments, reporting on the strongest (and why) and those that were under performing (and why). It was agreed to provide the Committee with some clear data on underperforming areas within the college at the next meeting, and to invite the Principal of the SFC to the meeting to discuss the data.

**RESOLVED 14.07 to review areas of underperformance within the college and invite the Principal of SFC to next meeting**

- 14.08 Governors also asked about work being undertaken around curriculum planning. The Principal stated that the college was way ahead of others in the sector in terms of analysing progression and destinations. The VP emphasised that over the next year there would be more significance given to the context of the curriculum, for example looking at the difference between what the LEPs had identified as strategic needs and how this compared to the college offer.

#### **TEACHING AND LEARNING UPDATE 2014/15**

- 14.09 The VP Teaching, Learning and Student support referred to her report that had been circulated in advance of the meeting. The Principal proposed the whole college SAR and Sixth Form SAR be scrutinised in detail at the committee's next meeting.
- 14.10 Discussion took place with regard to formatting and presentation of data and the VP T&L assured members that they would look at ways to present the data in a meaningful way.

#### **COLLEGE SELF ASSESSMENT GRADES**

- 14.11 The VP Q&A advised that Ofsted were in consultation on their new inspection framework which would be implemented from September 2015. New guidance had been issued to colleges. In terms of the College's overall effectiveness, while success rates were at a higher level than the previous year, overall performance was lower, with a 3% drop in 16-18 and 2% drop in adult success rates. The VP explained that in 2012/13, 3436 16-18 year olds had enrolled on short courses and some of these learners were also enrolled on additional qualifications. Under new funding rules, in 2013/14, only 417 had enrolled on short courses as there was less 'additionality'.
- 14.12 Performance on main programmes was high. A dip in maths and English had been identified. Vocational value added was positive on a significant number of courses; A2 success rates high but low VA. Increased emphasis to produce progression and

destination data for 2013/14. Some strengths in 16-19 and a need to improve AS and AS/A2 value added.

- 14.13 Based on the CIF, the overview of whole college performance was outstanding. The VP Q&A believed that the college was in a strong position but reminded Governors that it was important to recognise and understand the change in climate in terms of how performance is measured.

### **FE COMMISSIONERS LETTER 3**

- 14.14 The Committee had received a copy of the latest FE Commissioner's letter which focused on quality, which was pertinent to the business.

The Chair of the Board believed that the meeting had been useful. P Helm agreed, stating the interaction between governors and SMT was invaluable and very helpful. The VP T&L said that she looked forward to having the opportunity through the Committee to discuss the data in more detail and looked forward to the challenge.

### **DATE AND TIME OF FUTURE MEETING**

- 14.15 It was agreed there should be at least three meetings in the year, one each term. The Clerk undertook to circulate dates of future meetings.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Chair

Date \_\_\_\_\_