



BOARD OF GOVERNORS

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ACTIVATE LEARNING  
HELD AT THE CITY OF OXFORD CAMPUS ON 9 JULY 2018

[REDACTED]

Teresa James (7/7) Vice Chair of the Corporation

[REDACTED]

Sally Dicketts (7/7) Chief Executive Officer

~~Maria Brueckin (6/7)~~

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Evelyn James (7/7)  
Dermot Mathias (6/7)  
Pauline Odulinski (6/7)  
Anja Owona Okoa (6/7) Student Governor  
Nina Robinson (5/7)  
Malcolm Wicks (7/7)  
Ben Sims (7/7) Staff Governor  
Julia Von Klonowski (5/7)

IN ATTENDANCE

Steve Ball Chief Finance Officer  
Lee Nicholls Deputy Chief Executive Officer

MINUTE  
NO.

ACTION

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Finance and Performance

*Group Budget and Financial Plan 2018/19*

The Board received the 2018/19 Budget, which was taken as read, and the CFO provided an overview of the key points. The Board noted that, following challenge at the previous meeting, the budget surplus had been reduced to £500k, to allow for a Group contingency of £400k; this would still ensure an ESFA rating of 'good'. The CFO advised the Board that exceptional income anticipated from the Saudi Partnership and the disposal of the Bicester campus was excluded from the budget. The Board briefly considered approval process for the Bicester campus disposal.

~~Action: Check the approval of the Property Strategy in 2016/17~~

Clerk

The Board considered the Activate Enterprise Ltd (AE Ltd) budget in detail, ~~noting the level of certainty in the figures, in light of past performance. The~~

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CFO and AE Ltd Link Governor assured the Board that the budget was based upon more robust information than in previous years, and the AE Ltd Board had scrutinised the budget prior to submission to the Corporation. The Board noted ~~the ongoing quality issues affecting AE Ltd, and agreed that budget aspirations~~

MINUTE  
NO.

ACTION

against a context of significant change and the risk of a post-Ofsted 'slump'. The Board agreed that it would be helpful to show achievement against national averages, which would be available in the following year. Having considered the breakdown of levels of embedding English and Maths in the faculties, the Board agreed that there should be a specific focus on English and Maths.

Action: Report on the embedding of Maths and English within curriculum delivery

DCEO

within regular Improvement Plan updates

*2018/19 Improvement Plan*

The Board received the 2018-19 Improvement Plan and noted that, despite setting targets slightly lower than the targets set within the 2021 plan, the trajectory remained set to achieve the 2021 target (achievement rates within the top 10% of colleges nationally). The Board agreed that yearly targets should flex within the confines of the 2021 end targets. The Board considered whether the targets were achievable, and were assured of the DCEO's confidence in the targets and reminded of the need to remain ambitious for the sake of learners.

The Board noted the significant year on year improvement predicted for in Timely

11/12

MINUTE  
NO.

ACTION

1. in the short term, one governor from each merger partner corporation would be invited to join the Activate Learning Board for a transitional two year term of office;
2. in the long term, members would be proactively sought from businesses with significant turnover in Barking and Dagenham.

[REDACTED]

Policies-

The Board received and approved the following policies:

- Gifts and Hospitality Policy
- Risk Management Policy (as approved by the Audit and Risk Committee)

[REDACTED]

- Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation Policy
- Customer Comments, Suggestions and Complaints Policy
- Admissions Policy
- Attendance, Punctuality and Absence Management Policy

Governors were invited to raise any questions relating to the policies with the

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Clerk. All members were agreed.



