

## **News from the FE Corporation meeting, 2 September 2020**

This was a special meeting, called to consider college re-opening in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

### **COVID-19 Update**

An update in respect of college plans for full re-opening of the college in September was considered. Governors recognised the work and resilience of the Executive Team and managers and staff over a very difficult six months. It was noted that there was a clear focus on high quality education for all students but that some delivery would remain remote. Governors discussed and received reassurance on a number of health and safety and logistical issues, including plans in the event a course was over-subscribed. Governors also noted that the college recognised a likely increase in demand for support for students and plans were being made for face-to-face, online and blended delivery, in recognition of the fast-changing position related to COVID-19. Practical sessions would be prioritised to ensure students were not disadvantaged in the event of any future lockdown.

Initial enrolment figures were also discussed and it was noted that enrolment numbers were higher for higher level courses but there was under-recruitment in both full-time and part-time adult education courses, apprenticeships and Higher Education courses. This was believed to be linked to impact of COVID-19. Online enrolment had worked well and governors commended the Registry, Marketing and Student Services managers for ensuring this was in place quickly.

### **Governance Matters**

Governors appointed Colin Scott, Head Teacher at Risedale School as a co-opted member of the Quality and Standards Committee with immediate effect and as a governor with effect from 1 January 2021.

Governors also agreed some changes to committee membership.

### **Other matters**

An update on the Energy Centre project was provided and governors were pleased to note good progress was being achieved and the project remained within budget.

Best wishes from the Board

Emma Wright, Chair

Kate Roe, Principal

Sarah Thompson, Clerk