

## The Corporation of Newham Sixth Form College

### Joint Meeting of Curriculum, Quality & Engagement & Finance & Resources Committees

#### Minutes of the Meeting held on 30 January 2023

##### Members

Kate Towner (Chair)	Independent Member	Present
Julia Shelton	Independent Member	Present
Mandeep Gill	Principal & Chief Executive	Present
Federico Valori	Independent Member	Absent
Jane Lofthouse	Independent Member	Present
Ebby Maps	Parent Member	Present
Yolanda Valery	Independent Member	Present
Martin Rosner	Independent Member	Present
Mandeep Sahotay	Independent Member	Present
Elizabeth Scott	Independent Member	Present
Graham Wilson	Independent Member	Present

##### Non-Members in attendance

David Francis	Executive Director Student Services	Present
Michael Gainall	Vice Principal Finance & Operations	Present
Susanne Datta	Executive Director of HR & Organisational Development	Present
Jacqueline Granby	Standing in for Robin Jones, Clerk to the Corporation	Present

#### 1 MEMBERSHIP OF THE CURRICULUM, QUALITY & ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Members were asked to agree that Kate Towner acts as the Chair of this Joint Meeting of the two Committee. This was agreed.

#### 2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Committee NOTED that:

- No apologies were received

The meeting was quorate throughout

#### 3 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

The Members confirmed that there were no declarations of interest to be recorded on this occasion at this stage of the meeting based on the published Agenda.

#### 4 PURPOSE OF MEETING

This meeting had been arranged to enable Members of the Curriculum, Quality & Engagement Committee and the Finance & Resources Committee to discuss the implications for the College of the lower than projected funding allocation in 2023/24 due to actual enrolment in 2022/23.

## 5 LEARNER NUMBERS IN 2022/23 AND FUNDING ALLOCATION FOR 2023/24

The joint committee received a confidential report from the Principal & Chief Executive on the Learner Numbers in 2022/23 and the Funding Allocation in 2023/24 which will be less than that received in the current year.

Key points of discussion were as follows:

- The proposed reduction in staff and other costs was less than the reduction in income in order to understand whether 2022/23 was a “blip” rather than a trend.
- SLT looked at the 5 year trend focusing on lowest recruiting courses and those with low progression from Year 1 to Year 2. There had already been discussions in previous years over courses that were not viable. Performing Arts had been struggling for some years.
- The skills builder programme (which was staffed by Agency staff and one temporary member of staff) was, in any case, under review.
- We are 170 short of our funding target.
- The college capacity is around 3000.
- Spanish combined hours; 0.4FT; 1 member of staff will be affected. Philosophy 0.4FT; 2 staff members will be affected. Each subject has one yr1 and one yr2 group. This type of reduction in the A level course offer only rarely had a significant impact on other A level programmes.
- We must be aware of staff ratio to income costs.
- The review of the course file covers areas where there are potential changes to the course offer
- In September there was a downturn with enrolments. The courses at risk have been consistently low or have low progression and their viability is in question. Some have been in question for some time.
- The redundancy timeline is a 30 day consultation starting sometime before Easter with a termination date of 31 July although the consultation period can be extended. Consultations will involve teams, individuals and the union. A voluntary redundancy scheme may be offered. It was confirmed that there would be meaningful consultation with the staff affected.
- The Chair of the CQ&E Committee requested that more detailed information (similar to the information provided to this meeting) should be available to CQE members after enrolment had taken place .
- The Committee voiced concern regarding staff reactions to the cuts and it was important that the curriculum offer be reduced with care and consideration.

6. After discussion and, in particular, because of the commitment to carry out meaningful consultation in relation to the courses affected, the Joint Committee agreed:

(i) To endorse the actions being proposed to help mitigate the loss in income as a result of student under-recruitment in 2022/23;

(ii) To keep this paper strictly confidential until consultation with staff has commenced and members of the Corporation have been informed that consultation had begun; and

(iii) to share the report and decisions with the rest of the independent members of the Corporation.

Chair: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_