

## Performance and Resources Committee

Date of Meeting	Wednesday 15 March 2023
Paper Title	Outcome Agreement 2022-23: SFC Feedback and Progress Update
Agenda Item	7
Paper Number	PRC3-C
Responsible Officer	Martin Boyle, Executive Director
Status	Disclosable
Action	For noting

### 1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The Glasgow Region Outcome Agreement 2022-2023 was completed with the cooperation of the Glasgow region colleges, approved by committee and board, and submitted to Scottish Funding Council (SFC) by deadline.
- 1.2 SFC have provided feedback on the Outcome Agreement, welcoming its overall approach, effective balancing of national strategies and policies aligned to regional priorities.
- 1.3 In line with government priority, SFC have requested additional information be added to commentary on the Glasgow colleges' current position in relation to implementing the Fair Work First<sup>1</sup> directive. This will be added and shared with SFC as soon as it is completed.
- 1.4 The updated version of the Outcome Agreement 22-23 will be uploaded to BoardEffect once completed. It is worth noting that the updated data for 2021-22 was received in February 2023.
- 1.5 In the meantime, guidance on the Outcome Agreement 23-24 is expected to be published in due course, with an expected deadline for drafts ahead of the conclusion of the current academic year and final drafts in the new academic year. It should be noted that this remains out of normal cycles, and is also expected to be the final year of the current format.
- 1.6 An update on delivery of the Outcome Agreement 22-23 is provided in the report below.

### 2 Recommendations

- 2.1 Committee is invited to **note** this update on the delivery of the Outcome Agreement 22-23.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.gov.scot/publications/fair-work-first-guidance-support-implementation/#:~:text=Fair%20Work%20First%3A%20the%20approach%20and%20what%20it,sector%2C%20where%20it%20is%20relevant%20to%20do%20so.>

### **3. Background**

- 3.1** In its current format, the Outcome Agreement provides a region-wide overview of core priorities, maintains oversight of Key Performance Indicators, and assurance and reporting regarding the investment in college education in the Glasgow region.
- 3.2** Since the pandemic, we have been operating with a reduced set of core measures and high-level accountabilities, and these remain in place for the 2022-23 academic session.

### **4. Report**

- 4.1** This interim report provides a high-level overview of the current position of delivery in the Glasgow region against the initial targets set in the Glasgow Region Outcome Agreement 2022-23.
- 4.2** In terms of overarching total Credits target, the Glasgow region remains on track to deliver within the tolerance level set out by Scottish Funding Council (SFC) in 2022-23 guidance. The regional target of 381,624 is currently projected at 377,083 (1.2% below target).
- 4.3** The Core Credit target of 374,664 is projected at 373,553 (0.3% below target).
- 4.4** Overall, this confirms that the Glasgow college system continues to deliver education opportunities at a broad range of SCQF levels, across multiple qualification types, to provide significant education opportunities right across our physical estate and online.
- 4.5** Foundation Apprenticeship delivery continues to be challenging. We were able to safeguard and maintain a level of FA opportunity across Glasgow, both during and in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic, but there continues to be knock-on impact. Changes in funding and reporting model, challenges in transport and ensuring post-pandemic access to workplace experiences have all led to this being a difficult time for FA delivery. In this transition period between moving from SDS to SFC funding, we were directed to focus on the creation of 'opportunities' to access FAs. This led to a regional offer of 6960 Credits, currently projected to translate into delivery of around 3530 Credits. We have already provided feedback to SFC on the challenges of this particular product, and are working collaboratively with the Glasgow colleges to carefully examine our approach while the trend continues to be downwards. Initial discussion with the colleges suggests an appetite to gradually build back up the regional offering, but this remains a risk area.
- 4.6** On the high-level core list of delivery in key areas there is evidence of the Glasgow college system continuing to have a positive impact.
- 4.7** The volume of Credits delivered to learners in the lowest 10% SIMD is projected to be 101,374 against a target of 101,000 (up 0.4%), accounting for 26.9% of Credit activity.
- 4.8** Likewise, activity delivered to care-experienced learners is up to 25,809 against a target of 21,000. The overall trend is upwards, though this is likely to be in part down to increased disclosure. The number of senior-phase age school pupils studying vocational qualification at college remains impacted post-pandemic, and is projected at 1032 against a target of 1285.
- 4.9** A further update, including longer-term comparators will be provided to the committee at its next meeting.

**5. Risk and Compliance Analysis**

**5.1** Delivery of the core targets of the region against the Outcome Agreement is a key element of providing assurance and monitoring activity of the region.

**6. Financial and Resource Analysis**

**6.1** Monitoring of the delivery of the Glasgow college region against target is a core element of managing the finances and resources of the region.

**7. Equalities Implications**

**7.1** The restricted reporting Key Performance Indicators provide assurance around the delivery of education for particular identified groups of learners.

**8. Learner Implications**

**8.1** The Glasgow Region Outcome Agreement 2022-23 set out high-level priority areas for the effective delivery of college education for learners and their communities. This interim report provides in-year assurance on high-level delivery patterns.

	Regional target	Regional projected	Projected variance from target
The volume of credits delivered			
Total credits	381,624	377,083	(4,541)
Core credits	374,664	373,553	(1,111)
Foundation Apprenticeship credits	6,960	3,530	(3,430)
Volume of credits delivered to learners in the lowest 10% SIMD 2020	101,000	101,374	374
<i>Percentage of credits delivered to learners in the lowest 10% SIMD 2020</i>	26.5%	26.9%	0.4%
Volume of credits delivered to care experienced students	21,000	25,809	4,809
<i>Percentage of credits delivered to care experienced students</i>	5.5%	6.8%	22.9%
Number of senior phase age pupils studying vocational qualifications at college	1,285	1,032	(253)

City of Glasgow College	
College target	College projected
175,333	173,176
173,013	171,958
2,320	1,218
40,000	38,660
22.8%	22.3%
7,000	8,963
4.0%	5.2%
450	513

Glasgow Clyde College	
College target	College projected
126,357	125,831
124,037	124,734
2,320	1,097
36,000	36,143
28.5%	28.7%
9,000	9,774
7.1%	7.8%
525	349

Glasgow Kelvin College	
College target	College projected
79,934	78,076
77,614	76,861
2,320	1,215
25,000	26,571
31.3%	34.0%
5,000	7,072
6.3%	9.1%
310	170