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## Performance and Resources Committee

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| Date of Meeting     | Wednesday 27 September 2023                         |
| Paper Title         | Evaluation of Delivery of Outcome Agreement 2022-23 |
| Agenda Item         | 8   |
| Paper Number        | PRC1-C  |
| Responsible Officer | Martin Boyle, Executive Director                    |
| Status              | Disclosable   |
| Action              | For noting  |

### 1. Executive Summary

- 1.1** The Glasgow Region Outcome Agreement 2022-2023 provides an overview of the outcomes delivered by the Glasgow college system in the academic year 2022-23 against the targets set by GCRB and the Glasgow colleges in line with Scottish Funding Council (SFC) guidance. The Outcome Agreement and associated review provides assurance and oversight to GCRB and SFC in terms of the delivery of college education for Glasgow.
- 1.2** The report also seeks to provide a high-level overview of delivery and activity in the complex context of the post-pandemic phase, subsequent recovery, return to learning and subsequent challenges around cost of living and rising costs.
- 1.3** This evaluation, and Appendix A data, provides information from the data available at the time of publication. Subsequent data will be shared with committee as available.

### 2. Recommendations

- 2.1** Committee is invited to **note** the available data presented as outcomes for 2022-23, and **comment** on any issues of particular note for consideration in future activity and planning.

### **3. Background**

- 3.1** The academic year 2022-23 was one in which the Outcome Agreement primarily focused on stability and recovery; allowing the Glasgow college system to continue to focus on achieving security for the future while building from those foundations to support our wider community – our students, staff, and their communities right across Glasgow – to recover from the significant, deep impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. It was also important to recognise that this was a year characterised by a significantly challenging financial landscape and wider volatilities and uncertainties - which are set to continue. It was vital, therefore, to maintain a focus on smoothing transitions and providing consistency as well as maintaining progression towards longer-term viability.
- 3.2** This evaluation report provides an overview of 2022-23 data available currently. Additional information will be shared with committee as additional data is made available.

### **4. Report**

- 4.1.** The Glasgow college system continues to deliver a major contribution to Scotland Higher Education and Further Education tertiary provision, accounting for between one quarter and one fifth of the entire Scottish college education sector.
- 4.2.** A total of 374,921 Credits, or 98.24%, were delivered in 2022-23 against an initial ambitious total Credit target of 381,624. This continues to illustrate a significant investment in maintaining college education across multiple levels, and in maximising new opportunities and interventions for Glasgow’s learners and communities, as well learners from a wider geographical area. It is also an increased percentage performance over 2021-22, showing some sign of continued recovery in the aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic and its associated impact on learning and teaching.
- 4.3.** City of Glasgow College delivered 172,510 total Credits against a target of 175,333 (98.38%). Glasgow Clyde College delivered 124,940 against a target of 126,357 (98.87%). Glasgow Kelvin College delivered 77,471 Credits against a target of 79,934 (96.91%).
- 4.4.** There were, however, significant challenges in meeting targets. The delivery of Foundation Apprenticeships was also of particular challenge, and the total Credits delivered was 3644 against a target of 6960 (45.63%). This did, however, constitute some modest growth on the previous year’s FA delivery (3176 Credits), but remains indicative of a particularly challenging product to deliver and maintain. This, allied to challenges in delivering to senior phase aged pupils across various qualifications, is identified as a continuing trend in the region.
- 4.5.** The number of senior phase age pupils studying vocational qualifications at college is indicative of this challenge. 984 learners were enrolled against a target of 1285
- 4.6.** The number of Credits delivered to learners from the lowest SIMD 10% continues to be a success story for the Glasgow college region and is maintained as a core focus.
- 4.7.** A total of 104,818 Credits were delivered against a target of 101,000 (3.7% above target), with City of Glasgow College delivering 38,759 against a target of 40,000 (-1242), Glasgow Clyde College delivering 37,148 against a target of 36,000 (+624), and Glasgow Kelvin College delivering 28,912 against a target of 25,000 (+3912).
- 4.8.** Similarly, the number of learners disclosing as care-experienced continues to grow. The target of 21,000 Credits is projected to be surpassed with delivery of 27,030 Credits (28.7%

above target). Glasgow Kelvin College delivered 7990 Credits against a target of 5000, Glasgow Clyde College 9624 against a target of 9000, and City of Glasgow College 9416 against a target of 7000.

**4.9.** This constitutes a significant success story in the disclosure and inclusion of care-experienced learners in the Glasgow college system, accounting for an increase in 20,000 Credits delivered per year in the space of the last decade.

**4.10.** For 2023-24, we intent to seek to maintain progress in providing access to life-changing college education across the Glasgow region, meeting overall Credit targets, continuing to develop and safeguard our wider offering, while seeking to have a positive impact on outcomes for students from specific demographic groups and building on our overall student satisfaction.

**4.11.** Committee is also invited to note that longer-term data regarding a wider suite of KPIs from 2014-15 onwards are included in the Outcome Agreement 2023-2024 paper for this committee, enabling a broader comparison of performance over time. However, it should be noted that the Covid-19 period means this data does require to be considered in a significantly different context.

## **5. Risk and Compliance Analysis**

**5.1** The *Glasgow Region Outcome Agreement 2022-2023* and associated reporting, assurance and evaluation activity seeks to provide a clear overview of the Glasgow college system's compliance with the direction of Scottish Funding Council in the delivery of college education in Glasgow, and in line with GCRB's regional strategy.

## **6. Financial and Resource Analysis**

**6.1** The delivery of Credit targets across the various streams of funding has direct implications for the access to finance and for the stability of the Glasgow college region.

## **7. Equalities Implications**

**7.1** Data considered in the report, including data relating to impact on learning and teaching, highlights areas where there are evident implications for equalities. In particular, this report highlights outcomes for students from SIMD10 postcode areas and care-experienced learners.

## **8. Learner Implications**

**8.1** This report provides a high-level overview of outcomes, including volume of Credits delivered at various levels, volumes for SIMD10, care experienced and school students.

