

CURRICULUM & STANDARDS COMMITTEE

AGENDA NOTICE

Curriculum & Standards Committee Meeting

Date: Thursday 18th June 2015

Time: 10.00am

Venue: Principal's Office, Farnborough College of Technology

- 10.00 **3.1 Opening of Meeting and Apologies for Absence**
3.2 Declarations of Interest

Presentation – Ofsted Report
‘Teaching, learning and assessment in further education and skills –
what works and why’
by Heather Ramsdale, Vice Principal Curriculum & Learners

- 10.40 **3.3 Minutes of the last Curriculum & Standards Committee held 3rd March 2015**
Chair of Curriculum & Standards Committee Appendix 3.3
- 3.4 Matters arising from the minutes**

STRATEGIC PLANNING

- 10.45 **3.5 Annual Operating Statement 2014/15 April Monitoring Point**
Report by the Principal Appendix 3.5
- 10.55 **3.6 Strategic Plan Update 2015/16**
Report by the Principal and Deputy Principal
a) Needs Analysis Update Appendix 3.6a
b) Strategic Projects 2015/16 Appendix 3.6b
- 11.15 **3.7 Curriculum Offer 2015/16**
Report by the Deputy Principal & Vice Principal Curriculum & Learners Appendix 3.7
- 11.25 **3.8 FE Success Rates 2013/14 – National Comparative Data**
Report by Deputy Principal Appendix 3.8
- 11.35 **3.9 Ofsted Data Dashboard**
Report by Deputy Principal Appendix 3.9
- 11.55 **3.10 Complaints Analysis**
Report by Deputy Principal Appendix 3.10
- 3.11 Any Other Business**
- 3.12 Date and time of the next Curriculum & Standards Committee meeting**
Tuesday 17th November 2015 10am – *to be confirmed*

DISTRIBUTION LIST:

Ms W Megeney – Chair
Mr I Hamilton
Miss S Limbu
Mr R Rendel
Mrs C Slaymaker – Principal

Mrs H Ramsdale - Vice Principal Curriculum & Learners
Mr I Wolloff - Deputy Principal
Mrs C Gillam - Clerk to Corporation

Farnborough College of Technology

Curriculum & Standards Committee

Minutes of meeting held on Thursday 18th June 2015

Present:

Ms W Megeney – Chair of Committee
Miss S Limbu
Mrs C Slaymaker - Principal

In Attendance:

Mrs H Ramsdale - Vice Principal Curriculum & Learners
Mr I Wolloff – Deputy Principal
Mrs C Gillam – Clerk to the Corporation

Quorate: Yes

The meeting opened at 10.06am

Agenda Item	Minute	Action
3.1/14.15	Opening of Meeting and Apologies for Absence Apologies were received and accepted from Professor Earwicker, Mr Hamilton and Mr Rendel.	
3.2/14.15	Declarations of Interest No declarations were noted in relation to the agenda items. Presentation by Heather Ramsdale – Teaching, learning and assessment in FE and skills The Committee decided to carry forward the presentation to the July Board meeting.	
3.3/14.15	Minutes of the meeting held 3rd March 2015 The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record and were signed by the Chair.	
3.4/14.15	Matters arising from the minutes <i>Item 2.4.</i> Regarding the action point for publishing arrangements for obtaining staff and student views the Principal noted that a statement would be placed on the website by the next meeting. <i>Item 1.7</i> It was noted that the branding issue had been discussed at the recent Board Away Day and that this was a more suitable topic for the Board than the Director of Marketing as branding has to follow strategy.	Principal
3.5/14.15	Annual Operating Statement 2014/15 April Monitoring Point The Principal announced positive progress in almost all areas. There is strong speculation that adult funding may be cut	

significantly and there are also concerns that the funding for 16-18s is not included in the ring-fence of protected funds for education. The recent announcement of £450m funding cuts to both the EFA and non-ring fenced SFA budgets was of great concern but no further details are yet known.

Under Project C the target to achieve an additional 180 FTE FE students would only be partially achieved. It was suggested that it would be better in future to split the target between 16-18 who were normally full-time and 19+ who tended to be part-time as the current target amalgamates the two.

The Committee accepted the Annual Operating Statement 2014/15 April monitoring point.

3.6a/14.15 Strategic Plan Update 2015/16

a) Needs Analysis Update

The Committee thanked the Deputy Principal for the clear presentation of the external environment within which the College operates and overview of College performance. It was noted that this analysis would become the front section of the Strategic Plan which would then come to the Board.

3.6b/14.15 b) Strategic Projects 2015/16

The Principal drew attention to Appendix B the 'Community University' building blocks. Two new projects have been included and a third, an updated Property Strategy, would also need to be included. The new Business Sustainability Modelling project followed the discussion from the Board Away Day regarding how the College could survive five years of demographic downturn. The Review of IT/Computing project would look at the strategic questions of what was required to deliver a 21st century curriculum and what might be required in five years time.

The Committee suggested amending the wording of Appendix A but re-affirmed the direction of travel and recommended to the Board for approval the strategic project work for 2015/16.

Action: Combine papers 3.6a and 3.6b for recommendation to the **Board** Board as the Strategic Plan.

3.7/14.15 Curriculum Offer 2015/16

The Vice-Principal explained that in FE a significant change to the Study Programme from September will be that students with a D grade in GCSE English and/or Maths will be required to retake in order to try to obtain a C grade or above. This has required a great deal of preparation work to help staff prepare to deliver this teaching. The PiXL system is very helpful in giving a basic structure, starting with an initial diagnostic for each student which can then be used to structure their learning. Those students with lower than a D grade in English and Maths will still be taught Functional Skills so all FE staff will be teaching some form of English and Maths. Also from September A Levels will be linear in

structure and not modular and some subjects have had significant content changes.

The range of apprenticeships is continuing to grow with the College offering frameworks across many curriculum areas.

With respect to HE it was noted that a new Foundation Degree in Healthcare practice has been validated. The PGCE and Certificate of Education will now be validated by the University of Greenwich with the College joining a consortium of 10 colleges delivering the programme under Greenwich regulations. This was a positive step for the College to be part of a well established and respected teacher training consortium.

3.8/14.15 FE Success Rates 2013/14 – National Comparative Data

The Deputy Principal was pleased to present SFA national success rates which placed the College 1st for 16-18 success. For the most important headline measure of success (all lengths of courses, for all levels and ages) the College was placed 4th nationally. The College was placed 9th for success rates for apprentices of all college providers nationally. The main areas requiring continuing improvement in order to match other outstanding rates are level 1 and 2 outcomes for adults. In addition, level 3 outcomes for young people are lower in 2013/14 (though still in the highest quintile), due to lower success rates for AS levels.

The Committee congratulated the College on its success.

3.9/14.15 Ofsted Data Dashboard

The Deputy Principal presented the second year of data from Ofsted noting that by most measures the data looks very good. Where the College is not placed in the highest quintile it is normally for a straightforward reason such as a different comparator group being used. It was suggested that the Ofsted Data Dashboard be presented to the Board with annotated commentaries to explain these reasons.

Action: Present the Ofsted Data Dashboard at the July 2015 Board including annotated commentaries. **Board**

3.10/14.15 Complaints Analysis 2013/14

The Deputy Principal explained that there was a robust Complaints Procedure. Only 6 complaints were reported in 2013/14.

The Committee noted the report.

3.11/14.15 Any Other Business

The Committee noted that it was low on membership and required an input of members with suitable knowledge to serve on the Committee. The Principal agreed to feed this back to the Chair of Corporation.

3.12/14.15 Date and Time of next Curriculum & Standards Committee meeting

Tuesday 17th November 2015 at 10am – to be confirmed.

The meeting closed at 11.52am

Minutes agreed as being a true and accurate record by the Chair.

Signed:

Dated: