
MINUTES OF THE EIGHTY THIRD MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE NORTH WEST REGIONAL COLLEGE HELD ON 16 DECEMBER 2020, COMMENCING 1700

PRESENT:

Mr G Finnegan, Governing Body Chair
Ms M Breslin (until item 83.4)
Mr P Canavan
Mrs R Dougherty
Mr S Gillespie
Dr N Hand
Mr G Killeen, Governing Body Vice Chair
Mr L Murphy, Principal & Chief Executive
Mr S McGregor
Mr M O’Kane
Prof M O’Neill

IN ATTENDANCE;

Mr P McKeown, Director of Finance & Economic Engagement (until item 83.4)
Mrs É Doherty, Governance Secretary

Due to restrictions associated with the COVID-19 pandemic all members and attendees were joining the meeting remotely via video conference.

83.1 WELCOME & APOLOGIES

The Governing Body Chair welcomed everyone to the Special Governing Body meeting and brought members through the format of the meeting. Apologies were received from Mr B Quinn.

83.2 CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATIONS/DECLARATIONS OF ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no conflict of interest declarations and no declarations of any other business.

83.3 FINANCE MATTERS**➤ PREVIOUSLY ISSUED TO ALL MEMBERS**

Report 1	Annual Report & Financial Statements for Year ended 31 July 2020
Report 2	External Audit, Draft Report To Those Charged With Governance (RTTCWG)
Report 3	Annual Report of the Audit & Risk Committee 2019-20 to the Governing Body

Report 1 Annual Report & Financial Statements for Year ended 31 July 2020

The Director of Finance & Economic Engagement advised that the Draft Report To Those Charged With Governance that was presented to the Board in November 2020 had three pieces of work outstanding; the disclosure and accounting treatment to the holiday pay position; the testing of pension assets, liabilities and assumptions and the review of Budgets. He added that these matters were now complete. The Financial

Statements were complete. The holiday pay provision was calculated at £1.2m and the Financial Statements have been updated to reflect this. The other two outstanding items have not impacted on the Accounts. The Director added that an issue raised today for a few Colleges might delay the Audit Office signing off the Accounts in front of the NI Assembly by 23 December 2020. This relates to a difference of opinion between PwC and the Audit Office in the financial treatment of land transactions that has to be resolved. This issue does not affect the College Financial Statements. The Director stated there is no risk of the College receiving an unqualified audit opinion.

The Governing Body Chair stated that if members were content to approve the Annual Report and Financial Statements notwithstanding on how the outstanding matter is treated. The matter will come to the Board again if required.

PROPOSED; Mr G Finnegan

SECONDED; Mr G Killeen

**Report 3 Annual Report of the Audit & Risk Committee 2019-20 to the
Governing Body**

This report was brought back to the Special Governing Body meeting as an update was made from the original report that went through the November, Audit & Risk Committee (Ref; AC 56.4, Report 1) and the Governing Body meetings (GB 82.4, Report 5) in November 2020. The amendments relate to the external audit (section 6, items 6.4 and 6.5 noting the work completed in respect to the holiday pay position, the testing to pension assets).

Members were content to accept the amendments to the Report.

PROPOSED; Mr G Killeen

SECONDED; Mr S Gillespie

Mr P McKeown and Ms M Breslin left the meeting and Ms S Kelly, HR Manager joined the meeting at this juncture.

The Governing Body Chair thanked everyone and the meeting went into confidential session.

Date of next meeting: 22 January 2021

Signed: _____ **Governing Body Chair**
Mr G Finnegan

Date: 23 February 2021