

**Board of Management Meeting
Tuesday 6th February 2018**

Principal's Update

1. European Union Funding

I attended a meeting with a number of other college Principals and the Minister for UK Negotiations on Scotland's place in Europe, Michael Russell.

During the meeting the College was asked to submit a paper to the Minister and to the Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science, Shirley-Anne Sommerville. The paper was to cover the effect that BREXIT would have on South Lanarkshire College. The paper is attached as Appendix 1. The paper outlines a number of areas of concern which have been raised at previous Board of Management meetings. The College also provided five tables which illustrate the potential financial loss and wider effects of BREXIT on the College. In regard to direct funding through the credit system, the SFC has provided colleges who are currently in receipt of ESF credits, with reassurance through the 5 year projection of activity which illustrates how credit funding will be protected.

Following submission of the attached paper, the BREXIT Minister asked his officials to arrange a meeting with the College. The College has agreed to support a one day per week secondment to the Scottish Government in order that the College can help support the Government in providing a wider picture of the effect that BREXIT will have on the sector. The one day per week secondment is likely to last for a few weeks.

2. Consolidated Accounts

SLC has had sight of the consolidated accounts for the Region. The accounts consist of an arithmetical addition of the accounts for SLC and NCL. The narrative informs the reader that SLC produced an operating surplus for 2017/18.

A special meeting of NCL Audit and Finance Committee has been arranged to approve the consolidated accounts.

3. Internal Audit

We are currently working with two Internal Audits with Scott-Moncrieff.

i) Business Continuity & Disaster Recovery

We have had a number of meetings with Infosec who are part of APUC and are supporting the College in developing the “plan”. So far, Infosec have examined our cyber security. We are confident that the interim report will show a high level of confidence in the resilience of our IT systems and firewalls.

Stage 2 relates to the compiling of a college wide recovery plan and is scheduled to be completed prior to June 2018.

ii) How Good is our College

Scott-Moncrieff is also carrying out an audit on the processes and procedures that underpin the College compiling our report in partnership with Education Scotland.

The auditor has met with a number of staff. The audit seems to have gone particularly well and a report will be forwarded to the Board of Management in due course.

4. Credits

As at 17th January the College is 1,296 credits short of its annual target of 48,280 credits. We are entirely confident that with 6 months left in the academic year, that we will achieve our credit target.

5. Industrial Dispute

The EIS has entered into a formal dispute in regard to their claim for an annual cost of living increase for 2017/18. A second dispute meeting was held as part of the NJNC dispute procedures. No resolution was achieved and the next dispute meeting is scheduled to take place on 22nd February 2018. The EIS have confirmed that they are about to submit a pay claim for 2018/19.

6. Rural South Lanarkshire

The College is delivering a range of programmes in Lanark which is being badged as: The Rural Energy Academy. The target is to ensure that we engage

with 80 new students who live within a defined rural area. The first of those programmes is due to commence early February.

The programme is fully funded through South Lanarkshire Council so does not attract credits. This is the first time in a number of years that the College has been able to deliver activity within rural Lanarkshire. The activity is being delivered in premises situated in the corner of Hope Street and Bloomgate.