

MEETING OF THE CORPORATION OF MACCLESFIELD COLLEGE

TUESDAY 5 DECEMBER 2023 – 9.30AM

VELOCITY

PART I

Clerk: Mrs R Clare

In attendance	M Sharples (Chair of the Corporation), R Charlton, I Jones, M Wright, G Crossman (joined the meeting remotely), P Hunter, E Kennedy, G Bristow, J Lewis, I Cass, J Bennett, C Johns, R Kay (Principal) (joined the meeting late), N Schofield
Apologies for absence	G Lagan, H Taylor
Non-governor attendance	L Reed (Deputy Principal) V Hayhoe (Director of Finance and Estates) Claire Gritton (the newly appointed Governance Professional attended the meeting as an observer).

Action	Responsibility
It was noted that this report was required to be forwarded to the DfE (ESFA).	VH
The Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2023 and Annex C Macclesfield College Self-Assessment Questionnaire will be signed by the Chair of the Corporation on behalf of the Corporation.	RC/VH
The Audit Findings Report (including the Regularity Audit) and Letters of Representation for the year ended 31 July 2023, presented by Wylie and Bisset were approved and will be duly signed by the Chair of the Corporation.	RC/VH
Q: Please can you bring the stress testing back to the Corporation? Yes, I will include this within the Management Accounts. It was agreed that it would be useful for the Corporation to see the trends from previous years in order to plan ahead.	VH
Governors would like to review the long-term strategy to better prepare the College for future curriculum planning. It was agreed to	ELT

look at areas that are a priority nationally and will potentially be areas of growth in the future.	
The first KPI document for 2023/24 will be presented at the Corporation meeting in February 2023.	ELT
G Crossman suggested the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Teaching and Learning Committee be called the Learner Experience Committee. • The Ofsted Plan to go deeper, in order for this to be unpicked at a further level. There needs to be further scrutiny of the action plan. • Check wording of the report to ensure that it reflects the College and challenge words that we disagree with. 	ELT/CG/Corporation
The newly appointed Director of Governance would now need to combine these actions with the existing Governance Action Plan and provide updates to the Corporation at regular intervals throughout the academic year on the progress of these actions.	CG

MINUTES

The External Audit Findings Report

The External Auditors joined the meeting for this item only.

The External Auditor (SG) presented the External Audit Findings Report for the year ended 31 July 2023, prepared by Wylie and Bisset. **It was noted that this report was required to be forwarded to the DfE (ESFA).**

SG referred to the executive summary on page 3, that confirmed key matters. SG reported the year-end financial position for 31 July 2023 and confirmed an unmodified opinion and that there are no issues in relation to regularity. SG confirmed that they are satisfied with the going concern assumption is appropriate. All outstanding matters noted at the Audit Committee have been removed from the final report. SG confirmed an unqualified opinion on the accounts of Macclesfield College for the year ended 31 July 2023. The financial statements would be signed on the assumption that the College would continue for the foreseeable future as a going concern, i.e., that the Corporation would be in a position to meet its liabilities for the next 12 months.

There was a final note in the accounts that related to Apprenticeship Funding. A response had been received from Management and the External Auditors confirmed that they were satisfied with the response. The External Auditors confirmed the Apprenticeship Funding abnormalities have been addressed.

SG confirmed that they had undertaken an overall review of the governance arrangements and process of internal control in place at the College, based on their findings the College has strong systems in place to comply with governance arrangements. The External Auditors made no control recommendations in relation to the year ended 31 July 2023.

AH referred to page 7 of the report, the Financial Review section and confirmed that there are no anticipated qualifications in the audit opinion of Wylie and Bisset on the College's accounts for the year ended 31 July 2023. The financial statements give a true and fair view of the College's financial position.

Wylie and Bisset thanks the Finance Team for the quality of the reports received.

The External Auditors confirmed the pension position stated in the balance sheet. For the first time the pension valuation for the college has shifted from a liability to an asset (£2.088M). In line with most other colleges and the External Auditors opinion, Macclesfield College have not recognised this as an asset and have put this through as nil value, as at 31 July 2023. The reason for this is that the asset cannot be realised due to: -

- The college not being able to reduce contributions.
- The college not being able to receive any refunds from the plan.

The Self-Assessment Questionnaire will be signed following this meeting.

The Audit Findings opinion and recommendation letters were included within the report.

V Hayhoe confirmed the following matters in relation to the External Auditors report:

- Income is as expected.
- Substantial testing and confirmed as expected.
- The strength of the balance sheet has been tested.
- Consideration to the ONS Reclassification and checking appropriate spend but nothing has been found.
- There is a difference of £5K from the draft Financial Accounts but no real change from the October accounts.
- Audit Committee pensions – our pension pot is valued by the actuary but for the first time for Macclesfield College has swung into an asset. It is not prudent to recognise this as an asset in the accounts because it cannot be realised. The recommendation is to set as zero in the accounts. This might turn in-year to be realised as an asset but not at the current time.
- The reinstatement of Apprenticeship funding was reported in a paper to the Corporation.

Item **Title**
47/23 **Welcome and Apologies for Absence**
The Chair welcomed Members to the meeting. Apologies for absence were received for G Lagan and H Taylor.

The Chair of the Corporation confirmed that this was the final meeting for the Director of Governance. The Corporation recorded their appreciation and thanks to the Governance Professional for her hard work and commitment to Macclesfield College during the last 9 years, prior to her departure.

The Chair of the Corporation welcomed C Gritton, the newly appointed Governance Professional to the meeting.

i. To ratify the appointment of Student Members of the Corporation

The Chair of the Corporation welcomed the J Bennett to her first meeting as student governor. H De Botte was not in attendance at the meeting.

The Chair of the Corporation recommended for J Bennett and H De Botte to be formally appointed as student governors for the academic year 2023/2024 in accordance with the procedure approved by the Corporation on 11 December 2012 (Corporation minute 41/12 referred).

The appointments of J Bennett and H De Botte were ratified by the Corporation.

J Bennett confirmed that she was looking forward to being a Member of the Corporation and thanked the Director of Governance for the opportunity.

48/23 Declaration of Members' Interest

There was no declaration of Members' interest.

49/23 Minutes and matters arising from the previous minutes

The minutes of the Corporation meeting held on 17 October 2023 were approved as an accurate record.

The matters arising were reviewed:

Action	Responsibility	Action Status
It was agreed that a report on the impact of the new Head of Quality role will be shared at the January Corporation meeting.	LR	Scheduled for January Corporation
The new KPI document for this academic year will be shared at the January Corporation meeting.	ELT	Scheduled for January Corporation
Annual Health and Safety Report – overdue risks will be reviewed to ensure that they are being mitigated. The colour coding of the risks will be reviewed.	VH/SL	Resolved

50/23 Business

i. to approve the Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2023 and Annex C Macclesfield College Self-Assessment Questionnaire

VH presented the report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2023. VH confirmed that the statements had been prepared in line with accounting practice. VH explained the statements reflect the final management accounts and strategic position in line with the financial reporting.

The Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2023 were approved, including the Annex C Macclesfield College Self-Assessment Questionnaire.

The Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2023 and Annex C Macclesfield College Self-Assessment Questionnaire will be signed by the Chair of the Corporation on behalf of the Corporation.

ii. to receive and approve the Audit Findings Report (including the Regularity Audit) for the year ended 31 July 2023 from Wylie and Bisset and to approve the letters of Representation to be signed on behalf of the Corporation by the Chair

The Letters of Representation were contained within the External Audit Findings Report for the year ended 31 July 2023.

The Audit Findings Report (including the Regularity Audit) and Letters of Representation for the year ended 31 July 2023, presented by Wylie and Bisset were approved and will be duly signed by the Chair of the Corporation.

iii. receive the College Accounts and Executive Summary relating to the period ended October 2023

The new College Accounts and Executive Summary relating to the period ended October 2023 to include the financial outturn for 2022-23 was prepared by V Hayhoe in advance of the meeting. VH

explained that the budget is set in May and following the enrolment period, a further review is undertaken. VH provided a top-level review including the following points:

- On page 3 of the report there was a breakdown of the full income and expenditure with commentary.
- The top-level overview shows that the College is just above the position expected after the budget was set. The notification from the DfE for an additional allocation for £400K is driving the better position, offset by pay and non-pay costs.
- The operating income shows that the College is £436K up on income but there are demands on pay that will use the additional funding.
- There are additional teaching and agency costs.
- There was a small saving on apprenticeship funding due to vacancies that were not filled right away but have now been filled.
- There are some additional resource requirements for departments that were not included in the original budgets.
- There are additional agency fees where a temporary position turns to permanent. V Hayhoe confirmed that these costs are difficult to control.
- V Hayhoe confirmed that the overall position is where the College expected to be. At the present time the financial position is 'Good'.
- V Hayhoe explained that on page 4, the cashflow statement forecast showed a dip at this time of the year due to IoT funding and payments going out across the year.
- It was confirmed that the IoT has been delayed and this has provided a buffer in the bank at the moment. However, the IoT is now being progressed and this will push into other months.
- An overview of capital expenditure was provided.
- The capital projects table shows the significant projects that are currently in process.
- It was confirmed that additional funding from the DfE for £620K for the IoT had been awarded and Cunard had been appointed to undertake the project.
- For the FECTF Bid, only one tender had been received for the Brickwork facility and this was overbudget. This will go back out using the Tenet framework on a 2-week turnaround.
- The T Level Wave 5 is currently going through planning with plans in place for Easter.
- The College had been successful in a collaborative bid with other Cheshire Colleges around emerging skills for a DfE LSIP Bid. This will be used for upskilling the automotive area for electric vehicles and computer diagnostics. This is a big investment and will move at pace.
- V Hayhoe confirmed that the table for the Capital Project shows where there has been delays in the delivery of the projects.
- The Bank Loan Covenant was breached last year but is currently on track.
- A summary was provided on the key financial risks for 2023-2024. The Adult Education and Apprenticeships Budget remain a risk to be achieved. These are high targets to be achieved.
- Staff Costs remain a risk, particularly for agency costs.

V Hayhoe confirmed that in relation to the EBITDA and three ratios for financial health, if two ratios impact on this position, then the College is at risk of becoming 'Requires Improvement' financially. There is £300K financial cushion but this is a position that needs to be monitored.

Q: Does the Apprenticeship funding still remain the biggest risk.

Yes, V Hayhoe is meeting regularly with T Cosgrave to manage the risk in this area. VH explained that this is due to end point assessments and ensuring students complete. VH confirmed that she will be exploring patterns to see how completion has impacted on the financial position in prior years.

Q: Do we have a strategy surrounding the contract ending with the Football Club to support growth? Notice has now been served to the Football Club to end this contract. There are 85 learners on the programme and when the contract ends, Macclesfield College will be able to recruit learners for internal courses.

V Hayhoe confirmed that she shared the three-year financial forecast with ELT at their recent meeting and it was interesting to review increased costs relating to student transport, electricity, gas and pay costs. It was confirmed that despite receiving increases in funding for staff costs, there had been no increases in funding to support other cost increases and therefore it has not hit the bottom line.

Q: In the audit, how much stress testing are they doing on Apprenticeships?
The Internal Auditors are not doing this, internally we are testing this.

Q: Please can you bring the stress testing back to the Corporation?

Yes, I will include this within the Management Accounts. It was agreed that it would be useful for the Corporation to see the trends from previous years in order to plan ahead.

Q: Politically, Hospitality and Health Care are two areas that will be developed in the future. Are we able to use the direction of travel from both political parties to prepare for growth in these areas in the future? Whites is an expensive provision to run and it is capped as we only have one working kitchen. Health Care is definitely a growth area for the College.

Q: Could Governors have more information on the scaling up of courses?

L Reed explained rationale for scaling up of courses, depending on classroom space versus resources for example in Whites, a kitchen and equipment is required.

Governors would like to review the long-term strategy to better prepare the College for future curriculum planning. It was agreed to look at areas that are a priority nationally and will potentially be areas of growth in the future.

Governors agreed that the College has always been good at delivering apprenticeships but it remains a high-risk area due to the growth that we continue to include in our plans. This is a significant risk going forward and needs to be continually monitored and managed.

iv. To receive the ESFA Financial Dashboard for Governors

The ESFA Financial Dashboard 2022/2023 for Governors was reviewed and approved. The dashboard reflected the financial position of the College.

51/23

Audit

To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 14 November 2023.

Members should note the formal recommendations made under the Audit Committee minutes. They are invited to:

i. receive the Annual Risk Report

The Annual Risk Report was reviewed and approved.

ii. receive the annual Review of Risk Appetite

The Annual review of Risk Appetite was reviewed and approved.

iii. receive the Annual Report of the Audit Committee to the Corporation

The Annual Report of the Audit Committee to the Corporation was reviewed and approved.

iv. approve the Terms of Reference for the Audit Committee

The updated Terms of Reference for the Audit Committee were reviewed and approved.

The Chair of the Audit Committee discussed the higher number of recommendations for the Apprenticeship Internal Report. Validera are very thorough and go into a lot of depth. The Chair of the Audit Committee confirmed that there were three amber warnings from this internal audit and as a committee, the recommendations were welcomed and will be managed by the team accordingly.

52/23

KPI document 2022/23

The final KPI document for 2022/23 was shared in advance of the meeting. L Reed confirmed that there had been no changes since the document was last reported. **The final KPI document for 2022/23 was reviewed and approved.**

The first KPI document for 2023/24 will be presented at the Corporation meeting in February 2023.

i. to receive the HE self-evaluation document

The HE SED was provided in advance of the meeting by A Hanufi. Since the report had been prepared, an Ofsted Inspection had been carried out and therefore the document was tabled for information only.

ii. to approve the College's Annual Self-Assessment Report 2022/23 and College Improvement Plan

The Deputy Principal provided the College Annual Self-Assessment Report for 2022/23 and the College Improvement Plan in advance of the meeting. It was explained that a robust self-assessment process has been undertaken to review the performance of the College in the 2022-23 academic year. A full review of provision at course level was undertaken by nominated course leaders which culminated in a departmental review written by respective Centre Principals. These were quality-assured by the Interim Head of Quality and presented to an external reviewer in July.

Following the curriculum area reviews, four aspect-type reviews were prepared: Education Programmes for Young People, Adult Learning Programmes, High Needs and Apprenticeships. These reports have been reviewed by an external consultant who acted as a 'critical friend' and provided challenge to the aspect leads. Each aspect was judged to be a grade 2 'good'. The following grading was provided:

Key Judgements

The Quality of Education 2

Behaviour and Attitudes 2

Personal Development 2

Leadership and Management 2

Provision Type Grade

Education Programmes for Young People 2

Adult Learning Programmes 2

Apprenticeships 2

Provision for learners with High Needs 2

Overall Effectiveness 2

The aspect Self-Assessment Reports (SAR)s were used to prepare the College Self-Assessment Report. The headline aspects are as follows: Quality of Education, Behaviour and Attitudes, Personal Development and Leadership and Management. The Deputy Principal informed governors that reports were again reviewed by an external consultant and were circulated to Link Governors for challenge and feedback. Each aspect was judged to be 'good'. As the College has self-assessed the four key judgements of Quality of Education, Behaviour and Attitudes, Personal Development and Leadership and Management as 'good', the Deputy Principal confirmed that the self-assessment of overall effectiveness is also good. Safeguarding has been assessed as 'effective'.

Following the report being validated by the External Consultant and Link Governors, Macclesfield College received notification that they were being inspected by Ofsted.

The Ofsted judgement will supersede the grades within this report and a Post Ofsted Inspection Plan will be shared with the Corporation. The Self-Assessment Report was therefore shared for information only.

iii. Safeguarding Annual Report (with student and staff data)

The Designated Safeguarding Lead provided the College's Annual Safeguarding Report in advance of the meeting. The report has been prepared by the safeguarding team to provide an overview on the activities undertaken by the College to ensure that it meets its legal and good practice standards in respect of safeguarding. Governing bodies must ensure that they comply with their duties under legislation and the Annual Report gives assurance that Macclesfield College's policies, procedures and training are effective and comply with the law at all times.

The Designated Safeguarding Lead informed governors that the safe environment at the College is enabled by robust safeguarding structures, policies and procedures. Macclesfield College has a 'culture of safeguarding' and all staff understand their responsibilities for keeping students safe. The College has a well-qualified safeguarding team that has designated responsibilities across the college.

The recent Ofsted Inspection had shown that Safeguarding arrangements were effective. Governors acknowledged the positive work undertaken in this area.

iv. Verbal report on Ofsted

L Reed shared a presentation on the recent Ofsted Inspection that took place from 21 November 2023 to 24 November 2023.

L Reed provided Macclesfield College internal Self-Assessment grading that was reviewed for external validation, in addition to governors. L Reed shared these self-assessment judgements.

Key Judgements

The Quality of Education 2

Behaviour and Attitudes 2

Personal Development 2

Leadership and Management 2

Provision Type Grade

Education Programmes for Young People 2

Adult Learning Programmes 2

Apprenticeships 2

Provision for learners with High Needs 2

L Reed then confirmed the provisional Grades from the Ofsted Inspection as:

Key judgements

The Quality of Education 3

Behaviour and Attitudes 3

Personal Development 3

Leadership and Management 3

Provision Type Grade

Education programmes for young people 3

Adult Learning Programmes 2

Apprenticeships 2

Provision for learners with High Needs 2

Safeguarding was judged as effective.

L Reed confirmed that the Education Programmes for Young People had impacted on all of the overall grades.

L Reed confirmed that there were very few meetings that took place during the Ofsted Inspection. The inspection had started well and it was confirmed during the inspection that the Ofsted Team were finding the College to match the internal Self-Assessment gradings. However, this changed as the Inspection unfolded.

The following meetings took place during the inspection:

Senior Leaders -Skills Strategy

Safeguarding Leads

Safeguarding case studies/SCR

Quality Systems

CPD

Curriculum enhancement
Governance
Personal Development
3 x student focus groups
QA Meeting

L Reed confirmed that during validation meeting no concerns had been raised but enrichment became a theme. During the Thursday morning (day 3 of the inspection), the Executive Team pushed for initial grades. On the Thursday morning, the Executive Team were still being informed that the Ofsted Team were finding that the College was in line with their own self-assessment.

Deep Dives took place in the following areas:

Adult
L3 Counselling
Access to HE - Health Route

Apprenticeships:

L3 Early Years,
L2 Construction and Joinery
L2 Hair

Education Programmes for Young People:

L2 Motor Vehicle
T Level Health
L2 Animal Care
L3 Art

High Needs

Pathways - case study learners in curriculum areas

Following the deep dives, the inspection team found outcomes in Motor Vehicle were not where they needed to be. Also, for Education programmes for Young People, three out of four areas where results were low were reviewed.

At a meeting that took place on the Thursday morning, the team were informed that Personal Development was not reaching a Good and this was an area to concentrate on. Members of the team then concentrated on Personal Development. This was followed by a very difficult QA Meeting, from a particular learner cohort. During, three learner meetings, feedback was provided that a specific cohort were treated differently, this was a protected characteristic group of a small number of learners. Ofsted confirmed that they would not consider proportionality, despite it being only five learners. L Reed confirmed that the team were then unable to turn this judgement around.

R Kay joined the meeting at this point.

L Reed shared the Post Ofsted Inspection Plan and confirmed that this will be updated upon the final Ofsted report being shared. A version was shared within the Corporation pack but L Reed confirmed that this will remain a 'live document'. Governors discussed that the new Senior Management Team structure had only been in place for a short period of time. L Reed confirmed that an SMT Away day was planned for this week to plan the future curriculum.

Following the inspection, the ELT met with the student feedback group that shared negative feedback during the inspection but the student feedback provided internally was very different to what was reported during the Ofsted Inspection.

The Executive Team have spoken to the AoC and they have confirmed it was very difficult to turn the student feedback around on the last day but are going to take this up on behalf of the College.

L Reed confirmed the next stages following the inspection:

Inspection Report received

- Publication
- Monitoring Visit
- A judgement made on -
Insufficient Progress
Reasonable Progress
Significant Progress
- Re-Inspection

The Monitoring Visit letter will be in the public domain. A reinspection will take place within the next twelve to thirty months. The Executive Team are working hard to mitigate the reputational impact and also the impact of the College being able to access opportunities to achieve funding. The outcome may also have wider impact on staffing and the delivery of A Levels.

Q: Are you saying the only reason that we didn't get a 'Good' Grading was because of the Learner Focus Group?

No, there were other issues relating to Personal Development, attendance and achievement rates.

The Principal confirmed that the apprenticeship provision was on the cusp of Outstanding but despite the results being high, they were deemed not to be high enough.

The Principal shared the Ofsted Inspection Plan and target areas for improvement with responsibility and target dates for this to be achieved.

The Chair of the Corporation explained that the student and parent feedback were not strong enough. However, only a small number of students and parents returned the feedback questionnaire, so this was not a true reflection of the College. The internal student feedback that is gathered through internal surveys has been positive.

The Principal confirmed the estimated best case achievement rates for this academic year as 89% and worse case at 83%.

It was also explained that the College were criticised for not having students on a two-year programme as it is set as two one-year programmes. This was a significant part of the inspection as the Ofsted Team felt that the decision to run two one-year programmes was not ambitious enough.

The Deputy Principal explained that the two areas of focus remain achievement and attendance.

Areas for immediate focus are:

- **Attendance**
- **Outcomes for all**
- **January Exams**
- **Staffing morale**
- **Reputation**
- **Focused Leadership**

Governor Engagement needs to remain high as this has been invaluable and added impact.

The skills grading was confirmed as disappointing but the Lead Inspector confirmed that at a strategy level this was excellent but this needed to be deeper embedded into the curriculum.

It was confirmed that a Teaching and Learning Committee will be established to add greater scrutiny.

**Q: Does the College working offsite on a Friday impact on quality?
This will need to be explored.**

The Chair of the Corporation confirmed that the Ofsted Report will need to be considered carefully and action taken to rectify this position but the Corporation were in agreement that no hasty decisions should be made.

Q: Did Ofsted recognise the strategies around attendance?
No, just that it was not good enough.

Gail Crossman thanked Lucy Reed for her very realistic presentation surrounding the inspection and actions going forward. GC confirmed that she had been at the College during the inspection and unfortunately, the student and parent feedback could not be controlled.

G Crossman suggested the following:

- **The Teaching and Learning Committee be called the Learner Experience Committee.**
- **The Ofsted Plan to go deeper, in order for this to be unpicked at a further level. There needs to be further scrutiny of the action plan.**
- **Check wording of the report to ensure that it reflects the College and challenge words that we disagree with.**

Q: Will the student focus group be identified in the report? Will we have a strategy for a press release to deal with this to protect our reputation?
Yes, we are working on this at the moment.

Q: (Question directed from the Chair of the Corporation to the Teacher Governor) From a Teaching point of view, how did you find the inspection?
There was a divide, they did not want to see the paperwork and there was a high emphasis on student feedback. Staff morale is low and members of staff who have joined the College because of the positive culture and work/life balance are concerned what will happen to the working remotely on a Friday. The Chair confirmed that this will need to be reviewed. The Principal confirmed that wellbeing is at the heart of the organisation and this is a long-term strategy that has been effective.

The Chair of the Corporation stated that the Director of Governance emailed members of staff on his behalf to acknowledge the positive work in the areas that achieved 'Good' in the inspection.

54/23 **College Calendar 2024/25**

The College Calendar for 2024/25 was reviewed and approved.

55/23 **Policies**

The following policies were reviewed and approved by the Corporation:

- **Critical Incident and Business Continuity Policy**
- **Safer Recruitment Policy**
- **Child Protection and Adults at Risk Policy**

56/23 **Governance**

AoC Code of Good Governance

The Director of Governance shared the AoC Code of Good Governance that was introduced in September 2023. The Director of Governance also shared the template document that accompanies the Code. The Director of Governance confirmed that the new AoC Code of Good Governance 2023 includes:

- Six fundamental principles form the core of this code, presented in the context of Further Education using sector-specific language.
- The code emphasises sources of assurance, both internal and external, without it being an audit tool or checklist.

- It avoids unnecessary complexity, promoting autonomy, and flexibility.
- The code encompasses the entire organisation.
- It brings together structures, policies, processes, behaviours, and relationships, recognising their interdependence.
- It is designed not to duplicate or repeat other documents but to serve as a signpost to relevant sources.

The Director of Governance explained that the new code is centred around the following six Governance Principles:

1. Determination of organisational aims and strategic oversight.
2. Responsibility and accountability.
3. Leadership and integrity.
4. Collaborative and stakeholder engagement.
5. Regulatory compliance.
6. Board and organisational effectiveness.

The Director of Governance reported that she had reviewed the AoC Code of Governance and evidenced the actions to be taken forward as part of the Governance Action Plan on the accompanying template document. **The newly appointed Director of Governance would now need to combine these actions with the existing Governance Action Plan and provide updates to the Corporation at regular intervals throughout the academic year on the progress of these actions.**

The Director of Governance recommended the following:

- A Teaching and Learning Committee to be reintroduced and has suggested to the newly appointed Governance Professional who would be best to serve on this committee to add impact. The purpose of the committee is to improve outcomes and the experience for learners. The Director of Governance suggested for the committee to meet two times during the autumn term, two times during the spring term and once during the summer term.
- A recommendation in relation to Senior Post Holders that would be discussed further in Part II of the Corporation meeting.
- To monitor Senior Post Holder, pay and recruitment in relation to the new guidance surrounding Managing Public Money.
- The Director of Governance to undertake a further review upon her appointment, in order to understand the requirements surrounding the Code.

The Corporation approved the recommendation to reintroduce a Teaching and Learning Committee.

Governance Annual Report

The Director of Governance shared the Governance Annual Report. The following points were shared with governors:

- The strengths and recommendations of the Governance External Review.
- Excellent Governor Engagement, particularly around Skills Week, speed networking meetings with members of staff and the CEO Round Table.
- Attendance at 72% against a target of 80% with an emphasis on the student governor's low attendance and two Members of the Corporation. One Member has since resigned from the Corporation and one Member has assured that his attendance will improve this academic year. The Director of Governance reminded Members that if they miss three consecutive meetings, then they will be asked to leave the Corporation, as they cannot add impact.
- Several new governors had been appointed with excellent skill sets.

- Updated copy of the Link Governor Engagement Scheme.
- **The new Governance Action Plan was presented. This will now need to be combined with actions from the AoC Code of Good Governance Template. The Action Plan will be presented at regular intervals throughout the academic year.**

57/23 Date and time of the next meeting

The next meeting will take place on 6 February 2024, at 9.30am.

58/23 Impact of meeting

Governors will await the draft Ofsted Report to ensure that the Ofsted Action Plan sufficiently addresses issue and swift action is taken to improve the current position.

Monitor the current Financial Situation closely to ensure a prudent approach is taken.

Recommendation by the Director of Governor to reintroduce a Teaching and Learning Committee for additional scrutiny.

The adoption of the New AoC Code of Good Governance.