

# EXETER COLLEGE FURTHER EDUCATION CORPORATION

## QUALITY AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 01 December at 5.30pm via teams.

### Present

Sue Clarke	Chair
Adam Watt	Vice Chair
John Laramy	Principal/CEO

Pamela DeGregorio  
Anthony Hart  
Chelsy Ingram  
Harrison Littler  
Albertina Mihaila  
Ayomide Okesola  
Antony Hart  
Wilf Hudson

### Apologies

Tim Quine	Vice Chair
Vicki Roberts	
Ashish Ghadiali	Co-Opted

### In Attendance

Jade Otty	Deputy CEO
Sam Hillman	Deputy Vice Principal
<i>Items 4.2 and 4.3</i> Lisa Smith	Assistant Principal
<i>Items 5.1 and 5.2</i> Kristyn Woodward	Kristyn Woodward, Director of Student Services
Jo Boardman	Head of Governance
Abbie Sawyer	Executive Officer Governance and Compliance (Minutes)

### 1. Welcome, Apologies and Declarations of Interest

Action

The Chair welcomed colleagues to the meeting, extending a particular welcome to Albertina Mihaila, HE student governor, to her first meeting. The Chair encouraged her to seek clarification during the meeting, asserted that the contribution of student governors is invaluable to the College.

Apologies were received from Vicki Roberts, Tim Quine and Ashish Ghadiali. No declarations of interest were received.

### 2. Minutes

2.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 29 September 2025, as circulated, were agreed as a true reflection of the meeting.

### 3. **Matters arising**

The Chair informed the Committee that Anthony Hart, in advance of becoming the Safeguarding Lead Governor in January, had met with the safeguarding team.

The Chair noted how pleasing it was to see governor representation at Learner Voice and thanked those who attended.

The Chair reviewed the actions arising from the previous meeting.

HoFG is continuing to work on the Glossary of terms to help aid Committee members. **HoFG**

Wilf Hudson attended Faculty Q&R, his update is further on in the agenda.

The wording around the staff survey will be reviewed at the EDI steering group and fed back to the Committee.

#### 3.1 **Quality and Resources Review Feedback**

Wilf Hudson attended Learner Voice and three Q&R's within the past week.

Learner Voice was excellently organised and well-structured. It was very well attended, and numerous positive reports were received regarding the quality of lessons, the standard of teaching, and the effectiveness of careers guidance. Improvements focused on practical issues such as transport, food etc.

In relation to Q&R, the associated documentation was detailed for all meetings, including draft SAR's, faculty self-assessment etc. Construction and HCP have very strong links with employers. All staff expressed great pride in being part of the college, reflecting the strength of its leadership. This furthers understanding of college review processes.

The Chair thanked Wilf for his feedback and agreed that Learner Voice is an important part of self-assessment, shows staff reflection and competition, alongside Q&R this gives Governors a much better insight into how the college is run. The Governors were encouraged to go along to a resources review.

### 4. **Quality Assurance**

#### 4.1 Self-Assessment Report (SAR) 2024/2025 and Quality Improvement Plan (QIP) 2025/2026

The Committee received the SAR 2024/2025, and the Committee noted the overall assessment grade of 'outstanding' and 'good' in high needs. The SAR uses the old Ofsted framework as this is a known quantity and language.

The Deputy CEO highlighted the key achievements, including consistency in results. There has been a three year upward trend in 16-18, 5.6% were above national average. There have been improvements in level 3, and adult achievement is 2% ahead of national average. The Committee were pleased to note the results achieved in the last year. Particular attention was drawn to intensive care, this now only has one course, rather than the normal three courses.

The Committee discussed high achieving grades compared to the national average. Governors questioned why A level (A\*/A) were below the national average. The College explained its commitment to inclusivity and various tracking systems confirm that the College is confident that high achievers are achieving.

Apprenticeships have achieved 75% by 2025; this has been a huge success.

In line with Ofsted focus, inclusion is featured more heavily, each Faculty has been asked to think about what their faculty looks like through the Lense of inclusion. Entry level and level 1 is improving each year; inclusion is woven throughout the SAR and is more transparent than previously.

The QIP is still aiming towards exceptional. Apprenticeships have a new target (78 by 28), in the spirit of inclusion this year the College are piloting a new risk tracker for faculty heads to be able to highlight which students need intervention.

The Committee discussed challenges with the new Ofsted framework, and new methodology, especially considering achievement gaps. The Committee were reassured that senior leaders are aware of any changes and threading this through the work. Approaches to self-assessment will have to adapt in the future to reflect this.

The Committee were reassured that there are more faculty self-assessments to be completed, which will be completed by full board.

The Chair thanked the Deputy CEO and Deputy Vice Principal for clear, helpful and well-organised documentation.

**The Committee agreed to recommend the SAR 2024/2025 and QIP 2025/2026 to Board for approval on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2025.**

**HoFG**

*\*Lisa Smith joined the meeting.*

- 4.2 HE SAR 2024/2025 and QIP 2025/2026  
The Committee received the HE SAR and QIP, noting that this is separate due to funding requirements from the OfS (Office for Students).

The HE Team are responsible for WRAP for all adults including HE and have implemented various new ways of working including a CRM system to track comms, ensuring more stability.

The Committee were pleased to note that the OfS have awarded £1.3m of funding to create a hospital ward. Positive areas include the student experience, WRAP, and the increased number of students participating in surveys.

Governors questioned where Accountability sits for, HE, as this does not fall under Ofsted, however there are OfS specific reports and TEF requirements. An examination of the TEF grade and grading procedures will be undertaken. The language in the SAR is very similar to Ofsted, as this is used across college.

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**The Committee agreed to recommend the HE SAR 2024/2025 and QIP 2025/2026 to the Board on 12 December 2025 for approval.**

**HoFG**

#### 4.3 ENDC Merged EDI Policy

This EDI Policy will need to be in place from day 1 of merger, this was shared in advance with the Committee.

Due diligence involved examinations of both the College and Petroc's policies and variation in content.

Governors questioned the change from equality to equity, and the driving factors behind this, the Committee were reassured that this is reflective of changes nationally. The change is reflected in the all-staff mandatory training, which the policy aligns with well.

Linguistic changes were discussed in point 2.12, the Committee agreed this would need to be moderated and this will be picked up by the EDI Steering Group.

**The Committee agreed to take the EDI Policy to the next Board Meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2025, subject to amendments above.**

**HoFG**

*\*Lisa Smith left the meeting.*

#### 5. **Safeguarding**

*\*Kristyn Woodward Joined the Meeting*

##### 5.1 Safeguarding Annual Report

The Committee were updated on the progress, changes and trends in safeguarding over the past year. Reassurance was provided that the College are vigilant, and all staff receive training.

The challenges of reporting bullying, and how this is reported were discussed. The HE and FE Student Governors confirmed that reporting /

where to go for help has been made clear, communication from tutors is good, QR codes are not used but do raise awareness.

The Committee were updated on accommodation, comprising of the Clocktower and 8 host families. This is inspected on a three-year cycle, and inspection of the accommodation is expected imminently. The Governors robustly discussed the inspection process for Host Families, agreeing that inspections should be carried out more regularly.

**The Committee agreed to recommend the Safeguarding Annual Report to Board for approval on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2025.**

**HoFG**

## 5.2 ENDC Merged Safeguarding and Child Protection policy.

The Committee had received the policy in advance; this would need to be implemented from day 1 of merger and would require a campus specific referral process.

The Committee noted the updates and questioned that a member of staff at Petroc holds a significant level of responsibility. The Committee were reassured that this recognises the diverse nature of provision from a smaller institution, and that there will be staff at both sites.

**The Committee agree to recommend the Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy to Board for approval on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2025.**

**HoFG**

## 6. **Responsiveness**

### 6.1 Student Induction Survey Outcomes

The first survey of the year for 16-18 was presented to the Committee, a high completion rate of 89.2% was highlighted. It was noted that this is a brilliant return for such a big cohort.

Inconsistency with fire drills were discussed in the survey, fire drills are very dependent on timetables and will be stressed more in future induction material.

**The Committee noted the assurance provided by the report.**

## 7. **Risk Register and Emerging Risks**

The Committee noted that the risk register had not changed significantly, and the risk mitigations were noted.

**The Committee did not propose any additional risk.**

### 8.1 **Items to take to next Board Meeting**

- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy

- EDI Policy
- SAR & QIP
- HE SAR & QIP

## 8.2 **Items for the next Meeting**

The Committee reviewed the cycle of business for the meeting on 2 March 2026.

## 8.3

### **Dates of next meetings**

- 2 March 2026
- 22 June 2026