

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING

HELD ON TEAMS ON WEDNESDAY 26TH JUNE 2024

Present: Ali Amirkhalili, Lucky Ali, Gill Banks (Principal), Simon Wrigley (staff governor), Paul Gaskell, Penny Haughan (Chair), Karen Lowe, Debbie Wilkinson, Ian Evans (staff governor), Phil Vickerman, Paul Smith

In attendance: Christine Carter, Vice Principal – Curriculum
Phil Jones, Vice Principal – Student Experience
Kevin Williams, Vice Principal – Finance, MIS & Estates

All attendees consented to the recording of this meeting.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

271 Apologies for absence were received from Jo Henney, Gary Baines, Amelia Jones and Lesley Venables (Governance Professional).

APPOINTMENT OF TEMPORARY CLERK

272 In the absence of Lesley Venables, Phil Jones was appointed as Clerk for this meeting only.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

273 There were no declarations of interest.

ACCOUNTABILITY AGREEMENT

274 The Principal outlined the purpose of the meeting, which was to approve the Accountability Agreement/Local Needs Duty, that must be uploaded to the ESFA's portal by 30th June 2024.

275 Governors received an executive summary, the draft Accountability Agreement and a copy of the Government guidance and expectations of FE providers. Previously the Accountability Agreement and the Local Needs Duty had been separate requirements, but these had now been amalgamated into one document. The latter formed part of the Skills for Jobs White Paper, which was published in January 2021 and focused on the College's statutory duty to meet the needs of the local community through its provision.

276 The Principal and two of the Vice-Principals had attended a best practice-sharing event earlier in the year. The Senior Leadership Team had used one of the exemplars (Hull College) presented at that session to inform the preparation of the Accountability Agreement. This College had been chosen as its Accountability Agreement as it focused on the context within which it worked, as this was also important for Wirral Met College due to the socio-economic differences between different parts of the locality.

277 The Local Needs Duty referred to the 3 year plan for the curriculum and it was noted that some of this provision was under development.

- 278 The Principal advised that governors were required to approve the Accountability Agreement as part of their statutory duty and it was also a condition of funding from the ESFA. The final document would also be submitted to the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority.
- 279 It was noted that there were still some minor amendments to be made prior to the document being uploaded, such as including the Mission and Purpose from the new Strategic Plan which will be submitted for approval by the Board on 8th July.
- 280 On behalf of the Board the Chair thanked members of SLT and the staff for the thoroughness of the document, which aligned to the draft Strategic Plan.
- 281 **Resolved -** That the Accountability Agreement be approved and uploaded to the ESFA portal by 30th June 2024

DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Monday 8th July 2024

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'D. Henney', is centered within a light blue rectangular box.

Signed:

Date:

16th July 2024

Chair