BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

Learning, Teaching and Quality Committee

Wednesday 13 May 2026 at 5.00pm **Room K-TO-624, Kingsway Campus** (MS Teams option available)

Minute of the Learning, Teaching and Quality Committee meeting held on Wednesday 13 May 2026 at 5.00pm in Room K-TO-624 Kingsway Campus and via Microsoft Teams.

PRESENT:	Neil Lowden	Sally Middleton
	Adele Lawrence	Connor Pithie
	Derek Smith	Laurie O'Donnell
	Ged Bell	Colin Smith
	Kirstin Marsh	Helen Honeyman

IN ATTENDANCE: Steve Taylor (Vice Principal / Secretary to the Board)
Julie Grace (Vice Principal Curriculum and Partnerships)
Jane Roscoe, Lee Lappin & Steph Toms (Directors of Curriculum & Partnerships)
Leann Crichton (Director of Student Experience)
Laura Watson (Learning & Teaching Enhancement Lead)

1. WELCOME

Neil Lowden opened the meeting by welcoming members to the LTQ Committee. He also thanked Adele Lawrence for her contribution to the work of the Committee as Student member and congratulated Connor Pithie on his re-election as Student President.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies received from S Oakley and K McIntosh.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & CONNECTION

There are no declarations of interest or connection.

4. MINUTE OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 11 February 2026 were approved.

5. MATTERS ARISING

Matters arising were covered in Paper B.

6. CURRICULUM REPORT – DEVELOPING LEARNER SURVEYS AND ACTIONS

L Lappin and L Watson presented an update on the arrangements and impact of the Elevate Learning & Teaching project undertaken in partnership with the College Development Network (CDN) and other colleges.

Project arrangements were outlined and L Lappin highlighted how the work was supporting the fourteen staff involved to discuss, reflect on and enhance their classroom learning and teaching. L Lappin stated that whilst there had been some issues around project organisation the feedback on the key elements supporting learning and teaching had been very positive. This included a range of 'how to' tips and information that provided practical support for staff in their delivery. These 'how to' inputs covered different topics and also classroom dynamics and engagement and had been welcomed by staff.

L Watson outlined how the opportunities had been used by project participants and how this influenced professional reflection and supported changes to observation engagement and practice.

L Lappin summarised the next steps following completion of the project and decisions that would be needed on whether the College should continue to invest in the Elevate platform.

Potential costs were discussed and J Grace highlighted the importance of investment in staff to support the development and enhancement of learning and teaching as our core business.

Links between the CPD support provided through the project and other developments in respect of the changing learner were discussed and it was noted that the 'how to' guides and related information aligned fully with trauma informed practice developments but that the elevate work focused much more on core teaching practices rather than behaviour management.

N Lowden welcomed the update and noted the value in having support of this type to help scaffold learning both for students and for staff. K Marsh noted the feedback from staff and asked if the platform developed or amended practice based on feedback. L Lappin noted that this wasn't currently a feature, but that staff using guides and materials could see the 'user rating' from others, similar to customer reviews on a shopping site.

K Marsh asked if the work would replace other CPD offers and J Grace highlighted that the challenge for many staff was the release of time to undertake CPD and that the elevate work brought this directly into their teaching activity, reducing the need for separate CPD time to be needed. This meant that the elevate work could significantly supplement CPD engagement, rather than displace other activities.

N Lowden confirmed that the approach was available to staff as needed and S Hewitt highlighted the positive element of having staff focused on and discussing learning and teaching, rather than finances or savings.

The Committee thanked Lee and Laura for their presentation.

7. COLLEGE LEAVERS DESTINATION REPORT

S Taylor summarised the report highlighting that this was retrospective in nature as it related to students leaving in 2023/2024 academic year and highlighted their destination in the six to nine month period after completing their course. S Taylor noted that a significant amount of data was available behind the headline figures and that this was available to teams to help inform their curriculum planning and transition / articulation arrangements.

It was noted that data on the institution and course destinations of college leavers was provided by the Scottish Funding Council but that other data was much harder to generate, often involving multiple calls and contacts with ex students to gather the information required.

S Taylor noted that D&A performed well in comparison with the sector and in the most recent data the 93.4% rate for D&A was well above the national rate of 85.4%.

It was noted that this was particularly evident for non-advanced student cohorts (up to SCQF level 6) where the College rate of 93% was very significantly in excess of the Scotland wide 77% figure).

The lengthy time delay surrounding data of this type was discussed. G Bell asked about arrangements for tracking those students that did not complete their courses. L Crichton summarised arrangements in place with Skills Development Scotland (SDS) to track young people that did not have a positive destination so that the appropriate support could be provided. L Crichton noted recent developments in respect of the data sharing portal that exists between the College and SDS and how this is used to provide rapid information to support early interventions for young people. This work had been picked up nationally by SDS who were looking to expand the D&A model into other regions.

L Crichton noted recent changes to seek destination data from students when they left College and the hope that (as well as providing more up to date information for teams) this work would simplify the data collection required for SFC.

L O'Donnell asked about the tracking of employment levels and areas and J Grace highlighted that this sat with SDS who provided regional data to the College (and others) that was used to inform curriculum planning.

The update was noted.

8. STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION REPORT

C Pithie and A Lawrence presented a comprehensive update on Student Association activities.

Significant student engagement in inputting ideas for future campus developments were noted, with over 1500 student feedback ideas gathered through the Pizza with the Principals sessions. All of this feedback had been pulled together and shared with the SLT. S Hewitt noted how positive it was to see that engagement and to have the opportunity to work with students on their views and thoughts about future developments.

The outcome of the student elections was noted, with C Pithie returning as student President and three new Vice Presidents elected: Marius Oprisan; Chaesel Melia and Leon Skinner, taking up their roles in June. C Pithie advised that it was anticipated that Chaesel would take up the second Student Board Member role.

The significant increase in engagement with the student led staff awards was noted, with over 650 student nominations received (a three-fold increase on the previous year).

Informal drop-ins were continuing, and work had progressed to update the Student Partnership Agreement with the College. This had been built on student input and also aligned with the 2030 Our College strategy.

K Marsh welcomed the update and asked how the feedback from the informal Tea and Toast sessions was gathered or collated. C Pithie noted that this was an area to be further developed but that any significant items raised were escalated to the appropriate point. C Pithie noted that there was an important balance to be struck between informal opportunities of this type and the formality of recording and that often students just wanted a chat. This was recognised and the benefit of informal opportunities noted.

H Honeyman welcomed the update and congratulated the Students' Association on the amazing work they undertook. This was echoed by others.

J Roscoe noted her thanks to A Lawrence for her input and engagement with the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA Scotland) STEP project arrangements and noted how this had influenced national work now being progressed.

The presentation was welcomed by the Committee.

9. CURRICULUM AND PARTNERSHIPS REPORT

J Grace summarised the report and highlighted the range of work, projects and developments taking place across the College.

The ESOL Multicultural event was noted as a particularly positive event and a great opportunity to build positive connections and relationships between different communities and backgrounds. The offshore wind developments in the curriculum were noted with interest.

J Roscoe highlighted the work being undertaken with Abertay University to enhance transitions for students. This work also aligned with the QAA STEP project work nationally and had shown significant benefits for students.

K Marsh asked if there was any more detailed information on the work and benefits and J Roscoe noted that this could be provided once the work had progressed to the appropriate point. **J Roscoe to progress**.

J Grace noted that the final point she wished to highlight was the championship win for the D&A Team at their first ESOL Football College Cup event.

The update and range of developments and successes was welcomed.

10. STRATEGIC RISK REGISTER

The Strategic Risk Register was noted and whilst a number of updates had been made there were no changes to the risks delegated to the Committee. This was approved.

11. LTQ METRICS

Metrics were presented for noting. S Taylor noted that despite the cuts in courses the credit forecast was now very close to the overall credit target. L Crichton reaffirmed that she was positive that the college will hit the required target.

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 26 August 2026, Room K-TO-624, Kingsway Campus

Action Point Summary

Action	Responsibility	Date
Additional information on the tertiary alignment work with Abertay to be shared with the Committee	J Roscoe	26 August 2026