



# **Bishop Auckland College**

Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2020



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### **Reference and Administrative Details**

#### **Board of Governors**

P Petty

N Davison-Terranova

A Dunn

G Currie

I Shuttleworth (resigned Apr-20)

J Vincent

D Gowland

J Yarrow

J Ruffer

C Hutchinson

K Noble

### Clerk

J Banks

#### Senior management team

N Davison-Terranova - Principal and Chief Executive

J Layfield - Vice Principal, Curriculum & Quality

L Heighton - Acting Director of Finance

E Lamb - Director of Quality (left 31-Dec-19)

R Hinch - Director of 14-16 provision
C Wray - Director of Service Standards

S Johnson - Chief Executive SWDT

Principal and Registered Office - Woodhouse Lane, Bishop Auckland, County Durham, DL14 6JZ

#### **Professional advisors**

# Financial statements auditors and reporting accountants:

Statutory Auditor Chartered Accountants

1 St James Gate

Newcastle upon Tyne

NE1 4AD



### **Internal auditors:**

Audit One Kirkstone Villa Lanchester Road Hospital Durham DH1 5RD

### Bankers:

Barclays Bank plc PO Box 378 71 Grey Street Newcastle NE99 1JP

# Solicitors:

Muckle LLP Time Central 32 Gallowgate Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 4BF



# Strategic report

### **OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGY**

The governing body present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditor's report for Bishop Auckland College for the year ended 31 July 2020.

### Legal status

The Corporation was established under the Further and Higher Education Act 1992 for the purpose of governing Bishop Auckland College. The College is an exempt charity for the purposes of Part 3 of the Charities Act 2011. The annual report and financial statements represent the consolidated accounts of the Bishop Auckland College Group made up of the College and South West Durham Training, which is a wholly owned subsidiary of the College.

# Mission, Vision, Strategy and Objectives

During the 2019/20 year, Bishop Auckland College continued to operate in line with the priorities set out its 2017-2021 Strategic Plan, 'Building prosperity at the heart of the community'. Key strategic actions over the planning period are:

- ▶ Ongoing investment in staff training and development to ensure that the quality of education provided is consistently excellent.
- ▶ Move achievement, progress and progression rates towards best-in-class performance for all areas of activity.
- ► Generate surpluses for continued investment in exceptional resources by both increasing income and also leveraging efficiencies across the range of activities.
- ▶ Ensure that growth of Durham Gateway 14-16 alternative provision is underpinned by both high quality and strong partnerships with commissioners.
- ► Further expansion of the higher education portfolio, to include new degree-level programmes validated by The Open University, alongside existing University of Sunderland foundation degrees and Pearson HNC/D programmes.
- ► Further development of the South West Durham Training business in response to employer needs, with particular scope for growth in apprenticeships, higher education and commercial activity.
- ► Continue to develop our role as a key partner in the regeneration of Bishop Auckland and south Durham, through our work with the Brighter Bishop Auckland Partnership, the Auckland Academy and relationships with many employers and stakeholders.

A series of key performance indicators have been agreed to monitor the successful implementation of plans. The College is on target for achieving the vast majority of these objectives. However, the key performance issue of achievements in maths and English resits remains, and this continues to be a challenging policy area for colleges nationally.



# Strategic report (continued)

# **OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGY (continued)**

### **Key performance indicators**

The 2017-2021 strategic plan includes a range of key performance indicators and targets covering all aspects of Group performance (i.e. Bishop Auckland College and South West Durham Training). Performance is reviewed regularly against these targets. Performance against headline KPIs is summarised below.

# **Key Performance Indicators 2019/20**

	Key performance indicator	2019/20 performance
1	Meet recruitment targets for all sectors of Group provision, as agreed through a market-led business planning and budget building process.	Bishop Auckland College: 14-16 105%, 16-18 100.8% Adult skills 81% 19+Loans 82.5% Apprenticeships 16-18/19+82%, Higher education 89% South West Durham Training: 16-18 80%, Apprenticeships 83% Commercial 39%, Higher education 71.6%  Note: Recruitment to adult skills, apprenticeships and commercial programme was adversely impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic from March 2020.
2	All teachers provide a consistently high quality of education.	Extensive quality improvement activity impacted positively upon the quality of education between September 2019 and March 2020. However, QA activity was limited by the Covid-19 pandemic.
3	Achievement rate in top decile nationally for each qualification type and all types of provision, including 16-18, adults and apprenticeships.	<ul> <li>16-18: 84% (including maths and English)</li> <li>Adult: 94.5%</li> <li>Apprenticeships – overall 81.5%. Timely 72.8%</li> </ul>
4	Achieve overall satisfaction rating of 90% for all stakeholder groups (students, employers, parents/carers, staff).	<ul> <li>All students: 96%</li> <li>HE NSS survey: 91%</li> <li>Employers: 88%</li> <li>Parents 95%</li> <li>Staff: 96%</li> </ul>
5	Meet contribution targets for all sectors of Group provision-mean 55%.	• 50.76%
6	Return a minimum of 2% surplus on income excluding pensions adjustments	• 2.5%



# Strategic report (continued)

### **OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGY (continued)**

#### Resources

The Group has various resources that it can deploy in pursuit of its strategic objectives. The Group employs 209 people (expressed as full-time equivalents), of whom 150 are teaching staff.

The Group enrolled approximately 3488 students. The Group's student population includes 63 direct funded 14-to-16-year-old-students, 696 16-to-18-year-old students, 517 apprentices, 164 higher education students and Student and adult learners.

The Group has £9.857 million of net liabilities (including £15.140 million pension liability) and long-term debt of £5.271 million. Tangible resources include the main college site, the Skills and Employment Centre at Spennymoor, Business Training Services and South West Durham Training in Newton Aycliffe and £3.319 million held in current assets.

The Group has a good reputation locally and nationally, as demonstrated by positive feedback from stakeholders. Maintaining a quality brand is essential for the Group's success at attracting students and maintaining positive and productive relationships with a range of external stakeholders.

#### **Stakeholders**

The College has many stakeholders including:

- its current, future and past students;
  - its staff and their trade unions:
  - the employers and employer bodies it works with;
  - the professional organisations in relevant industry sectors;
  - its partner schools and universities; the wider college community;
  - local authorities and the Local Enterprise Partnership.
  - Organisations engaged in the regeneration of Bishop Auckland, including The Auckland Project.

The Bishop Auckland College Group is an outward-facing organisation that recognises the critical importance of collaboration. Business planning is strongly influenced by our connections with the North East Local Enterprise Partnership (NELEP) at the regional level and Durham County Council at the local authority level. Employer engagement lies at the heart of our work and each year the Bishop Auckland College Group works with around 300 employers, both large employers and SMEs. We are particularly proud of our role as a key partner in the regeneration of Bishop Auckland and south Durham, and here our relationships with business and community organisations are fundamental in helping to leverage the benefits of our collective work.

Strong relationships with our two university partners (University of Sunderland and The Open University) underpin the College's growing range of accessible higher education opportunities that attract many students who would not traditionally have engaged in higher education. Relationships with the College's 15 direct feeder schools are productive and extend well beyond the traditional marketing agenda. For example, partnership work over many years has underpinned development of the College's full-time 14-16 alternative provision. Work with the local specialist SEN school has strongly influenced development of the College's high needs provision.



# Strategic report (continued)

#### **DEVELOPMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

#### **Financial Results**

The Group generated a deficit before other gains and losses of £551k (2018/19: £276k). This was a decline against the results in 2018/19 despite income being at a higher level. The LGPS accounting adjustment for the year was significantly higher than 2018/19 at £810k (2018/19 £410k) however there was a negative actuarial adjustment of £6,140m to the pension liability.

#### **Developments**

In line with the priorities set out in the strategic plan, developments during the 2019/20 year centred on two key areas of activity: 14-16 alternative provision and higher education. This was the second year of operation or Durham Gateway, the brand name of the College's specialist 14-16 alternative provision. This is designed for young people who are at risk of exclusion form mainstream education, and with 60 students enrolled during 2019/20, this represented significant growth from the 40 enrolled in the first year of this provision.

Good progress was also made on implementation of the higher education strategy. After securing the approval of The Open University (OU) to deliver OU validated undergraduate degree programmes, the first degree, BA (Hons) Counselling, was launched successfully in September 2019. This was followed by development and validation of the BSc (Hons) Sports Coaching programme during the 2019/20 academic year, with its subsequent launch on September 2020.

#### Reserves

The Group has accumulated reserves of (£9.857m) and cash and short term investment balances of £2.187m. The Group wishes to continue to accumulate reserves and cash balances in order to create a contingency fund.

#### Sources of income

The Group has significant reliance on the education sector funding bodies for its principal funding source, largely from recurrent grants. In 2019/20 the FE funding bodies provided 72.1% of the Group's total income.

#### **Group companies**

South West Durham Training Limited (SWDT) is a wholly owned subsidiary of Bishop Auckland College. The main business of all elements of the Bishop Auckland Group is the provision of education. The accounts for SWDT are consolidated into the Group accounts and in the 2019/20 year contributed a deficit of £195k (2018/19: £105k).

With the ongoing impact of COVID-19 SWDT is expected to make a small deficit in 2020/21 and to return a surplus in the 2021/22 year. All expenditure incurred during the year was through activity carried out by College employees or procured through the College's normal business.



# Strategic report (continued)

### **Impact of Covid-19**

The global pandemic was unprecedented and the impact is expected to continue for some time to come. A cautious approach was taken to forecasting in 2019/20 to prepare for a realistic projected outturn for 2019/20. The impact of Covid-19 on the 2019/20 result was less significant than expected with the main areas affected being apprenticeship, commercial and nursery income. Additional impact on income was alleviated by the agreement reached by the ESFA to claw back adult education budget funding achieved below 80%, with the group outturn for AEB being 83.7%. The more significant impact is expected to be in 2020/21 year with many areas of the business being affected by the ongoing pandemic.

#### **FUTURE PROSPECTS**

### **Developments**

Further growth of Durham Gateway 14-16 provision is planned and this is contingent upon relocation of Durham Gateway activity to an alternative site. This will require some capital investment and the timing of this move is to be confirmed.

Following the successful validation of the College to offer Open University programme, it is expected that further degree programmes will be submitted for validation. Subject areas presently under consideration include social work and criminology.

#### Financial plan

The College governors approved a three year financial plan in July 2020 which sets objectives for the period to 2022.

### Treasury policies and objectives

The College has treasury management arrangements in place to manage cash flows, banking arrangements and the risks associated with those activities. Any short term borrowing for temporary revenue purposes would be authorised by the Principal/Chief Executive Officer. All other borrowing requires the authorisation of the Corporation.

#### Cash flows and liquidity

At £748k (2018/19 £770k), net cash flow from operating activities was sufficient to comfortably meet the requirements of the banking covenant.

The College's borrowing relates to a 25 year fixed term loan taken out to finance the rebuilding of the College premises in three phases. This year sees the end of the twelfth year of that loan agreement. At the point the loan was taken out the interest rate was favourable. The College seeks to ensure a reasonable cushion between the total cost of servicing debt and operating cash flow annually. During the year this margin was exceeded.

### Reserves

The College has no formal Reserves Policy but recognises the importance of reserves in the financial stability of any organisation, and ensures that there are adequate reserves to support the College's core activities. As at the balance sheet date the Income and Expenditure reserve stands at (£12.250m) (2019: £5.619m). It is the Corporation's intention to increase reserves over the life of the strategic plan through the generation of annual operating surpluses.



# Strategic report (continued)

# Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Corporation considers that the Group has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, it continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

#### PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

#### Risk management

The College has well developed strategies for managing risk and strives to embed risk management in all that it does. Risk management processes are designed to protect its assets, reputation and financial stability. The governing body has overall responsibility for risk management and its approach to managing risks and internal controls is explained in the Statement on Corporate Governance.

A risk register is maintained at the College level which is reviewed termly by the Audit Committee. The risk register identifies the key risks, the likelihood of those risks occurring, their potential impact on the College and the actions being taken to reduce and mitigate the risks. Risks are prioritised using a consistent scoring system.

The main risk factors affecting the College are outlined below along with the action taken to minimise them. Not all the factors are within the College's control. Other factors besides those listed below may also adversely affect the College.

- Reduced recruitment to apprenticeships due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on economy and local businesses.
- Declining income in the short, medium and long term due to government funding policy and demographic factors.
- Weak Ofsted judgement and poor college performance.
- Failure to manage performance of subsidiary company SWDT.
- · Low achievement in English and Mathematics for full and part time learners
- Lack of investment with the technology aspects of desktops, servers, security and media resulting in inadequate IT systems



# Strategic report (continued)

#### **KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS**

### Financial objectives

A series of performance indicators have been agreed to monitor the successful implementation of the policies:

Key performance Indicator	Measure/Target	Actual for 2019/20
Achieve annual income and recruitment targets	£12.6m	£12.6m
Return a minimum of 2% surplus on income year on year (excluding pension adjustment)	2%	2.5%
Ensure covenants are achieved	Met	Met
Ensure staffing expenditure excluding partnership income, restructuring and pension fund deficit adjustments is no more than 61% of annual turnover	61%	60%
Borrowing <40% turnover	47.45%	44.47%
Remain solvent with a minimum net current ratio of 1.2 (ESFA financial health calculation)	1.2	1.53
Financial health score	Good	Good

The college is committed to benchmarking its performance against a range of sector measure and indicators. National benchmarking information such as the FE choices data available on the gov.uk website, and also Department for Education college performance data, is referenced extensively in order to underpin judgements about the performance of the College and to inform future plans. The college is required to complete the annual finance record for the Education and Skills Funding Agency ("ESFA"). The college is assessed by the ESFA as having a "good" financial health grading.

# Student achievements

Students continue to prosper at the College. Headline classroom learning achievement rates remained at the same high level as 2018/19, at 90.7% for the College. For SWDT there was an improvement to 80.2% in 2019/20 from 73.4% in 2018/19. Apprenticeship achievement rates have improved significantly for the College, to reach an overall achievement rate of 81.5% from 74.2% the previous year. SWDT apprenticeship headline achievement rates have also improved to 70.5%. The College underwent an Ofsted monitoring visit in December 2019 as a result of the 'requires improvement' judgement made at the November/December 2018 full inspection. The inspectors concluded that the College was making reasonable progress in all areas. The current Ofsted grade for SWDT is 'outstanding', from the last inspection in July 2014. It is expected that SWDT will be inspected imminently, once regular inspections recommence after the pandemic. Both organisations are committed to being outstanding learning providers and operational plans reflect this focus.



# Strategic report (continued)

#### OTHER INFORMATION

#### **Public Benefit**

Bishop Auckland College is an exempt charity under the Part 3 of the Charities Act 2011 and is regulated by the Secretary of State for Education. The members of the Governing Body, who are trustees of the charity, are disclosed on page 1. In setting and reviewing the Group's strategic objectives, the Governing Body has had due regard for the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and particularly upon its supplementary guidance on the advancement of education.

In delivering its mission, in 2019/20 the Group provided identifiable public benefits through the advancement of education to 2873 students, including 43 students with high needs. The college provides courses without charge to young people, to those who are unemployed and adults taking English and maths course. The college adjusts its courses to meet the needs of local employers and provides training to 547 apprentices in 2019/20. The Group is committed to providing information, advice and guidance to the students it enrols and to finding suitable courses for as many students as possible regardless of their educational background.

### **Equality**

The Group is committed to ensuring equality of opportunity for all who learn and work here. We respect and value positively differences in race, gender, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity, disability, religion or belief and age. We strive vigorously to remove conditions which place people at a disadvantage, and we will actively combat bigotry. The Equality and Diversity Policy is resourced, implemented and monitored on a planned basis and is published on the Group's website.

The Group publishes an Annual Equality Report and Equality Objectives to ensure compliance with all relevant equality legislation including the Equality Act 2010. The Group undertakes equality impact assessments on all new policies and procedures. Equality impact assessments are also undertaken for existing policies and procedures on a prioritised basis.

The Group is a 'Disability Confident' employer and has committed to ensure our recruitment process is inclusive and accessible; that we communicate and promote vacancies; that we offer an interview to disabled people who meet the minimum criteria for the job; we will anticipate and provide reasonable adjustments as required; we will support any existing employee who acquires a disability or long term health condition, enabling them to stay in work; and we will look to implement at least one activity that will make a difference for disabled people.

The Group's policy is to provide training, career development and opportunities for promotion which, as far as possible, provide identical opportunities to those of non-disabled employees.

The Group has an Equality and Diversity training programme within which all staff are required to carry out Equality and Diversity Training and attend refresher training at least annually.



# Strategic report (continued)

### **Disability statement**

The Group seeks to achieve the objectives set down in the Equality Act 2010:

- a) As part of its accommodation strategy the College updated its access audit. Experts in this field conducted a full access audit during 2008/09, and the results of this formed the basis of funding capital projects aimed at improving access. This has since been reviewed and further work carried out.
- b) The Group has a Learning Support Co-ordinator, who provides information, advice and arranges support where necessary for students with disabilities.
- c) The Group has specialist equipment to help students with disabilities.
- d) The Group has an admissions policy for all students. Appeals against a decision not to offer a place are dealt with under the complaints policy.
- e) The Group has study support tutors to support students with learning difficulties and/or disabilities. The team of Learning Support Assistants provide a variety of support for learning.
- f) There is a continuing programme of staff development to ensure the provision of a high level of appropriate support for students who have learning difficulties and/or disabilities.
- g) Group courses are described in Group prospectuses and are available in various formats. Achievements and destinations are recorded and analysed in relation to all students.
- h) Welfare services are described in the Group Student Handbook, which is held on the virtual learning platform, Moodle and discussed with students at induction.

### Trade union facility time

The Trade Union (Facility Time Publication Requirements) Regulations 2017 require the college to publish information on facility time arrangements for trade union officials at the college.

Numbers of employees who were relevant period		FTE employee number	
2		2	
Percentage of time	Number of employees		
0%		1	
1-50%	2	1	
51-99%		Ī	
100%		1	
Total cost of facility time	£4.4k		
Total pay bill	£8,931 m		
Percentage of total bill spent or	0.05%		
		•	
Time spent on paid trade union paid facility time	6%		



# Strategic report (continued)

### **OTHER INFORMATION (continued)**

#### Payment performance

The Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest) Act 1998, which came into force on 1 November 1998, requires colleges, in the absence of agreement to the contrary, to make payments to suppliers within 30 days of either the provision of goods or services or the date on which the invoice was received. During the accounting period 1 August 2019 to 31 July 2020, the College paid 98 per cent of its invoices within 30 days. The College incurred no interest charges in respect of late payment for this period.

#### **EVENTS AFTER THE REPORTING PERIOD**

There were no significant post balance sheet events.

# **DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION TO AUDITORS**

The members who held office at the date of approval of this report confirm that, so far as they are each aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the College's auditors are unaware; and each member has taken all the steps that he or she ought to have taken to be aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the College's auditors are aware of that information.

Approved by order of the members of the Corporation on xxxxxx and signed on its behalf by:

Pamela Petty Chair

1. leth



# **Statement of Corporate Governance and Internal Control**

The following statement is provided to enable readers of the annual report and accounts of the College to obtain a better understanding of its governance and legal structure. This statement covers the period from 1st August 2019 to 31st July 2020 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

The College endeavours to conduct its business:

- i. in accordance with the seven principles identified by the Committee on Standards in Public Life (selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership);
- ii. in full accordance with the guidance to colleges from the Association of Colleges in The Code of Good Governance for English Colleges ("the Code").

In the opinion of the Governors, the College complies with all relevant provisions of the Code, and it has complied throughout the year ended 31 July 2020. The Governing Body recognises that, as a body entrusted with both public and private funds, it has a particular duty to observe the highest standards of corporate governance at all times. In carrying out its responsibilities, it takes full account of The Code of Good Governance for English Colleges issued by the Association of Colleges in March 2015, which it formally adopted on 13 July 2015. Subsequently, the Board adopted the Association of Colleges document "The College's Senior Post Holder Remuneration Code" at its meeting on 25 March 2019.



# **Statement of Corporate Governance and Internal Control (continued)**

# **The Corporation**

The members who served on the Corporation during the year and up to the date of signature of this report were as listed in the table below.

Natalie Davison-Terranova   O1.01.13	served Attendan ce in 2018/19 - % (rounded)	Committees served	Status of appointment	Date of resignati on /end of service	Term of office (years)	Date of appointment	
Dunn    Dunn	n &	Governance • Curriculum & Quality	Principal	n/a	n/a	01.01.13	Davison-
Currie  Diane Gowland  Diane Diane Gowland  Diane Diane Diane Gowland  Diane D	91 ice	<ul><li>Search &amp;</li></ul>	West Durham	n/a		06.11.14	
Diane Gowland  O5.02.18  4  Intendent member  Ocorporation Curriculum & Quality (Chair) Audit  Pamela Petty (Reappointed 15.07.17)  Independent member  Chair of Corporation Chair of Corporation Chair of Corporation Chair of Search & Governance Independent member  Chair of Audit Search & Governance Resources  Jane Ruffer Independent member  Independent member  Search & Governance Resources  Independent member  Curriculum & Quality  Christopher  Onl 2.19  Independent  Outlied  Out		(Chair) • Curriculum &		n/a	4	15.07.19	
Petty (Reappointed 15.07.17)    Corporation   Chair of Search & Governance	on n &	<ul> <li>Vice Chair of Corporation</li> <li>Curriculum &amp; Quality (Chair)</li> </ul>	1	n/a	4	05.02.18	
Yarrow    Member   Search & Governance	Search	<ul><li>Corporation</li><li>Chair of Search</li></ul>		n/a		(Reappointed	
Reappointed   Resources   Covernance   Covernance	ice	<ul> <li>Search &amp; Governance</li> </ul>		n/a	4	19.12.16	
Shuttlewort h member  Julie 10.12.18 1 n/a Staff member • Curriculum & Quality  Christopher 09.12.19 4 n/a Independent • Curriculum &	100			n/a	4		Jane Ruffer
Vincent Reappointed) Quality  Christopher 09.12.19 4 n/a Independent • Curriculum &				n/a	4	15.07.19	Shuttlewort
	n & 88		Staff member	n/a	1	Reappointed)	
mutchinson	n & 75	Curriculum &     Quality	Independent member	n/a	4	09.12.19	Christopher Hutchinson
Kelly Noble 24.04.20 4 n/a Independent Member • Audit	100	• Audit		n/a	4	24.04.20	



# Statement of Corporate Governance and Internal Control (continued)

#### The Corporation (continued)

It is the Corporation's responsibility to bring independent judgement to bear on issues of strategy, performance, resources and standards of conduct.

The Corporation is provided with regular and timely information on the overall financial performance of the College together with other information such as performance against funding targets, proposed capital expenditure, quality matters and personnel-related matters such as health and safety and environmental issues. The Corporation meets at least once each term; in 2019-20 there were 5 Board meetings.

The Corporation conducts its business through a number of committees. Each committee has terms of reference, which have been approved by the Corporation. These committees are Audit, Search & Governance, Resources and Curriculum & Quality; meetings of Remuneration, Appeals, Appointments and Special Committees are called as required. Full minutes of all meetings, except those deemed to be confidential by the Corporation, are available from the Clerk to the Corporation at the college's registered address.

The Clerk to the Corporation maintains a register of financial and personal interests of the governors. The register is available for inspection at the Bishop Auckland College, Woodhouse Lane, Bishop Auckland, DL14 6JZ.

All governors are able to take independent professional advice in furtherance of their duties at the College's expense and have access to the Clerk to the Corporation, who is responsible to the Board for ensuring that all applicable procedures and regulations are complied with. The appointment, evaluation and removal of the Clerk are matters for the Corporation as a whole.

Formal agendas, papers and reports are supplied to governors in a timely manner, prior to Board meetings. Briefings are provided on an ad hoc basis.

The Corporation has a strong and independent non-executive element and no individual or group dominates its decision-making process. The Corporation considers that each of its non-executive members is independent of management and free from any business or other relationship which could materially interfere with the exercise of their independent judgement.

There is a clear division of responsibility in that the roles of the Chair and Accounting Officer are separate.



# Statement of Corporate Governance and Internal Control (continued)

### **Appointments to the Corporation**

Any new appointments to the Corporation are a matter for the consideration of the Corporation as a whole. The Corporation has a Search & Governance Committee, consisting of four members of the Corporation, which is responsible for the selection and nomination of any new member for the Corporation's consideration. The Corporation is responsible for ensuring that appropriate training is provided as required.

Members of the Corporation are appointed for a term of office not exceeding four years. In accordance with the recommendation in the AoC Code of Good Governance for English Colleges no more than two terms of office (or eight years) are normally served by members.

### **Corporation performance**

The Corporation carried out a self-assessment of its own performance for the year ended 31st July 2020 and graded itself as "good" on the Ofsted scale.

Despite the challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic during the 2019/20 academic year, governors were able to access a range of rich sources of evidence – both external and internal – to underpin judgements about the performance of the Corporate Board and to inform future improvement planning. These evidence sources include:

- Ofsted monitoring inspection of 18/19 December 2019
- Feedback from FE Commissioner's team diagnostic assessment follow-up visit (28 September 2020)
- Ofsted interim visit (review of arrangements in view of Covid-19) (5/6 November 2020)
- Compliance review against Code of Good Governance for English Colleges (December 2020)
- External observation of 13 July 2020 meeting of the Corporate Board
- · Routine online self-assessment surveys following each Board and Committee meeting
- Success of the college as a whole in meeting strategic objectives and associated performance measures and the contribution the Board has made to that success

As a result of the Corporation's reflection on its own performance, a number of key improvement actions have been taken in a timely way:

- Restructuring of governance arrangements to re-introduce two sub-committees of the Corporate Board, i.e. the Curriculum and Quality Committee and the Resources Committee approved 15 July 2019 and effective from September 2019
- Appointment of replacement and additional governors
- The senior postholder role of vice principal curriculum and quality has been re-introduced into the senior leadership structure and appointed to
- Reintroduction of the role of vice chair and appointment of an incumbent
- Succession planning for replacement of the roles of chair and clerk

Consideration has also been given to the extent to which committees have met their terms of reference and remain fit for purpose. The Resources Committee and Curriculum and Quality Committee were re-introduced from the start of the 2019/20 academic year. The rationale for this change was to facilitate an increased focus on both the financial performance of the College and quality improvement.



# Statement of Corporate Governance and Internal Control (continued)

In practice, governors have found that the new model allows more extensive time for in-depth discussion, scrutiny and challenge of all aspects of College activity, and also that they are able to build expertise in their committee remits. During the Covid-19 pandemic, governors felt that they were well-appraised of the actions that the College was taking and also that there was an opportunity for detailed scrutiny of quality assurance arrangements and how these applied in the new context of online learning.

#### **Remuneration Committee**

Throughout the year ending 31 July 2020 the College's Remuneration Committee comprised three members of the Corporation; no meetings were required. The Committee's responsibilities are to make recommendations to the Board on the remuneration and benefits of the Accounting Officer and other key management personnel.

Details of remuneration for the year ended 31 July 2020 are set out in note 8 to the financial statements.

#### **Audit Committee**

The Audit Committee comprises at least two members of the Corporation (excluding the Accounting Officer and Chair) and allows for 5 members. The Committee operates in accordance with written terms of reference approved by the Corporation.

The Audit Committee meets on at least a termly basis and provides a forum for reporting by the College's internal, reporting accountants and financial statements auditors, who have access to the Committee for independent discussion, without the presence of College management. The Committee also receives and considers reports from the main FE funding bodies as they affect the Group's business and reports.

The Group's internal auditors review the systems of internal control, risk management controls and governance processes in accordance with an agreed plan of input and report their findings to management and the Audit Committee.

Management is responsible for the implementation of agreed audit recommendations and internal audit undertakes periodic follow-up reviews to ensure such recommendations have been implemented.

The Audit Committee also advises the Corporation on the appointment of internal, reporting accountants and financial statements auditors and their remuneration for audit and non-audit work as well as reporting annually to the Corporation.

#### **Search & Governance Committee**

The Search and Governance Committee performs the key role of promoting interest in governance positions and considering applications for membership. Applications are sourced either via responses to open advertisements (e.g. on the College website) or through a search for specific skill-sets where the skills audit identifies either present or emerging skills gaps (e.g. succession planning). Key priorities for the Search and Governance Committee are to ensure that Board appointments are made in accordance with the College's equality and diversity policy, that the Board is inclusive and that its profile is representative of the College's student and staff bodies.



# Statement of Corporate Governance and Internal Control (continued)

Over the last year, two appointments have been made, bringing specialist skills and experience as follows:

- Business enterprise expertise (the chief executive of a local enterprise agency)
- Legal expertise (a practicing lawyer)

The Search & Governance Committee is also responsible for considering and reporting to the Board, as appropriate, other governance matters including the skills audit of the Board and its committees, monitoring governor attendance, reviewing the Instrument & Articles of Association and monitoring the Actions and Resolutions Register.

#### Internal control

#### Scope of responsibility

The Corporation is ultimately responsible for the College's system of internal control and for reviewing its effectiveness. However, such a system is designed to manage rather than eliminate the risk of failure to achieve business objectives, and can provide only reasonable and not absolute assurance against material misstatement or loss.

The Corporation has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Principal, as Accounting Officer, for maintaining a sound system of internal control that supports the achievement of the College's policies, aims and objectives, whilst safeguarding the public funds and assets for which they are personally responsible, in accordance with the responsibilities assigned to them in the Financial Memorandum/Financial Agreement between Bishop Auckland College and the funding bodies. They are also responsible for reporting to the Corporation any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

### The purpose of the system of internal control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives; it can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an ongoing process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of College policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in Bishop Auckland College for the year ended 31 July 2020 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and accounts.



# Statement of Corporate Governance and Internal Control (continued)

### Internal control (continued)

#### Capacity to handle risk

The Corporation has reviewed the key risks to which the College is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks.

The Corporation is of the view that there is a formal ongoing process for identifying, evaluating and managing the College's significant risks that has been in place for the period ending 31 July 2019 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and accounts. This process is regularly reviewed by the Corporation.

#### The risk and control framework

The system of internal control is based on a framework of regular management information, administrative procedures including the segregation of duties, and a system of delegation and accountability. In particular, it includes:

- comprehensive budgeting systems with an annual budget, which is reviewed and agreed by the governing body
- regular reviews by the governing body of periodic and annual financial reports which indicate financial performance against forecasts
- setting targets to measure financial and other performance
- clearly defined capital investment control guidelines
- the adoption of formal project management disciplines, where appropriate.

The Group has an internal audit service, which operates in accordance with the requirements of the ESFA's *Post 16 Audit Code of Practice*. The work of the internal audit service is informed by an analysis of the risks to which the College is exposed, and annual internal audit plans are based on this analysis. The analysis of risks and the internal audit plans are endorsed by the Corporation on the recommendation of the Audit Committee. At minimum, annually, the Head of Internal Audit (HIA) provides the governing body with a report on internal audit activity in the Group. The report includes the HIA's independent opinion on the adequacy and effectiveness of the Group's system of risk management, controls and governance processes.

### Review of effectiveness

As Accounting Officer, the Principal has responsibility for reviewing the effectiveness of the system of internal control. Their review of the effectiveness of the system of internal control is informed by:

- the work of the internal auditors
- the work of the executive managers within the Group who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework
- comments made by the Group's financial statements auditors, the reporting accountant for regularity assurance in their management letters and other reports.



# Statement of Corporate Governance and Internal Control (continued)

#### Internal control (continued)

The Accounting Officer has been advised on the implications of the result of their review of the effectiveness of the system of internal control by the Audit Committee, which oversees the work of the internal auditor and other sources of assurance, and a plan to address weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

The senior management team receives reports setting out key performance and risk indicators and considers possible control issues brought to their attention by early warning mechanisms, which are embedded within the departments and reinforced by risk awareness training. The senior management team and the Audit Committee also receive regular reports from internal audit and other sources of assurance, which include recommendations for improvement. The Audit Committee's role in this area is confined to a high-level review of the arrangements for internal control. The Corporation's agenda includes a regular item for consideration of risk and control and receives reports thereon from the senior management team and the Audit Committee. The emphasis is on obtaining the relevant degree of assurance and not merely reporting by exception. At its 23 November 2020 meeting, the Corporation carried out the annual assessment for the year ended 31 July 2020 by considering documentation from the senior management team and internal audit, and taking account of events since 31 July 2020.

Based on the advice of the Audit Committee and the Accounting Officer, the Corporation is of the opinion that the College has an adequate and effective framework for governance, risk management and control, and has fulfilled its statutory responsibility for "the effective and efficient use of resources, the solvency of the institution and the body and the safeguarding of their assets".

#### Going concern

The world continues to be in the grips of a global pandemic and there is much about the future that is uncertain. There is general agreement that the country will suffer a recession the likes of which has not been seen since the Second World War. It is also generally accepted that in periods of financial pressure the training budget is one of the first things to be cut by businesses. Consequently, it is anticipated that apprenticeship recruitment will be severely impacted by the recession.

A cautious approach was taken in preparing the 2020/21 budget and a recent reforecast has shown that despite caution, income streams have been affected more significantly that originally anticipated. Whist there has been a reduction in income and staffing costs and non pay remain steady, the group remains in 'good' financial health and is forecasting to meet the covenant with end of year cash balances at £2.187m. The quarter 1 forecast shows a clearer position on adult education number, 16-19 study programme numbers, HE and other ESFA including high needs. Where there still remains some risk these areas, the forecast is expected to be achieved. The more significant areas of risk are apprenticeships and commercial income. Apprenticeship and commercial income have been further impacted by a second lock down. A cautious approach has been taken to reforecasting but it remains to be seen what happens when the current lockdown ends. Apprenticeship income forecast have been based on current numbers and new start together with positive potential new starts and expected in year completion. This is the most up to date and realistic information at this point. Commercial income is much the same, based on realistic numbers in the nursery, with a gap in other commercial income that has been confirmed for SWDT with £45k. Budget have been prepared for 2021/22 and shown the group returning to a good outturn for the year 2021/22 at surplus being 3.5% of income and budgeted cash balances projected to be £2.5m. Growth is projected in the 14-16 provision and HE. The covenant is projected to be met in 2021/22. The 2021/22 budget will undergo a review at the end of March-21 when the curriculum plan is completed and allocation have been confirmed. After making appropriate enquiries, the Corporation considers that the College has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and can continue on a going concern basis during 2021/22 and for 12 month from sign off of the financial statements. For this reason, it continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Approved by order of the members of the Corporation on 4th February 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

Signed : Pamela Petty

Chair

Signed
Natalie Davison-Terranova
Accounting Officer

M. Drivian- Gerrarwa



# Statement of Regularity, Propriety and Compliance

The Corporation has considered its responsibility to notify the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of funding, under the College's grant funding agreements and contracts with the ESFA. As part of our consideration we have had due regard to the requirements of the financial memorandum. We confirm on behalf of the Corporation, that after due enquiry, and to the best of our knowledge, we are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of funds by the College, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the College's financial memorandum.

We confirm that no instances of material irregularity, impropriety or funding non-compliance have been discovered to date. If any instances are identified after the date of this statement, these will be notified to the ESFA.

Signed

M. Davisan-Yerrarwa

Signed

Natalie Davison-Terranova Accounting Officer

Date

4th February 2021

Pamela Petty Chair of Governors Date



# Statement of Responsibilities of the Members of the Corporation

The members of the Corporation (who act as trustees for the charitable activities of the College and are also the directors of the college for the purposes of company law) are required to present audited financial statements for each financial year.

The law applicable to charities in England and the terms and conditions of the Funding Agreement between the Education and Skills Funding Agency and the Corporation of the College, requires the corporation of the college to prepare financial statements and the Operating and Financial Review for each financial year in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting for Further and Higher Education Institutions the annual Accounts Direction issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency, Accounts Direction issued by the Office for Students and in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the College and of the College's surplus/deficit of income over expenditure for that period.

Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the College and of the College's surplus/deficit of income over expenditure for that period.

In preparing the financial statements, the corporation is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- prepare financial statements on the going concern basis, unless it is inappropriate to assume that the College will continue in operation.

The Corporation is responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy, at any time, the financial position of the College, and enable it to ensure that the financial statements are prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and other relevant accounting standards. It is responsible for taking steps in order to safeguard the assets of the College and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

The maintenance and integrity of the College website is the responsibility of the Corporation of the College; the work carried out by the auditors does not involve consideration of these matters and, accordingly, the auditors accept no responsibility for any changes that may have occurred to the financial statements since they were initially presented on the website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Members of the Corporation are responsible for ensuring that funds from the Education and Skills Funding Agency are used only in accordance with the authorities that govern them as defined by and in accordance with Further & Higher Education Act 1992, subsequent legislation and related regulations and the Funding Agreement with the Education and Skills Funding Agency and any other conditions that may be prescribed from time to time. They are also responsible for ensuring funds from Office for Students or other sources are properly applied for the purposes for which they have been given and in accordance with relevant legislation or terms and conditions attached to them.

Approved by order of the members of the Corporation on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2020 and signed on its behalf by:

Pamela Petty, Chair



# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE CORPORATION OF BISHOP AUCKLAND COLLEGE

#### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Bishop Auckland College (the 'College') and its subsidiaries (the 'Group') for the year ended 31 July 2020 which comprise the consolidated and college statements of comprehensive income, the consolidated and college balance sheets, the consolidated and college statements of changes in reserves, the consolidated statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Group's and of the College's affairs as at 31 July 2020 and of the Group's and the College's deficit of income over expenditure for the year then ended; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

### **Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the group and college in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

### Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the governors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the governors have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the group's or the college's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

#### Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Report and Financial Statements other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The governors are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially



misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

# Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Office for Students' Accounts Direction

In our opinion, in all material respects:

- funds from whatever source administered by the college for specific purposes have been properly applied to those purposes and managed in accordance with relevant legislation;
- funds provided by the Office for Students, UK Research and Innovation (including Research England), the Education and Skills Funding Agency and Department for Education have been applied in accordance with the relevant terms and conditions; and
- the requirements of the Office for Students' accounts direction for the relevant year's financial statements have been met.

#### Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Post-16 Audit Code of Practice 2019 to 2020 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept;
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations required for our audit.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Office for Students' accounts direction requires us to report to you if:

- the College's grant and fee income, as disclosed in the note to the accounts, has been materially misstated.
- The College's expenditure on access and participation activities for the financial year has been materially misstated.

### Responsibilities of the Corporation of Bishop Auckland College

As explained more fully in the Statement of the Corporation's Responsibilities set out on pages 13 to 22 the Corporation is responsible for the preparation of financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Corporation determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Corporation is responsible for assessing the Group's and the College's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Corporation either intend to liquidate the Group or the College or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

### Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee



that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <a href="http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities">http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities</a> This description forms part of our auditor's report.

### Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Corporation, as a body, in accordance with the Funding Agreement published by the Education and Skills Funding Agency and our engagement letter dated 19 November 2020. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Corporation, as a body, those matters we are engaged to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Corporation, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

RSM UK AUDIT LLP Chartered Accountants

Ken un and ut

5 February 2021

1 St James' Gate
Newcastle upon Tyne

NE1 4AD

Date



INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON REGULARITY TO THE CORPORATION OF BISHOP AUCKLAND COLLEGE AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EDUCATION ACTING THROUGH EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY

#### Conclusion

We have carried out an engagement, in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 19 November 2020 and further to the requirements of the grant funding agreements and contracts with the Education and Skills Funding Agency (the "ESFA"), to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Bishop Auckland College during the period 1 August 2019 to 31 July 2020 have been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

In the course of our work, nothing has come to our attention which suggests that in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 August 2019 to 31 July 2020 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

#### **Basis for conclusion**

The framework that has been applied is set out in the Post-16 Audit Code of Practice (the "ACoP") issued by the ESFA. In line with this framework, our work has specifically not considered income received from the main funding grants generated through the Individualised Learner Record (ILR) returns, for which the ESFA has other assurance arrangements in place.

We are independent of the Bishop Auckland College in accordance with the ethical requirements that are applicable to this engagement and we have fulfilled our ethical requirements in accordance with these requirements. We believe the assurance evidence we have obtained is sufficient to provide a basis for our conclusion.

### Responsibilities of Corporation of Bishop Auckland College for regularity

The Corporation of Bishop Auckland College is responsible, under the grant funding agreements and contracts with the ESFA and the requirements of the Further & Higher Education Act 1992, subsequent legislation and related regulations and guidance, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them. The corporation of Bishop Auckland College is also responsible for preparing the Governing Body's Statement of Regularity, Propriety and Compliance.

### Reporting accountant's responsibilities for reporting on regularity

Our responsibilities for this engagement are established in the United Kingdom by our profession's ethical guidance and are to obtain limited assurance and report in accordance with our engagement letter and the requirements of the ACoP.

The objective of a limited assurance engagement is to perform such procedures as to obtain information and explanations in order to provide us with sufficient appropriate evidence to express a negative conclusion on regularity. A limited assurance engagement is more limited in scope than a reasonable assurance engagement and the procedures performed vary in nature and timing from, and are less in extent than for a reasonable assurance engagement; consequently, a limited assurance engagement does not enable us to obtain assurance that we would become aware of all significant matters that might be identified in a reasonable assurance engagement. Accordingly, we do not express a positive opinion.

We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 August



2019 to 31 July 2020 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Our work included identification and assessment of the design and operational effectiveness of the controls, policies and procedures that have been implemented to ensure compliance with the framework of authorities including the specific requirements of the grant funding agreements and contracts with the ESFA and high level financial control areas where we identified a material irregularity is likely to arise. We undertook detailed testing, on a sample basis, on the identified areas where a material irregularity is likely to arise where such areas are in respect of controls, policies and procedures that apply to classes of transactions.

This work was integrated with our audit of the financial statements and evidence was also derived from the conduct of that audit to the extent it supports the regularity conclusion.

### Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Corporation of Bishop Auckland College and the Secretary of State for Education acting through the ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Corporation of Bishop Auckland College and the Secretary of State for Education acting through the ESFA those matters we are required to state in a report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Corporation of Bishop Auckland College and the Secretary of State for Education acting through the ESFA for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

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**RSM UK AUDIT LLP** 

Chartered Accountants 1 St James' Gate Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 4AD

Date 5 February 2,21



### CONSOLIDATED AND COLLEGE STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

	Notes	2020		2019	
		Group £'000	College £'000	Group £'000	College £'000
INCOME					
Funding body grants	2	9,114	8,042	9,154	7,990
Tuition fees and education contracts	3	2,674	2,587	1,927	1,821
Other grants & contracts	4	426	420	326	326
Other income	5	418	557	762	666
Investment income	6	2	2	3	3
Total income		12,634	11,608	12,172	10,807
EXPENDITURE					
Staff costs	7	8,224	7,570	7,514	6,895
Restructuring costs	7	34	34	9	9
Other operating expenses	9	3,129	2,877	3,162	2,779
Depreciation	13	1,329	1,079	1,284	1,029
Interest and other finance costs	10	469	469	480	480
Total expenditure	•	13,185	12,029	12,449	11,192
Deficit before other gains and losses		(551)	(421)	(276)	(385)
Gain on disposal of assets	13	60	60	31	(000)
(Loss)/gain on investments					
Deficit before tax		(491)	(361)	(245)	(385)
Taxation	11				
Deficit for the year		(491)	(361)	(245)	(385)
Unrealised surplus on revaluation of tangible					
fixed assets	0.5	(0.440)	(0.440)	(4.457)	(4.457)
Remeasurement of net defined benefit pension liability	25	(6,140)	(6,140)	(1,457)	(1,457)
Total Comprehensive Income for the year	•	(6,631)	(6,501)	(1,702)	(1,842)
Represented by:					
Restricted comprehensive income		-	-	-	-
Unrestricted comprehensive income		(6,631)	(6,501)	(1,702)	(1,842)
-	•	(6,631)	(6,501)	(1,702)	(1,842)

The statement of comprehensive income is in respect of continuing activities



# Consolidated and College Statement of Changes in Reserves

	Income and expenditure account	Revaluation reserve	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Group Balance at 1 August 2018	(3,917)	2,393	(1,524)
Deficit from the income and expenditure account Other comprehensive income	(245)		(245)
Actuarial loss	(1,457)		(1,457)
Total comprehensive income in year	(1,702)		(1,702)
Balance at 31 July 2019	(5,619)	2,393	(3,226)
Deficit from the income and expenditure account	(491)		(491)
Other comprehensive income			
Actuarial loss	(6,140)		(6,140)
Total comprehensive income in year	(6,631)	2,393	(6,631)
Balance at 31 July 2020	(12,250)	2,393	(9,857)



# **Consolidated and College Statement of Changes in Reserves (continued)**

	Income and expenditure account	Revaluation reserve	Total
College	£'000	£'000	£'000
College Balance at 1 August 2018	(4,222)	2,242	(1,980)
Deficit from the income and expenditure account Other comprehensive income	(385)		(385)
Actuarial loss	(1,457)		(1,457)
Total comprehensive income in year	(1,842)		(1,842)
Balance at 31 July 2019	(6,064)	2,242	(3,822)
Surplus/(deficit) from the income and expenditure account Other comprehensive income	(361)		(361)
Actuarial gain	(6,140)		(6,140)
Total comprehensive income for year	(6,501)	2,242	(6,501)
Balance at 31 July 2020	(12,565)	2,242	(10,323)



# Balance sheets as at 31 July 2020

	Notes	Group 2020 £'000	College 2020 £'000	Group 2019 £'000	College 2019 £'000
Non current assets					
Tangible assets	13	34,393	32,077	35,494	32,928
Negative goodwill	12	-	-	-	-
Total fixed assets		34,393	32,077	35,494	32,928
Current assets					
Debtors	14	1,132	1,030	1,232	1,074
Cash at bank and in hand	21	2,187	1,368	2,327	1,658
Total current assets		3,319	2,398	3,559	2,732
Less: Creditors – amounts falling due within one year	16	(3,139)	(2,970)	(3,613)	(3,481)
Net current (liabilities)/assets		180	(572)	(54)	(749)
Total assets less current liabilities		34,573	31,505	35,440	32,179
Less: Creditors – amounts falling due after more than one year	17	(29,058)	(26,456)	(30,244)	(27,579)
Provision for liabilities	20	(15,372)	(15,372)	(8,422)	(8,422)
NET LIABILITIES		(9,857)	(10,323)	(3,226)	(3,822)
Unrestricted reserves					
Income and expenditure account		(12,250)	(12,565)	(5,619)	(6,064)
Revaluation reserve		2,393	2,242	2,393	2,242
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED		(9,857)	(10,323)	(3,226)	(3,822)

The financial statements on pages 32 to 64 were approved and authorised for issue by the Corporation on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2021 and were signed on its behalf on that date by:

P Petty Chair N Davison-Terranova Principal / Chief Executive

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# **Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows**

	Notes		
		2020	2019
Cash flow from operating activities		£'000	£'000
Deficit for the year		(491)	(245)
Adjustment for non-cash items			
Depreciation		1,329	1,284
Release of negative goodwill		-	(179)
Decrease/(Increase) in debtors		101	(447)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors due within one year		(460)	342
Decrease in creditors due after one year		(753)	(754)
Pensions costs less contributions payable		810	481
Capital grants		-	-
Adjustment for investing or financing			
Investment income		(2)	(3)
Interest payable		274	322
Loss/(gain) on investments		-	-
(Gain) on sale of fixed assets		(60)	(31)
Net cash flow from operating activities		748	770
Cash flows from investing activities			
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets		60	31
Disposal of investments		-	-
Purchase of investments		-	-
Investment income		2	3
Capital grants received		-	-
Payments made to acquire fixed assets		(228)	(195)
		(166)	(161)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Interest paid		(274)	(322)
Repayments of amounts borrowed		(310)	(282)
Repayment of Lenartz VAT		(138)	(129)
		(722)	(733)
Increase in cash and cash equivalents	21	(140)	(143)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year		2,327	2,470
			· .
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year	21	2,187	2,327



#### **Notes to the Consolidated Financial statements**

### 1 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND ESTIMATION TECHNIQUES

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the financial statements.

#### **General Information**

Bishop Auckland College is a corporation established under the Further and Higher Education Act 1992 as an English general college of further education. The address of the Group's principal place of business is given on page 1. The nature of the Group's operations is set out in the Strategic Report.

#### **Basis of preparation**

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the *Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting for Further and Higher Education 2015* (the 2015 FE HE SORP), the *College Accounts Direction for 2018 to 2019* and in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102 – "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland" (FRS 102). The College is a public benefit entity and has therefore applied the relevant public benefit requirements of FRS 102.

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below:

The preparation of financial statements in compliance with FRS 102 requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise judgement in applying the College's accounting policies.

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention. The consolidated financial statements are presented in sterling which is also the functional currency of the College.

Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest whole £1,000, except where otherwise indicated.

The College has taken advantage of the exemptions provided in FRS 102 1.12 and the 2015 FE HE SORP 3.3, and has not included a separate statement of its own cash flows. These cash flows are included within the Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows, and the College balance sheet discloses cash at both the current and preceding reporting dates.

Lease incentives – the College has continued to recognise the residual benefits associated with lease incentives on the same basis as that applied at the date of transition.



Notes to the Consolidated Financial statements (continued)

# 1 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND ESTIMATION TECHNIQUES (CONTINUED)

#### **Basis of consolidation**

The consolidated financial statements include the College and its subsidiary SW Durham Training Limited, controlled by the Group. Control is achieved where the Group has the power to govern the financial and operating policies of an entity so as to obtain benefits from its activities. The results of subsidiaries acquired or disposed of during the period are included in the consolidated income and expenditure account from the date of acquisition or up to the date of disposal. Intra-group sales and profits are eliminated fully on consolidation. In accordance with FRS 102, the activities of the student union have not been consolidated because the Group does not control those activities. All financial statements are made up to 31 July 2020.

#### Going concern

The activities of the Group, together with the factors likely to affect its future development and performance are set out in the Operating and Financial Review. The financial position of the Group, its cash flow, liquidity and borrowings are presented in the Financial Statements and accompanying Notes.

The Group currently has £5.271m of loan outstanding with Barclays Bank plc. The loan is secured by a fixed and floating charge on Group assets. The terms of the existing agreement is for another 13 years. The Group's forecasts and financial projections indicate that it will be able to operate within this existing facility during the 2020/21 financial year.

Accordingly, the Group has a reasonable expectation that it has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future, and for this reason will continue to adopt the going concern basis in the preparation of its Financial Statements.

In order to provide reassurance to the board in relation to going concern, work was carried out to stress test the current 2020/21 forecast. The quarter 1 reforecast was subjected to reduction factors of 2%, 3% and 5% of income that could be influenced by a reduction in student numbers and activity. The scenarios included savings in staffing and non pay. The scenarios including income and expenditure accounts, balance sheet, cashflow to July 2022 and covenant calculation. These scenarios showed that the group could continue to operate as a going concern with these parameters. Further work was carried out on covenants to test the robustness of the covenant against drops in income. Stress testing on the covenants showed that income could reduce by £600k, with a reduction in staffing and non-pay, before covenant are projected to breach.

Accordingly, the Group has a reasonable expectation that it has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and can continue on a going concern basis during 2021/22 and for 12 month from sign off of the financial statements. For this reason will continue to adopt the going concern basis in the preparation of its Financial Statements.

#### Recognition of income

# Revenue grant funding

Funding body income represents the funding allocations attributable to the current financial year and is credited direct to the income and expenditure account. Funding body recurrent grants are recognised in line with best estimates for the period of what is receivable and depend on the particular income stream involved. Any under achievement of the Adult Skills Budget is adjusted for and reflected in the level of recurrent grant recognised in the income and expenditure account. The final grant income is normally determined with the conclusion of the year end reconciliation process with the funding body at the end of November following the year ends.

16-18 learner-responsive funding is not normally subject to reconciliation and is therefore not subject to contract adjustments; the income recognised is the allocation for the year.



Notes to the Consolidated Financial statements (continued)

### 1 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND ESTIMATION TECHNIQUES (CONTINUED)

Non-recurrent grants from the funding bodies or other bodies received in respect of the acquisition of fixed assets are treated as deferred capital grants and amortised in line with depreciation over the life of the assets.

#### Other income

Income from tuition fees is recognised in the period for which it is received and includes all fees payable by students or their sponsors, for example the National Health Service.

Income from grants, contracts and other services rendered is included to the extent the conditions of the funding have been met or the extent of the completion of the contract or service concerned.

All income from short-term deposits is credited to the income and expenditure account in the period in which it is earned.

### Post employment benefits

Retirement benefits to employees of the College are provided by the Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS) and the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS). These are defined benefit schemes, which are externally funded and contracted out of the State Earnings-Related Pension Scheme (SERPS) and the assets are held separately from those of the college.

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated so as to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the College in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by the Government Actuary on the basis of quinquennial valuations using a prospective benefit method. As stated in Note 22, the TPS is a multi-employer scheme and the College is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the scheme on a consistent and reasonable basis. The TPS is therefore treated as a defined contribution scheme and the contributions recognised as they are paid each year.

The LGPS is a funded scheme and the assets are held separately from those of the college in separate trustee administered funds. Pension scheme assets are measured at fair value and liabilities are measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method and discounted at a rate equivalent to the current rate of return on a high quality corporate bond of equivalent term and currency to the liabilities. The actuarial valuations are obtained at least triennially and are updated at each balance sheet date. The amounts charged to operating surplus are the current service costs and gains and losses on settlements and curtailments. They are included as part of staff costs. Past service costs are recognised immediately in the income and expenditure account if the benefits have vested. If the benefits have not vested immediately, the costs are recognised over the period until vesting occurs. The expected return on assets and the interest cost are shown as a net finance amount of other finance costs or credits adjacent to interest. Actuarial gains and losses are recognised immediately in the statement of total recognised gains and losses.



### Notes to the Consolidated Financial statements (continued)

### 1 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND ESTIMATION TECHNIQUES (CONTINUED)

### Short term employment benefits

Short term employment benefits such as salaries and compensated absences (holiday pay) are recognised as an expense in the year in which the employees render service to the Group. Any unused benefits are accrued and measured as the additional amount the Group expects to pay as a result of the unused entitlement.

#### **Enhanced Pensions**

The actual cost of any enhanced on-going pension to a former member of staff is paid by a college annually. An estimate of the expected future cost of any enhancement to the on-going pension of a former member of staff is charged in full to the college's income and expenditure account in the year that the member of staff retires. In subsequent years a charge is made to provisions in the balance sheet using the enhanced pension spreadsheet provided by the funding bodies.

### Intangible fixed assets

All intangible assets are fully amortised.

### Tangible fixed assets

## Land and buildings

Land and buildings inherited from the Local Education Authority are stated in the balance sheet at valuation on the basis of depreciated replacement cost as the open market value for existing use is not readily obtainable. The associated credit is included in the revaluation reserve. The difference between depreciation charged on the historic cost of assets and the actual charge for the year calculated on the revalued amount is released to the income and expenditure account reserve on an annual basis. Building improvements made since incorporation are included in the balance sheet at cost. Freehold land is not depreciated. Freehold and Leasehold buildings are depreciated over their expected useful economic life to the College of 50 years. If the duration of the lease is shorted then this determines the period of depreciation. The College has a policy of depreciating major adaptations to buildings over the period of their useful economic life of 50 years.

Where land and buildings are acquired with the aid of specific grants, they are capitalised and depreciated as above. The related grants are credited to a deferred capital grant account, and are released to the income and expenditure account over the expected useful economic life of the related asset on a basis consistent with the depreciation policy. Finance costs, which are directly attributable to the construction of land and buildings, are not capitalised as part of the cost of those assets.



Notes to the Consolidated Financial statements (continued)

### 1 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND ESTIMATION TECHNIQUES (CONTINUED)

A review for impairment of a fixed asset is carried out if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of any fixed asset may not be recoverable. Shortfalls between the carrying value of fixed assets and their recoverable amounts are recognised as impairments. Impairment losses are recognised in the income and expenditure account.

On adoption of FRS 102, the College followed the transitional provision to revalue the book value of land and buildings, which were revalued in 2014, but not to adopt a policy of revaluations of these properties in the future.

Subsequent expenditure on existing fixed assets

Where significant expenditure is incurred on tangible fixed assets it is charged to the income and expenditure account in the period it is incurred, unless it meets one of the following criteria, in which case it is capitalised and depreciated on the relevant basis:

- Asset capacity increases.
- Substantial improvement in the quality of output or reduction in operating costs.
- Significant extension of the asset's life beyond that conferred by repairs and maintenance.

### Buildings owned by third parties

Where the College enjoys the use of an asset which it does not own and for which no rental or a nominal rental is paid, if practicable, a value is attributed to this benefit and capitalised, with a corresponding credit to deferred capital grants which are subsequently released to the income and expenditure account over the useful economic life of the asset at the same rate as the depreciation charge on the related asset(s).

#### **Equipment**

Equipment costing less than £1,000 per individual item is written off to the income and expenditure account in the period of acquisition. All other equipment is capitalised at cost. Equipment inherited from the local education authority is included in the balance sheet at valuation.

Inherited equipment has been depreciated on a straight-line basis over its remaining useful economic life to the College of between one and three years from incorporation and is now fully depreciated. All other equipment is depreciated over its useful economic life as follows:

- Accommodation improvements 10 years on a straight-line basis
- Motor vehicles 5 years on a straight-line basis
- Computer equipment 5 years on a straight-line basis
- Furniture, fixtures and fittings 5 years on a straight-line basis.

Where equipment is acquired with the aid of specific grants, it is capitalised and depreciated in accordance with the above policy, with the related grant being credited to a deferred capital grant account and released to the income and expenditure account over the expected useful economic life of the related equipment.



Notes to the Consolidated Financial statements (continued)

### 1 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND ESTIMATION TECHNIQUES (CONTINUED)

#### Leased assets

Costs in respect of operating leases are charged on a straight-line basis over the lease term to the Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure.

Leasing agreements which transfer to the College substantially all the benefits and risks of ownership of an asset are treated as if the asset had been purchased outright and are capitalised at their fair value at the inception of the lease and depreciated over the shorter of the lease term or the useful economic lives of equivalently owned assets. The capital element outstanding is shown as obligations under finance leases.

The finance charges are allocated over the period of the lease in proportion to the capital element outstanding. Where finance lease payments are funded in full from funding council capital equipment grants, the associated assets are designated as grant-funded assets.

#### Investments

Listed investments held as fixed assets are stated at market value. Current asset investments, which may include listed investments, are stated at the lower of their cost and net realisable value.

Investments in subsidiaries are accounted at cost less impairment in the individual subsidiaries.

### Cash and cash equivalents

Cash includes cash in hand, deposits repayable on demand and overdrafts. Deposits are repayable on demand if they are in practice available within 24 hours without penalty.

Cash equivalents are short term, highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash with insignificant risk of change in value. An investment qualifies as a cash equivalent when it has maturity of 3 months or less from the date of acquisition.

## Financial liabilities and equity

Financial liabilities and equity are classified according to the substance of the financial instrument's contractual obligations, rather than the financial instrument's legal form.

All loans, investments and short term deposits held by the Group are classified as basic financial instruments in accordance with FRS 102. These instruments are initially recorded at the transaction price less any transaction costs (historical cost). FRS 102 requires that basic financial instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost; however, the Group has calculated that the difference between the historical cost and amortised cost basis is not material and so these financial instruments are stated on the balance sheet at historical cost. Loans and investments that are payable or receivable within one year are not discounted.



Notes to the Consolidated Financial statements (continued)

### 1 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND ESTIMATION TECHNIQUES (CONTINUED)

#### **Taxation**

The College is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the College is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Sections 478 to 488 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

The College is partially exempt in respect of Value Added Tax, so that it can only recover a minor element of VAT charged on its inputs. Irrecoverable VAT on inputs is included in the costs of such inputs and added to the cost of tangible fixed assets as appropriate, where the inputs themselves are tangible fixed assets by nature.

### Provisions and contingent liabilities

Provisions are recognised when the College has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required to settle the obligation and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the amount expected to be required to settle the obligation is recognised at present value using a pre-tax discount rate. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as a finance cost in the statement of comprehensive income in the period it arises.

A contingent liability arises from a past event that gives the College a possible obligation whose existence will only be confirmed by the occurrence or otherwise of uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the College. Contingent liabilities also arise in circumstances where a provision would otherwise be made but either it is not probable that an outflow of resources will be required or the amount of the obligation cannot be measured reliably.

Contingent liabilities are not recognised in the balance sheet but are disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.



Notes to the Consolidated Financial statements (continued)

1 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND ESTIMATION TECHNIQUES (CONTINUED)

Judgements in applying accounting policies and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In preparing these financial statements, management have made the following judgements:

- Determine whether leases entered into by the College either as a lessor or a lessee are
  operating or finance leases. These decisions depend on an assessment of whether the risks
  and rewards of ownership have been transferred from the lessor to the lessee on a lease by
  lease basis.
- Determine whether there are indicators of impairment of the group's tangible assets, including
  goodwill. Factors taken into consideration in reaching such a decision include the economic
  viability and expected future financial performance of the asset and where it is a component
  of a larger cash-generating unit, the viability and expected future performance of that unit.
- Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets, other than investment properties, are depreciated over their useful lives taking into account residual values, where appropriate. The actual lives of the assets and residual values are assessed annually and may vary depending on a number of factors. In reassessing asset lives, factors such as technological innovation and maintenance programmes are taken into account. Residual value assessments consider issues such as future market conditions, the remaining life of the asset and projected disposal values.

#### • Local Government Pension Scheme

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost (income) for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 22, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. The actuary has used a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2019 to value the pensions liability at 31 July 2020. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

### Agency arrangements

The Group acts as an agent in the collection and payment of discretionary support funds from the funding bodies. Related payments received from the funding bodies and subsequent disbursements to students are excluded from the Income and Expenditure account, on the basis that the group does not have control of the economic benefit related to the transaction and are shown separately in Note 26, except for the 5 per cent of the grant received which is available to the Group to cover administration costs relating to the grant. The College employs one member of staff dedicated to the administration of Discretionary Support Fund applications and payments.



## Notes to the Consolidated Financial statements (continued) 2 FUNDING BODY GRANTS

2 TONDING BODT GRANTS	Group 2020	College 2020	Group 2019	College 2019
Recurrent grants	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Education and Skills Funding Agency – adult	2,073	2,073	2,321	2,382
Education and Skills Funding Agency - 16-18	4,592	4,192	4,337	3,965
Education and Skills Funding Agency – apprenticeships	1,124	486	1,471	732
Office for Students	417	417	268	268
Specific grants				
Releases of government capital grants	572	572	572	572
Teachers pension scheme contribution grant	183	183	-	-
HE Grant	129	95	185	71
Agency – Provider Relief Scheme	24	24		
Total	9,114	8,042	9,154	7,990
3 TUITION FEES AND EDUCATION CONTRACTS	Group	College	Group	College
	2020	2020	2019	2019
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Adult education fees	33	29	77	81
Apprenticeship fees and contracts	-	-	-	-
Fees for FE loan supported courses	625	625	513	506
Fees for HE loan supported courses	83	-	103	
Total tuition fees	741	654	693	587
Education contracts	1,933	1,933	1,234	1,234
Total	2,674	2,587	1,927	1,821
4 OTHER GRANTS AND CONTRACTS	Group	College	Group	College
	2020	2020	2019	2019
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
	~ 000	2 000	2 000	2 000
Other Grants	335	335	304	304
Erasmus	-	-	22	22
Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme grant	91	85		
Total	426	420	326	326

The corporation furloughed 42 staff including Nursery staff, admin staff and estates staff under the government's Job Retention Scheme. The funding received relates to staff costs which are included within the staff costs notes 7 as appropriate.



## Notes to the Consolidated Financial statements (continued)

## 5 OTHER INCOME

5	OTHER INCOME	_		_	
		Group	College	Group	College
		2020	2020	2019	2019
		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
	Catering Operations	9	9	13	13
	Other Income generating activities	141	345	238	388
	Releases from Deferred Capital Grants	151	86	151	86
	Nursery Operations	117	117	179	179
	Released from Negative Goodwill			179	
	Total	418	557	762	666
6	INVESTMENT INCOME				
		Group	College	Group	College
		2020	2020	2019	2019
		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
	Interest receivable	2	2	3	3
	Dividends				
	Total	2	2	3	3



Notes to the Consolidated Financial statements (continued)

## 7 STAFF COSTS - GROUP AND COLLEGE

The average number of persons (including key management personnel) employed by the Group during the year, expressed as full-time equivalents

Teaching staff Non teaching staff	'		2020 No. 150 59	2019 No. 192 55
Staff costs for the above	Group 2020 £'000	College 2020 £'000	Group 2019 £'000	College 2019 £'000
	2 000	2.000	2 000	2 000
Wages and salaries	5,975	5,446	5,857	5,343
Social security costs	462	415	455	411
Pension costs (including LGPS adjustments of £630,000 (2019: £315,000)	1,787	1,709	1,202	1,141
Payroll sub total	8,224	7,570	7,514	6,895
Contracted out staffing services	50	50	48	48
Restructuring costs – contractual	22	22	9	9
non	12	12		
Total Staff costs	8,312	7,858	7,571	6,951

## **8 KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL**

Key management personnel are those persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the Group and are represented by the College Leadership Team which comprises the Principal, the Directors of the College and the senior management of SW Durham Training Limited Governor expenses are disclosed at note 25.



Notes to the Consolidated Financial statements (continued)

## 8. KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL (CONTINUED)

·	2020	2019
	No.	No.
The number of key management personnel including the Accounting Officer was:	8	8

The number of key management personnel and other staff who received annual emoluments, excluding pension contributions and employer's national insurance but including benefits in kind, in the following ranges was:

	Key manaç person	-	Other s	staff
	2020	2019	2020	2019
	No.	No.	No.	No.
£ 5,001 to £10,000 p.a.		1		
£10,001 to £20,000 p.a.	1	1		
£20,001 to £30,000 p.a.	1	1		
£30,001 to £40,000 p.a.				
£40,001 to £50,000 p.a.	1	1		
£50,001 to £60,000 p.a.	3	2		
£60,001 to £65,000 p.a.	1	1		
£65,001 to £70,000 p.a.				
£70,001 to £75,000 p.a.				
£75,001 to £85,000 p.a.				
£85,001 to £95,000 p.a.				
£95,001 to £100,000 p.a.	-	1	-	-
£100,001 to £105,000 p.a.	1	-	-	-
	8	8	-	-

Key management personnel compensation is made up as follows:

	2020	2019
	£'000	£'000
Salaries	398	346
Employers National Insurance	46	40
Benefits in kind	-	-
	444	386
Pension contributions	76	52
Total key management personnel compensation	520	438



Notes to the Consolidated Financial statements (continued)

### 8. KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL (CONTINUED)

There were no amounts due to key management personnel that were waived in the year, nor any salary sacrifice arrangements in place.

The above compensation includes amounts payable to the Accounting Officer (who is also the highest paid officer) of:

	2020	2019
	£'000	£'000
Salaries	101	98
Benefits in kind		
	101	98
Pension contributions	23	16
Total	124	114

The basic salary of the accounting officer for 2019-20 has remained the same as 2018-19. The difference in renumerations shown above is due to unpaid leave taken in 2018/19. The accounting officer is not involved in setting their remuneration. The factors taken into account by the Committee when determining the accounting officer's remuneration include: previous increases; components of pay in prior year; CPI; pay increases for other staff; performance against personal objectives; performance of the organisation; sector data on pay of accounting officers and benchmarking or other means of comparison to the broader market.

A similar approach was used to determine the remuneration of other key management personnel. The relationship between the accounting officer's emoluments, expressed as a multiple of all other employees based on full-time equivalents, is set out below for both basic salary and total remuneration.

	2020	2019	
	No	No	
Basic salary as a multiple of median basic salary of staff	4.9	4.2	
Total remuneration as a multiple of median total remuneration of staff	6.0	4.4	

Calculation included all staff (excluding agency staff) based on full earning for the entire financial year.



2020

Notes to the Consolidated Financial statements (continued)

## 9 OTHER OPERATING EXPENSES

	2020	2020	2019	2019
	Group	College	Group	College
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Teaching costs	1,112	1,070	1,246	1,140
Non teaching costs	1,183	1,084	963	814
Premises costs	834	724	953	825
Total	3,129	2,877	3,162	2,779

## Other operating expenses include:

	2020	2019
Auditors' remuneration:	£'000	£'000
Financial Statements Auditors *	38	20
Internal Auditor **	4	4
Hire of plant and machinery – operating leases	67	44
Gain/(loss) on disposal of fixed assets	58	31
Payments to partners for sub-contracted provision	6	78

<sup>\*</sup> Includes £24,420 in respect of the college (2018/19 £20,000)

### 9a ACCESS AND PARTICIPATION SPENDING

	2020
	£'000
Access investment	19
Financial support for students	21
Disability support	-
Research and evaluation (relating to access and participation)	1
Total	41

## 10 INTEREST AND OTHER FINANCE COSTS

	2020	2019
	£'000	£'000
On bank loans, overdrafts and other loans:		
Repayable wholly or partly in more than five years	285	303
	285	303
Net pension finance costs (note 22)	180	170
Interest on enhanced pension provisions	4	7
Total	469	480

<sup>\*\*</sup> Includes £4,342 in respect of the college (2018/19 £4,000)



## Notes to the Consolidated Financial statements (continued)

## 11 TAXATION

The members do not believe the college was liable for corporation tax arising out of its activities.

## 12 INTANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS - GROUP

	Negative Goodwill
	£'000
Cost At 1 August 2019 Additions	(1,022)
At 31 July 2020	(1,022)
Amortisation At 1 August 2019 Amortisation for the period	1,022
At 31 July 2020	1,022
Net book value At 31 July 2020 At 31 July 2019	<u>-</u>

Negative goodwill represents the fair value of the assets of SW Durham Training Limited as at the acquisition in October 2014 adjusted to be consistent with the Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting for Further and Higher Education.



## Notes to the Consolidated Financial statements (continued)

## 13 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS - GROUP

	Land and I		Plant, Machinery, Fixtures & Equipment	Total
	Freehold	Long leasehold		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Cost or valuation	2000	2000	2000	2000
At 1 August 2019	47,205	195	8,358	55,758
Additions	45	-	183	228
Reclassification	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	(659)	(659)
At 31 July 2020	47,250	195	7,882	55,327
Depreciation				
At 1 August 2019	12,674	192	7,398	20,264
Charge for the year	1,096	3	230	1,329
Elimination in respect of disposals	-	-	(659)	(659)
At 31 July 2020	13,770	195	6,969	20,934
Net book value at 31 July 2020	33,480	-	913	34,393
Net book value at 31 July 2019	34,531	3	960	35,494
			:	

No depreciation has been charged on revalued freehold land.



Notes to the Consolidated Financial statements (continued)

#### 13 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS - COLLEGE

	Land and buildings		Plant, Machinery, Fixtures & Equipment	Total
	Freehold	Long leasehold		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Cost or valuation				
At 1 August 2019	42,401	195	4,266	46,862
Additions	45	-	183	228
Reclassification	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	(659)	(659)
At 31 July 2020	42,446	195	3,790	46,431
Depreciation				
At 1 August 2019	9,721	192	4,021	13,934
Charge for the year	950	3	129	1,079
Elimination in respect of disposals	-	-	(659)	(659)
At 31 July 2020	10,671	195	3,487	14,354
Net book value at 31 July 2020	31,775		299	32,077
Net book value at 31 July 2019	32,680	3	245	32,928

As stated in the policy note, the College carries inherited assets which had an inherited valuation of £1.110m and which were revalued at 31 July 2014. Inherited land and buildings were valued in 1994 for the purpose of the financial statements at depreciated replacement cost by the 'District Valuer and Valuation Officer' in accordance with the RICS statement of Asset Valuation Practice and Guidance notes. The historic cost of these assets is nil. This land was revalued as at 31 July 2014 at £2.182m.

Group land with a net book value of £2.393m has been funded from local education authority sources. Land and buildings have been partly financed by exchequer funds, through for example the receipt of capital grants. Should these assets be sold, the College would either have to surrender the sale proceeds or use them in accordance with the financial memorandum with the Skills Funding Agency.

Included within group freehold land and buildings is land valued at £2.393m which is not depreciated.



## Notes to the Consolidated Financial statements (continued)

## 14 DEBTORS

	Group 2020 £'000	College 2020 £'000	Group 2019 £'000	College 2019 £'000
Amounts falling due within one year:				
Trade debtors	54	49	69	42
Prepayments and accrued income	1,078	957	1,163	1,032
Amounts owed by subsidiaries	-	24	-	-
Total	1,132	1,030	1,232	1,074

## 16 CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	Group	College	Group	College
	2020	2020	2019	2019
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Bank loans and overdrafts	291	291	290	290
Other loan	29	29	44	44
Lenartz VAT	138	138	138	138
Payments received in advance	241	209	498	441
Trade creditors	111	109	438	421
Other creditors	8	8	9	9
Other taxation and social security	1,082	1,039	437	406
Accruals	517	489	1,036	972
Amounts owed to Funding Bodies	_	-	-	-
Deferred grants	723	658	723	658
Amounts owed to subsidiaries	-	-	-	103
Total	3,139	2,970	3,613	3,482

The college is a member of a VAT group with its subsidiary S W Durham Training Limited.



**Notes to the Consolidated Financial statements (continued)** 

## 17 CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER ONE YEAR

	Group	College	Group	College
	2020 £'000	2020 £'000	2019 £'000	2019 £'000
Bank loans	4,980	4,980	5,276	5,276
Lenartz VAT	, -	-	139	139
Lease Rent received in advance	92	92	121	121
Other loan	-	-	-	-
Deferred grants	23,986	21,384	24,708	22,043
Total	29,058	26,456	30,244	27,579

### 18 MATURITY OF DEBT

Bank loans and overdrafts are repayable as follows:

	Group 2020 £'000	College 2020 £'000	Group 2019 £'000	College 2019 £'000
In one year or less	291	291	274	274
Between one and two years	307	307	291	291
Between two and five years	1,018	1,018	967	967
In five years or more	3,655	3,655	4,018	4,018
Total	5,271	5,271	5,550	5,550

A loan for £350,000 secured on the buildings in The Digital Factory, Newton Aycliffe and was repayable in monthly instalments at Base Rate plus 1.5%, the loan was paid in full year 2019/20. Total loans £5,271 per note 16 and 17.

A 25 year fixed term commercial mortgage secured on freehold land and buildings at Woodhouse Lane Bishop Auckland and South Durham Way Newton Aycliffe commenced on 31 July 2008 with repayments of interest and capital on a quarterly basis. The interest rate is fixed at 5.3% for the full term of the loan.

The above table also includes the Lenartz VAT creditor which is in effect an advance of funds recovered through HMRC VAT mechanism over a period of 10 years commencing May 2007.



Notes to the Consolidated Financial statements (continued)

### 19 CONTINGENT LIABILITY

#### **European Social Fund**

The College has been in receipt of significant income from the European Social Fund (ESF) in previous years and current year. The College took all reasonable steps to ensure it complied with the terms attaching to the receipt of all ESF income. However, the College recognises that this is a complex area and there is risk that some funding could become repayable as a result of a possible inspection by the funding provider or the ESF Verification and Audit Section. It is not possible to estimate the value or timing of any such repayments.

#### 20 PROVISIONS

	Group and College			
	Defined benefit obligations	Enhanced pensions	Other changes	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
At 1 August 2019	8,190	182	50	8,422
Utilised in the year	810	-	-	810
Additional provision in the year	6,140	-	-	6,140
At 31 July 2020	15,140	182	50	15,372

Defined benefit obligations relate to the liabilities under the College's membership of the Local Government Pension Scheme. Further details are given in Note 22.

The enhanced pension provision relates to the cost of staff who have already left the College's employ and commitments for reorganisation costs from which the College cannot reasonably withdraw at the balance sheet date. This provision has been recalculated in accordance with guidance issued by the funding bodies.

This provision has been calculated in accordance with guidance issued by the funding bodies. The principal assumptions for this calculation are:

	2020	2019
CPI Rate	2.2%	2.2%
Discount rate	1.4%	2.2%



### **Notes to the Consolidated Financial statements (continued)**

#### 21 ANALYSIS OF CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	At 1 August 2019 £'000	Cash flows £'000	Other changes £'000	At 31 July 2020 £'000
Cash in hand and at bank Investments	2,327	(140)	-	2,187
Total	2,327	(140)	-	2,187

#### 22 DEFINED BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS

The College's employees belong to two principal pension schemes: The Teachers' Pensions Scheme England and Wales (TPS) for academic and related staff; and the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) for non-teaching staff, which is managed by Durham County Council. Both are defined-benefit schemes.

The pension costs are assessed in accordance with the advice of independent qualified actuaries. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS was 31 March 2020 and of the LGPS 31 March 2020.

Total pension cost for the year		2020 £000		2019 £000
Teachers' Pensions Scheme: contributions Local Government Pension Scheme:		503		390
Contributions paid	520		400	
Unfunded			(10)	
FRS102 (28) charge	630		330	
Charge to the Income and Expenditure Account (staff costs)		1,150		720
Other pension costs		56		32
SWDT contributions		78		60
Total Pension Cost for Year	_	1,787	=	1,202

Included above are pension contributions paid by SW Durham Training Limited of £78,000 (2019: £60,000).

Contributions amounting to £488,025 (2019: £295,467) were payable to the scheme at 31 July 2020 and are included within creditors.



Notes to the Consolidated Financial statements (continued)

## 22 DEFINED BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS (CONTINUED)

### **Teachers' Pension Scheme**

The Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS) is a statutory, contributory, defined benefit scheme, governed by the Teachers' Pension Scheme Regulations 2014. These regulations apply to teachers in schools and other educational establishments, including colleges. Membership is automatic for teachers and lecturers at eligible institutions. Teachers and lecturers are able to opt out of the TPS.

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and members contribute on a 'pay as you go' basis – these contributions, along with those made by employers, are credited to the Exchequer under arrangements governed by the above Act. Retirement and other pension benefits are paid by public funds provided by Parliament.

Under the definitions set out in FRS 102 (28.11), the TPS is a multi-employer pension plan. The College is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the plan.

Accordingly, the College has taken advantage of the exemption in FRS 102 and has accounted for its contributions to the scheme as if it were a defined-contribution plan. The College has set out above the information available on the plan and the implications for the College in terms of the anticipated contribution rates.

The valuation of the TPS is carried out in line with regulations made under the Public Service Pension Act 2013. Valuations credit the teachers' pension account with a real rate of return assuming funds are invested in notional investments that produce that real rate of return.

The latest actuarial review of the TPS was carried out as at 31 March 2016. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education (the Department) in April 2019. The key results of the valuation are:

total scheme liabilities (pensions currently in payment and the estimated cost of future benefits) for service to the effective date of £218 billion, and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £196 billion giving a notional past service deficit of £22 billion;

As a result of the valuation, new employer contribution rates were set at 23.68% of pensionable pay from September 2019 onwards (compared to 16.48% during 2018/19). DfE has agreed to pay a teacher pension employer contribution grant to cover the additional costs in the 2019-20 academic year.

The pension costs paid to TPS in the year amounted to £320,000 (2019: £390,000).



## Notes to the Consolidated Financial statements (continued)

## 22 DEFINED BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS (CONTINUED)

#### **Enhanced Pensions – Teachers**

The College has the liability for the enhanced element of teachers' pensions who have been granted voluntary early retirement. The College administers the payment of the enhanced element of the pensions direct to the retired teacher. The College financial statements include the initial and continuing costs of the enhancement under FRS 102.

## Analysis of the amount charged to income and expenditure account (Teachers)

	Year Ended July 2020 £'000	Year Ended July 2019 £'000
Service cost Negative past service cost Total operating gain	- - -	- - -
Analysis of pension finance (costs)		
Expected return on pension scheme assets Interest on pension liabilities	- (4)	- (7)
Pension finance costs	(4)	(7)
Amounts recognised in the statement of comprehensive incomprehensive incompreh	ne	
Actual return less expected return on pension scheme assets	-	-
Experience gains and losses arising on the scheme liabilities	-	-
Change in financial and demographic assumptions underlying the scheme liabilities	(10)	4
Actuarial gain (loss) recognised in SOCI	(10)	4
Movement in surplus during year		
Deficit in scheme at 1 August Current service credit Net (interest) on assets Actuarial (loss) or gain	(182) 15 (4) (10)	(194) 15 (7) 4
Deficit in scheme at 31 July	(181)	(182)



Notes to the Consolidated Financial statements (continued)

### 22 DEFINED BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS (CONTINUED)

### **Local Government Pension Scheme**

The LGPS is a funded defined-benefit plan, with the assets held in separate funds administered by Durham County Council. The total contributions made for the year ended 31 July 2020 were £680,000, of which employer's contributions totalled £520,000 and employees' contributions totalled £160,000. The agreed contribution rates for future years are 19.3 % for employers and range from 5.5 % to 12.5 % for employees, depending on salary.

## **Principal Actuarial Assumptions**

The following information is based upon a full actuarial valuation of the fund at 31 March 2019 updated to 31 July 2020 by a qualified independent actuary:

	At 31 July	At 31 July
	2020	2019
Discount rate	1.40%	2.2%
CPI inflation	2.20%	2.2%
Pension increases	2.20%	2.2%
Pension accounts revaluation rate	2.20%	2.2%
Salary increases	3.20%	3.7%

The current mortality assumptions include sufficient allowance for future improvements in mortality rates. The assumed life expectations on retirement age 65 are:

	At 31 July 2020	At 31 July 2019
Males		
Member aged 65 at accounting date	22.2	22.3
Member aged 45 at accounting date	23.2	24.0
Females		
Member aged 65 at accounting date	24.2	23.8
Member aged 45 at accounting date	25.7	25.7



Notes to the Consolidated Financial statements (continued)

## 22 DEFINED BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS (CONTINUED)

The College's share of the assets in the scheme were:

	Fair Value at 31 July 2020 £'000	Fair Value at 31 July 2020 %	Fair Value at 31 July 2019 £'000	Fair Value at 31 July 2019 %
Equities	8480	49.3%	8,541	49%
Property	1238	7.2%	1,290	7.4%
Government bond	4162	24.2%	4,584	26.3%
Corporate bonds	2528	14.7%	2,092	12%
Cash	791	4.6%	923	5.3%
Other	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
	17200	100%	17,430	100%
Reconciliation of funded status to balance sheet:  2020 2019				2019
			£'000	£'000
Fair value of assets			17,200	17,430
Present value of funded defined be	enefit obligation		(32,340)	(25,620)
Funded status			(15,140)	(8,190)
Unrecognised asset			-	-
Liability recognised on the balar	nce sheet		(15,140)	(8,190)
Amounts recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income in respect of the plan are as follows:				
			2020	2019
			£'000	£'000
Operating cost				
Current service cost			1,020	730
Past service costs			130	-
Financing cost				
Net interest cost			180	170
Total			1,330	900



160

5,720

(870)

130

150

2,630

(600)

Notes to the Consolidated Financial statements (continued)

#### 22 **DEFINED BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS (CONTINUED)**

Contributions by participants

Net benefits paid out

**Past Service Costs** 

Actuarial (gain) / loss on liabilities

## Amounts recognised in other comprehensive Income

· ·		
	2020	2019 £'000
	£'000	2.000
Asset gains arising during the year	(420)	1,170
Liability gains/(losses) during the period	(5720)	(2,630)
Amount recognised in other comprehensive income	(6,140)	(1,460)
Movements in the present value of defined benefit obligations	were as follows:	
	2020	2019
	£'000	£'000
Liabilities at start of period	25,562	22,100
Current service cost	1,020	730
Interest expense on defined benefit obligation	560	610

Liabilities at end of period	32,340	25,620

Movements in the fair value of college's share of	scheme assets:	
	2020	2019
	£'000	£,000
Assets at start of period	17,430	15,870
Interest income on assets	380	440
Remeasurement gains/losses on assets	(420)	1,170
Contributions by the employer	520	400
Contributions by participants	160	150
Benefits paid	(870)_	(600)
Assets at end of period	17,200	17,430



Notes to the Consolidated Financial statements (continued)

## 22 DEFINED BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS (CONTINUED)

### **Actual Return on Assets**

		2020 £'000	2019 £'000
	Interest income on assets Gain/loss on assets	380 (420)	440 1,170
		(40)	1,610
23	CAPITAL COMMITMENTS		
		2020 £'000	2019 £'000
	Commitments contracted for at 31 July	<del>_</del> _	

## 24 LEASE OBLIGATIONS

At 31 July the Group had annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2020	2019
	£'000	£'000
Plant and Equipment:		
Expiring within one year	67	44
Expiring within two and five years inclusive	52	45
Expiring in over five years	-	-
	119	89



Notes to the Consolidated Financial statements (continued)

#### 25 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Owing to the nature of the College's operations and the composition of the board of governors being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, it is inevitable that transactions will take place with organisations in which a member of the board of governors may have an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted at arm's length and in accordance with the College's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures.

The total expenses paid to or on behalf of the Governors during the year was £720; 1 governor (2019: £576.95; 1 governor). This represents travel and subsistence expenses and other out of pocket expenses incurred in attending Governor meetings in their official capacity.

Transactions with the funding bodies and HEFCE are detailed in notes 2, 8 and 16.

#### 26 AMOUNTS DISPERSED AS AGENT

	2020	2019
	£'000	£'000
Funding body grants	440	539
Other Funding body grants	-	-
Interest earned	-	-
	440	539
Disbursed to students	(379)	(551)
Administration costs	(18)	(24)
Balance underspent (overspent) as at 31 July	43	(36)

Funding body grants are available solely for students. In the majority of instances, the College only acts as a paying agent. In these circumstances, the grants and related disbursements are therefore excluded from the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

### 27 EVENTS AFTER THE REPORTING PERIOD

There are no events after the reporting period.