



LEARNING AND QUALITY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES - PART 1

Wednesday 18 June 2025 at 5.30pm
Room 422, 4th Floor, Croydon Campus

MINUTES

Present:	<p>Andy Wilson (Chair)</p> <p>Caireen Mitchell (Principal & CEO)</p> <p>Ian Valvona</p> <p>Louise Cretton</p> <p>Nicholas Voute (Staff Governor, Coulsdon campus)</p> <p>Kevin Oakhill (Co-opted member)</p>
Officers:	<p>Martin Silverwood, Deputy Principal Curriculum - online</p> <p>Kirstie Woodcock, Executive Director Student Services</p> <p>Sam Hanmer, Executive Director Stakeholder Engagement and Skills</p> <p>Jane Holloway, Executive Director Teaching and Quality Improvement</p>
Clerk:	<p>Jacqueline Mutibwa, Director of Governance</p>

1.	<p>Apologies for Absence</p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from Martin Bentham, Nezia De Roche (Student Governor, Croydon Campus) and Oleksandr Bristow (Student Governor, Coulsdon Campus).</p>
2.	<p>Declarations of Interest</p> <p>No member declared an interest in the item under discussion.</p>
3.	<p>Higher Education Update – Including OfS Data</p> <p>The Committee discussed an update on the HE provision since the last report in May 2025, in particular the key risk areas concerning the two remaining degree programmes. The Committee discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2024/25 performance to date data which showed that predicted achievement was expected to exceed national benchmarks for student outcomes this year. This includes continuation and completion rates for the degree programmes in Public Health & Care and Business Management. Performance in single year Level 4 qualifications was higher, supporting the case for the proposed changes to the curriculum offer. The minutes of the HE Academic Board Quality Committee meeting held on 9 June 2025 were noted. • the recent changes to Condition E6: Harassment and Sexual Misconduct. The Office for Students (OfS) had published updated guidelines in February 2025, outlining the requirements for compliance with Condition E6, aimed at protecting students from harassment and misconduct.

	<p>The OfS requires that all relevant policies and information is compiled into a single comprehensive source of information (CSI) by 1 August 2025. Appendix B, which outlined the specific information required under Condition E6, was noted. The College was working with its delivery partner, the University of Roehampton, to ensure compliance with Condition E6. Staff and governors would need to undertake training on harassment and sexual misconduct.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2025/26 applications to date and that performance was similar to the same time last year. Applications for University of Roehampton programmes were significantly higher. • the changes to the curriculum offer following concerns about the quality of the provision and a subsequent investigation that identified a significant number of both current and prospective HE students not meeting the required entry qualifications. Following discussions with the College's validating partner, it was decided that enrolments to the two remaining degree programmes would be suspended for the 2025/26 academic year, pending further review of the College's future approach to direct delivery of degree level programmes. Applicants to the suspended programmes would be offered either an alternative Level 4 programme or the option to transfer to a University of Roehampton degree. There was no requirement to inform regulators at this stage, as this was a pause in delivery rather than a withdrawal. For the 2025/26 academic year, the College's HE provision would focus on HND and HNC courses. • the financial contribution from direct HE delivery which was not significant compared to the partnership delivery with the University of Roehampton which generated higher income for the College. This was due to the accreditation cost of the degree courses through University of Roehampton. A pause in recruitment on the degree programmes would improve the financial contribution of direct delivery if Business applicants can be enrolled onto the HNC programme. It was noted that the College did not hold an Access Agreement, which would be required to charge tuition fees above the basic rate of £6,150 in 2025/26. However, an Access and Participation Plan had been submitted for 2026/27, which, if approved, would allow the College to raise fees above the basic rate. • an update on the Partnership Delivery with the University of Roehampton. The current agreement was due to expire, and re-negotiations were underway to explore whether Roehampton would be interested in expanding their offer at the Croydon Campus, including the potential to replace the College's two remaining degree programmes with degrees that they would deliver directly. This approach would enable the local community to continue accessing degree level provision and enable the College to focus its resources on Level 4 and 5 provision. The partnership delivery agreement with St Mary's University for the delivery
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	<p>of Initial Teacher Training (ITT) qualifications from the 2026/27 academic year and the expected income was noted.</p> <p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • noted that the College was pausing recruitment to the two remaining degree programmes for 2025/26 academic year, pending further investigation into the quality of HE applications not meeting required entry qualifications. The outcome of the investigation would be presented to the Committee at its next meeting. • noted that some governors may be required to undertake training in Harassment and Sexual Misconduct, in line with regulatory expectations (Condition E6 – OfS). • noted the risks associated with changes to the curriculum offer and the pause in the degree programme delivery. • agreed that the Executive Team would review the current degree offer and bring a recommendation to the Committee in the Autumn term on whether to continue direct degree provision in future years, taking into account: the College's duty to meet local skills needs, competition from other providers, the strength of partnership delivery options and the overall financial contribution of direct HE provision.
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