

BOSTON COLLEGE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY 15 JUNE 2010

1. PRESENT

Mrs H Wright (chair), Ms S Daley and Mrs P Smith.

Also in attendance: Mrs J Hemmant (Clerk to the Corporation), Mr D McMillan (Head of Quality Improvement) and Mr J Rees (Director of Curriculum and Standards).

Apologies for absence were received from Mr T Huggins, Mrs L Ladds, Mr R Stanley and Mrs B Ward.

2. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 21 April 2010 were reviewed and approved. It was noted that Mr Rees had sent his apologies to the meeting.

Copies of the Matrix Report were distributed to members and it was agreed that these should be e-mailed to other governors.

In respect of Equality and Diversity it was noted that Equality Impact Assessments had commenced and that Mrs Josie Pedersen would be leaving the College shortly but a new appointment had already been made to replace her. The Committee discussed issues regarding the collection of data for Equality and Diversity.

3. IN-YEAR RETENTION

Members received a report from the Head of Quality Improvement on In-year Retention to May 2010. It was noted that there was some reduction in retention and that a larger proportion of learners were leaving early to go into employment. The review of benchmarks which would take place following the identification of discrepancies in the data provided by some colleges was likely to affect the comparisons in Boston's favour.

4. QA LESSON OBSERVATION OUTCOMES 2009-10

Members received a report from the Head of Quality Improvement on Lesson Observations and noted that there was an on-going improvement trend. Out of 161 observations only 2 had been graded as inadequate. The College's grading had been validated by peer review and a discussion took place about the ways in which improvements had been effected. It was agreed that the committee should be provided with an explanation of how the monitoring of information fitted together.

5. QUALITY ASSURANCE AND COMMISSIONING FRAMEWORK

Members received a report from the Director of Curriculum and Standards about the rapidly changing scenario within which the College was operating. The key principles of the National Commissioning Framework were identified and it was noted that the

College was building relationships with the Local Authority and assisting in its understanding of the issues. It was noted that a representative of CfBT would be coming to the Corporation meeting to talk about the commissioning process.

6. VIRTUAL LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Members received a report from the Head of Quality Improvement on issues relating to the development of the College's Virtual Learning Environment. It was noted that a review was being carried out to identify ways in which it could be improved and enhance learner engagement. This review would be looking at issues relating to infrastructure and choice of VLE.

7. NEXT MEETING

It was noted that the next meeting of the Committee would take place on 15 September 2010.