

Glasgow Colleges Regional Board

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| Date of Meeting | Monday 26 March 2018 |
| Paper Title | Glasgow Colleges Regional Student Executive Constitution |
| Agenda Item | 18 |
| Paper Number | BM4-Q |
| Responsible Officer | GCRSE Members |
| Status | Disclosable |
| Action | For Approval |

1. Report Purpose

- 1.1. To ensure the Board is informed of and content with regional arrangements in place for the Glasgow Colleges Regional Student Executive (GCRSE), and specifically with arrangements for the election of members to GCRB.

2. Recommendations

2.1. The Board is invited to:

- **review** the GCRSE Constitution;
- **approve** arrangements for student elections to GCRB in 2018;
- **endorse** the Constitution as a whole.

3. Background

- 3.1. Under requirements introduced by the Post-16 Education (Scotland) Act 2013, student elections to a Regional Board must be conducted in accordance with rules approved by the Board, in consultation with the relevant students associations.
- 3.2. The Education Act 1994 applies broader provisions to students associations of colleges, requiring boards to review and approve an association's constitution every five years, and to ensure that it operates in a fair, democratic manner and is held accountable for its use of public funds. GCRSE is a representative body whose members are drawn from the three college student associations; as such, the 1994 Act does not apply to its relationship to GCRB. However, given that GRSE has an important role in relation to the region's students and has developed a constitution, it should be considered appropriate, and in the spirit of the 1994 Act, for it to receive endorsement of its constitutional arrangements from GCRB, and for GCRB to satisfy itself that regional arrangements are sound and in the interests of the region's students.

4. Detail

4.1. GCRSE has provided its constitution for the Board's consideration, at Annex A. With regard to the section on the election of members to GCRB, Members should note that the requirements in the 2013 Act are that:

- *The students' associations of the board's colleges are each entitled to nominate students for appointment.*
- *Where only two students are so nominated, those students are to be so appointed.*
- *Members are otherwise to be so appointed by being elected by the students of all the board's colleges from among the students so nominated.*

4.2. With regard to the constitution as a whole, Members are invited to endorse arrangements and provide any feedback they may consider beneficial.

5. Risk Analysis

5.1 The report seeks to mitigate *GCRB Risk 0012: There is a breach of legislation/guidance/code of practice and this results in a failure of governance.*

6. Legal Implications

6.1. There are no specific legal implications arising from this paper.

7. Resource Implications

7.1. There are no specific resource considerations arising from this paper.

8. Strategic Implications

8.1. There are no specific implications for the Regional Outcome Agreement/Strategic Plan arising from this paper.

Glasgow Colleges Regional Student Executive Constitution

1. Purpose and Objects

- 1.1 The Glasgow Colleges Regional Student Executive (GCRSE) exists to represent the student bodies of City of Glasgow, Glasgow Clyde and Glasgow Kelvin colleges to the Glasgow Colleges Regional Board (GCRB).
- 1.2 GCRSE is the forum in which issues affecting students regionally will be discussed and communicated to the GCRB.

2. Membership of the GCRSE

- 2.1 The membership of the GCRSE comprises of the President of and two Vice Presidents from each of the Glasgow colleges, City of Glasgow, Glasgow Clyde and Glasgow Kelvin's Students' Associations, who are currently in post (i.e. a maximum of 9 members in total).

3. Membership of the Glasgow Colleges Regional Board

- 3.1 The election of the two student representative full members of the GCRB is automatically nominated from the pool of Student President. This is in accordance with the Further and Higher Education (Scotland) Act 005 (schedule 2B) and will be decided by an election voted on by members of the GCRSE.
- 3.2 In absence of GCRSE members at time of voting, students' association exec, staff or students may be delegated voting rights.
- 3.3 Presidents of the three students' associations will be eligible to stand for election to be nominated as one of the two student members appointed to the GCRB.
- 3.4 The two student representative members to be nominated will be voted for by the membership of a GCRSE secret ballot, using the ATV voting system. The election will be overseen by a staff member from NUS Scotland.
- 3.5 The two successful student representatives of the GCRB will hold office until the end of their position (usually the final week of June) following their appointment. Student representative members of GCRB must vacate office if they step down from their position as Student President or as a member of one of the College boards, in accordance with legislation.

4. Chair of the GCRSE

4.1 The chair of the GCRSE will be the President (or in case of a vacant position, a Vice President) of the Students' Association without representation on the Glasgow Colleges Regional Board.

5. Proceedings of the GCRSE

5.1 The quorum necessary for the transaction of business is one half of the current membership. A duly convened meeting of GCRSE at which a quorum is present shall be competent to exercise all or any powers of the authorities, powers and discretions for the time being vested in or exercisable by the GCRSE.

5.2 The validity of any proceedings of GCRSE is not affected –

- a) By a vacancy in membership; or
- b) By any defect in the appointment of a member.

5.3 Any member may validly participate in a meeting of GCRSE through the medium of conference telephone or any other form of communications equipment provided that all persons participating in the meeting are able to hear and speak to each other throughout such meeting. A person participating via telephone or other communication shall be deemed present in person at the meeting and shall be counted in the quorum and therefor entitled to vote. Such a meeting shall be deemed to take place on a rota basis. A decision made at any meeting held in the above manner, and signed by the Chair of the meeting, shall be as valid and effectual as if it has been passed at a meeting of the GCRSE.

5.4 GCRSE shall keep minutes of all meetings. The minutes must include the names of the members present. Any such minutes, if signed by the Chair of the meeting at which the proceedings were held shall be evidence of the matters stated in such minutes without any further proof.

5.5 All acts done by a meeting of the GCRSE shall be valid even if it is discovered afterwards that there was some defect in the appointment of any person or persons acting, or that they or any of them were or was disqualified from holding office or not entitled to vote, or had in any way vacated their office.

Approved on 13th of December 2017