

**Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Corporation
held on Tuesday 20 December 2022 at 6:00pm
in the Conference Room Washington Campus**

Present:

Louise Bradford
Ian Brown
Jill Colbert
Pamela Dawson
Louise Doyle (arrived during item 21)
Cllr Louise Farthing
Julia Fox
Ellis Hill, SU President (left after item 25)
Jeff Hope
Sue Houston
Chris Jones
Susan Pollard, Staff Governor
K Ramanathas
Richard Redpath, Staff Governor
Alison Shaw, Vice Chair (left during item 23)
James Stuart, Chair
Ellen Thinnesen, Chief Executive

In Attendance:

David Howells, Chief Financial Officer
Gary Potts, Principal Northumberland College
Toni Rhodes, Principal Sunderland College
Judith Quinn, Vice Principal Curriculum, Enhancement, and Innovation
Lee Lister, Vice Principal Northumberland College and SEND
Vikkie Morton, Vice Principal Curriculum and Student Services
Iain Nixon, Vice Principal Partnerships and Commercial
Jo Cooper, Associate Principal, Teaching, Learning and Quality
Christine Stretesky, Head of Corporate Governance and Policy
Donna Swan, Governance Officer

The Chair welcomed Governors to the meeting, briefly explained the decision to hold the meeting in person only and proposed that Board meetings be held in person for the remainder of the year. He requested feedback on the proposition. He also requested that committees discuss among members whether to hold meetings in person, a hybrid of in person/virtual or entirely virtual. He then went on to advise that Jacqueline Steed has had to resign as a Governor for reasons of ill-health and put on record his gratitude to her for her valuable contribution to the College.

Bd/22-23/18 Apologies and consent for absence and declarations of interest

There were apologies for absence from Catherine Magog, Lyndsey O’Leary, Philip Smith, and David Towns. Derek Cogle was absent without apology. There were declarations of interest from the Staff Governors, Susan Pollard, and Richard Redpath with regards to item 25 where they both confirmed that they will act in the best interests of the college when making any decisions.

Bd/22-23/19 Minutes of previous meeting held on 18 October 2022 and Matters Arising

The Board agreed the minutes presented as an accurate record of the meeting held on 18 October 2022. The remaining portion of this item was deemed confidential with minutes maintained separately.

There was one matter arising: the Vice Principal Curriculum and Student Services noted that she will be bringing a report to the Board addressing the use of web filtering systems.

Bd/22-23/20 Audited Annual Report and Financial Statements

This item was deemed confidential with minutes maintained separately.

Bd/22-23/21 EPNE Self-Assessment Review (SAR) and Quality Improvement Plan (QIP)

This item was deemed confidential with minutes maintained separately.

Bd/22-23/22 Localism and Strategy

This item was deemed confidential with minutes maintained separately.

Bd/22-23/23 Higher Education Strategy

This item was deemed confidential with minutes maintained separately.

Bd/22-23/24 Committee Recommendations

The Head of Corporate Governance advised that there had been no requests for any of the items to be withdrawn for further discussion by the Board.

The Board APPROVED the following on the recommendation of the named committees:

Audit and Risk Committee

Item 24a – Risk Management Policy

Item 24b – Risk Register

Governance Committee

Item 24c – Instrument and Articles of Government

Item 24d – Standing Orders

Item 24e – Scheme of Delegation

Item 24f – Governance Committee Terms of Reference

Curriculum, Quality and Student Experience Committee

Item 24g – Student Experience and Support Plan 2022-23

Bd/22-23/25 College Pay Award

This item was deemed confidential with minutes maintained separately.

Bd/22-23/26 Draft Minutes of the following Committees

This item was deemed confidential with minutes maintained separately.

Bd/22-23/27 Papers from Committees

The Board noted receipt of the following paper from the Governance Committee:

- Governor and Senior Leaders' Register of Interests 2022-23

Bd/22-23/28 Emerging Issues – Duty to Review and ONS Reclassification

The Board noted receipt of the Emerging Issues briefing paper for information.

Bd/22-23/29 Any Other Business

There was one item of business deemed confidential with the minute maintained separately.

There was no further business.

Bd/22-23/28 Date, time, and venue of the next meeting

The Board noted the arrangements for the next meeting as follows:

- Tuesday 14 February 2023 at 6:00pm – venue to be confirmed.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:10pm.

These minutes were approved by the Board of Corporation on 14 February 2023 through item Bd/22-23/32.