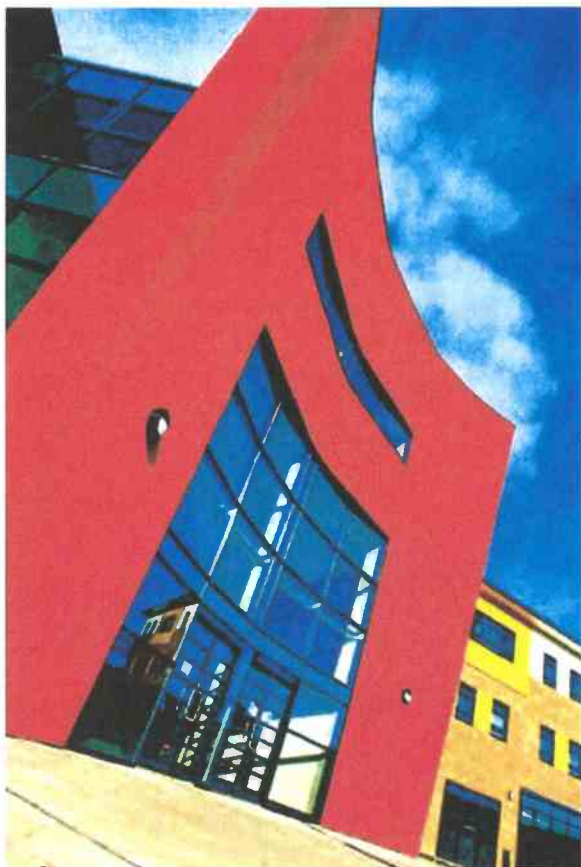


Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021

**Bishop
Auckland
College**



Bishop Auckland College Group

**Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 July 2021**

Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021



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Reference and Administrative Details

Board of Governors

P Petty (resigned 15-Jul-21)
Patrick Lonergan (appointed from 13-Jul-21)
N Davison-Terranova
A Dunn (resigned 18-Jan-21)
G Currie
J Vincent
D Gowland
J Yarrow
S Robson
C Hutchinson
K Noble
R Coats

Clerk

J Banks (resigned 31-May-21)
S Ridley (interim clerk 1-Jun-21 to 23-Aug-21)
L Flanagan (appointed 23-Aug-21)

Senior management team

N Davison-Terranova	-	Principal and Chief Executive
J Layfield	-	Vice Principal, Curriculum & Quality
L Heighton	-	Director of Finance
R Hinch	-	Director of 14-16 provision
C Wray	-	Director of Service Standards
S Johnson	-	Chief Executive SWDT (resigned 31-Jul-21)

Principal and registered office – Woodhouse Lane, Bishop Auckland, County Durham,
DL14 6JZ

Professional advisors

Financial statements auditors and reporting accountants:

RSM UK Audit LLP
Statutory Auditor Chartered Accountants
1 St James Gate
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 4AD

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**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

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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 2021.

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. The College registered with the Office for Students on for the delivery of higher education 10th June 2019.

Mission, Vision, Values and Strategy

During the 2020/21 year, Bishop Auckland College revised its Strategic Plan setting out its Vision, Mission and five strategic priorities for the 2021 to 2024.

Vision : Shaping the future

The Bishop Auckland College Group will continue to evolve by responding to individual, community and business needs with high quality specialist provision that builds prosperity for all people and catalyses local economic regeneration.

Mission : The passion that drives us

Get the skills, get the job: High quality vocational learning that creates bright futures for all.

Values

These are the values that guide all of our activities:

Caring

We are passionate about people and concerned for the wellbeing of all students and staff

Ambition

We empower students to aim high and achieve their full potential

Respect

Regardless of our differences, everyone is valued and treated with kindness

Equality

We are inclusive and enable all members of our community to thrive

Excellence

We strive for exceptional standards in everything we do

Resilience

When faced with challenges, we work together to adapt and bounce back more determined than before

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Strategic report (continued)

Strategic Priorities

Strategic Priority 1 - Vocational courses supporting local people into employment.

Effective partnerships and business planning mean that courses respond to actual local priorities, helping to build prosperity in south Durham.

Strategic Priority 2 - Expert staff; inclusive teaching, assessment and support.

Inclusive and effective teaching, assessment and support mean that all students are engaged, inspired and enjoy learning.

Strategic Priority 3

Outstanding student outcomes

Progress, achievement and positive destination rates reflect best-in-class performance for all areas of activity.

Strategic Priority 4

Reputation for excellence

Students, parents, employers, staff and other stakeholders are proud of Bishop Auckland College and passionate about the role that we play.

Strategic Priority 5

A thriving and environmentally conscious business

The college operates as an efficient and environmentally conscious business, constantly innovating to build capacity, improve value for money, achieve excellence in business operations and reduce our carbon footprint.

Key performance indicators

The 2021-24 strategic plan includes a range of key performance indicators and targets. The 2021 financial year will be measure against the 2017-2021 key performance indicators.

The 2017-2021 strategic plan included 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 2020/21

	Key performance indicator	2020/21 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: 14-16 108%, 16-18 101% Adult skills 90% 19+Loans 75% Apprenticeships 16-18/19+77%, Higher education 102% South West Durham Training: 16-18 84%, Apprenticeships 121% Commercial 105%, Higher education 15% <i>Note: Recruitment to adult skills, and commercial programme was adversely impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic.</i>
2	All teachers provide a consistently high quality of education.	Extensive quality improvement activity impacted positively upon the quality of education between September 2020 and

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		March 2021. 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 style="list-style-type: none"> • 16-18: 91.4% • Adult: 95.6% • Apprenticeships – overall 78.8%. Timely 66.7%
4	Achieve overall satisfaction rating of 90% for all stakeholder groups (students, employers, parents/carers, staff).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All students: 96% • HE NSS survey: 83% • Employers: 83% • Parents 91% • Staff: 97%
5	Meet contribution targets for all sectors of Group provision-mean 55%.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 51%
6	Return a minimum of 2% surplus on income excluding pensions adjustments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1.19%

Resources

The Group has various resources that it can deploy in pursuit of its strategic objectives. The Group employs 211 people (expressed as full-time equivalents), of whom 153 are teaching staff.

The Group enrolled approximately 1707 students. The Group's student population includes 53 direct funded 14-to-16 year old students, 786 16-to-18-year-old students, 312 apprentices, 155 higher education students.

The Group has £8.216 million of net liabilities (including £13.870 million pension liability) and long-term debt of £4.67 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 £4.618 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.

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Strategic report (continued)

OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGY

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.

DEVELOPMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Financial Results

The Group generated a deficit before other gains and losses of £816k (2019/20: £551k). This was a decline against the results in 2019/20 despite income being at a higher level. The LGPS accounting adjustment for the year was higher than 2019/20 at £970k (2019/20 £810k) however there was a positive actuarial adjustment of £2.457m to the pension liability.

Developments

In line with the priorities set out in the strategic plan, developments during the 2020/21 year centred on two key areas of activity: 14-16 alternative provision and higher education. This was the third year of operation of 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 from mainstream education, and with 64 students enrolled during 2020/21, 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 2020/21 academic year, with its subsequent launch on September 2020. A further degree is expected to be validated during 21/22 ready to go live in September-22.

Reserves

The Group has accumulated reserves of (£8.216m) and cash and short term investment balances of £3.131m. 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 2020/2021, ESFA provided 58% 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 2020/21 year contributed a deficit of £94.3k (2019/20: £195k).

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Due to the ongoing impact of Covid, SWDT is expected to make a surplus in 2021/22. 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 2020/21 to prepare for a realistic projected outturn for 2020/21. The impact of Covid-19 on the 2020/21 result was less significant than expected with the main areas affected being adult education budget, adult learner loans and commercial income. We expect to see an ongoing impact in 2021/2022 the level of which is still unknown.

FUTURE PROSPECTS

Developments

Further growth of Durham Gateway 14-16 provision is planned and the board agreed the proposal and investment appraisal to move the Durham Gateway 14-16 provision to the previously mothballed Spennymoor Campus in the meeting dated 22nd March 2021. Work commenced on the site in May-21 and was completed in August-21. Planned numbers for the year 20/21 are 80. Recruitment is positive and current numbers are around 58.

The college continues to grow its Open University programme and it is expected that further degree programmes will be submitted for validation during 2021/22. Subject areas presently under consideration include social work and criminology.

Financial plan

The College governors approved a three year financial plan in July 2021 which sets objectives for the period to 2023.

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 £1,716k (2019/20 £748k), 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 (£10.609m) (2020: £12.250m). It is the Corporation's intention to increase reserves over the life of the strategic plan through the generation of annual operating surpluses.

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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.

PRINCIPLE 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 the most critical. Not all the factors are within the College's control. Other factors besides those listed below may also adversely affect the College.

- Declining income in the short, medium and long terms due to Government Funding Policy and demographic factors, including global pandemic
- Failure of BAC group entities to achieve in-year financial plans
- College breaches financial covenant of the commercial mortgage
- Weak Ofsted judgement and poor college performance.
- Failure to manage performance of subsidiary company SWDT.
- Coronavirus has significant impact on College Operations
- Poor high grade performance in Maths and English
- Poor management of behaviour at Durham Gateway leads to potential health and safety risks and adverse impact upon the quality of education
- Failure to manage safeguarding issues effectively at Durham Gateway
- Lack of investment with the technology aspects of desktops, servers, security and media may resulting in inadequate IT systems

Risk	Current Controls
College breaches financial covenant of the commercial mortgage	*Financial control and budgeting arrangements take into account covenant requirements * Policy of setting balanced budgets leading to strong positive cash flows * Regular monitoring and identification of "pressure points" and possible corrective action * Monitoring by Board * Regular liaison and information sharing with the bank * Monitoring of Covenant Management Action Plan
Poor management of behaviour at Durham Gateway leads to potential health and safety risks and adverse impact upon the quality of education	*Individual risk assessments *Individual safety plans where required *Rigorous dissection of risk assessments by all staff to inform contextualisation. *All staff Team teach taught *Regular training in-term and updating where required

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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 2020/21
Achieve annual income and recruitment targets	£12.6m	£12.8m
Return a minimum of 2% surplus on income year on year (excluding pension adjustment)	2%	1.19%
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%	59.6%
Borrowing <40% turnover	47.45%	40.34%
Remain solvent with a minimum net current ratio of 1.2 (ESFA financial health calculation)	1.2	2.96
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 were marginally below the 2019/20 results (90.7%) at 89.9% for the College. For SWDT there was an improvement to 84.1% in 2019/20 from 80.2% in 2019/20. 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 71.2%. The College underwent a full Ofsted inspection in the four days, 16th – 19th November 2021. The draft report has been received to check for factual accuracy and there is every reason to believe that when the report is published in January 2022, the official grade will be reported as 'Good'. The current Ofsted grade for SWDT is 'outstanding', from the last inspection in July 2014. It is expected that SWDT will be inspected imminently. Both organisations are committed to being outstanding learning providers and operational plans reflect this focus.

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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 2020/21 the Group provided identifiable public benefits through the advancement of education to 1707 students, including 44 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 312 apprentices in 2020/21. The Group is committed to providing information, advice and guidance to the students it enrolls 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.

Bishop Auckland College was awarded the Equality Standard 'Gold' Award by Equality North East, only two colleges in the region hold Gold, confirmation that the college lead the field in this area.

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.

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Strategic report (continued)

Gender pay gap reporting

	Year ending 31 March 2021
Mean gender pay gap	2.4%
Median gender pay gap	8.4%
Mean bonus gender pay gap	0%
Median gender bonus gap	0%
Proportion of males/females receiving a bonus	0%/0%

The proportion of males and females in each quartile of the pay distribution are:

	Males	Females
1 - Lower quartile	18.6%	81.4%
2	31.4%	68.6%
3	30%	70%
4 – Upper quartile	32.4%	67.6%

The college publishes its annual gender pay gap report on its website.

Disability statement

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

- 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.
- The Group has a Learning Support Co-ordinator, who provides information, advice and arranges support where necessary for students with disabilities.
- The Group has specialist equipment to help students with disabilities.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- Counselling & welfare services are described in the Group Student Handbook, which is held on the virtual learning platform, Moodle and discussed with students at induction.

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Strategic report (continued)

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
1		1
Percentage of time	Number of employees	
0%		
1-50%	1	
51-99%		
100%		
Total cost of facility time		£1.4k
Total pay bill		£8.426 m
Percentage of total bill spent on facility		0.03%
Time spent on paid trade union activities as a percentage of total paid facility time		6%

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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 2020 to 31 July 2021, the College paid 99 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 13th December 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P. Lonergan".

Patrick Lonergan
Chair

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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 2020 to 31st July 2021 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").

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, which it formally adopted on 13 July 2015. In the opinion of the Governors, the College complies with all the provisions of the Code, and it has complied throughout the year ended 31 July 2021. This opinion is based on an internal review of compliance with the Code reported to the board on 13 July 2015.

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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.

	Date of appointment	Term of office (years)	Date of resignation /end of service	Status of appointment	Committees served	Attendance in 2020/21 - % (rounded)
Natalie Davison-Terranova	01.01.13	n/a	n/a	Principal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Search & Governance Curriculum & Quality Resources 	100
Andrew Dunn	06.11.14 (Second appointment 7.11.18)	n/a SWDT nominee	18.01.21	Chair, South West Durham Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Audit Search & Governance 	33
Graham Currie	15.07.19	4	n/a	Independent member	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resources (Chair) Curriculum & Quality 	90
Diane Gowland	05.02.18	4	n/a	Intendent member	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vice Chair of Corporation Curriculum & Quality (Chair) Audit 	91.7
Pamela Petty	15.07.13 (Reappointed 15.07.17)	4 4	15/07/21	Independent member	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chair of Corporation Chair of Search & Governance 	100
John Yarrow	19.12.16 (Reappointed 19.12.20)	4 4	n/a	Independent member	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chair of Audit Search & Governance Resources 	91.7
Julie Vincent	10.12.18 Reappointed) 10.12.19	1	End of service 10.12.21	Staff member	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Curriculum & Quality 	100
Christopher Hutchinson	09.12.19	4	n/a	Independent member	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Curriculum & Quality 	100
Kelly Noble	24.04.20	4	n/a	Independent member	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Audit 	100
Patrick Lonergan	13.07.21	4	n/a	Independent member	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chair of Corporation Chair of Search & Governance 	75 (from date of commencement)
Steven Robson	30.11.20	4	n/a	Independent member	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Search & Governance 	100
Rebecca Coates	08.11.20	4	n/a	Independent member	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resources 	100

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John David Banks - Clerk to the Corporation	N/A	N/A	31.05.21	N/A	• N/A	N/A
Saffron Ridley Interim Clerk to the Corporation	01.06.21	N/A	23.08.21	N/A	• N/A	N/A

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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 2020/21 there were 4 Board meetings plus two Board strategic planning weekends.

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 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. Additional 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.

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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 2021 and graded itself as "good" on the Ofsted scale.

Despite the challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic during both the 2019/20 and 2020/21 academic years, governors have been 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
- External observation of 13 July 2020 meeting of the Corporate Board
- 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 2021)
- 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 over recent years, a number of key improvement actions have been taken in a timely way:

- The academic year 2020/21 was the second year of operation of restructured governance arrangements, effectively consolidating the successful new approach. Two sub-committees of the Corporate Board, i.e. the Curriculum and Quality Committee and the Resources Committee were introduced from September 2019, following several years in which a unitary Board structure had been adopted.
- Appointment of replacement and additional governors, including a headteacher from the secondary school sector with particular expertise in raising educational standards and attainment levels.
- Appointment to the role of chair following the conclusion of the second term of the previous chair.
- Appointment to the role of clerk following the retirement of the previous incumbent.

Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021



Statement of Corporate Governance and Internal Control (continued)

Consideration has also been given to the extent to which committees have met their terms of reference and remain fit for purpose. As noted above, 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. 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 have felt that they have been 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 context of online learning. It is the view of Corporate Board that both of the new committees continue to be effective in discharging their duties.

Remuneration Committee

Throughout the year ending 31 July 2021 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 2021 are set out in note 8 to the financial statements.

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.

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

- Employer engagement, labour market and recruitment expertise (the owner of a recruitment business)
- Business enterprise expertise (the chief executive of the local enterprise agency)
- HR, strategy and regeneration expertise (a senior leader from The Auckland Project, the key local regeneration organisation)

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.

Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021



Statement of Corporate Governance and Internal Control (continued)

Audit Committee

The audit committee met three times in the year to 31 July 21

The members of the committee and their attendance records are shown below

Committee member	Meeting attendance
John Yarrow	3
Andrew Dunn	1
Diane Gowland	2
Kelly Noble	3

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 auditors and financial statements auditors; both of these 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 auditors and financial statements auditors and their remuneration for audit and non-audit work as well as reporting annually to the Corporation.

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/CEO, 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.

Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021



Statement of Corporate Governance and Internal Control (continued)

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 2021 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and accounts.

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 and arrangements for compliance with legal and regularity matters including those relating to the regularity and propriety of the use of public funding 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 2021 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.

Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021



Statement of Corporate Governance and Internal Control (continued)

Risks faced by the college

The key risks faced by the college are identified in the strategic report. The college has a well developed strategies for managing risk. The audit committee basis its annual programme of work based on the boards own assessment of priorities. The risk monitoring process is iterative and ongoing as the findings of the programme of work will inform the risk register and vice versa.

A risk-based approach is taken when planning the work programme of the audit committee. The board is ultimately accountable for the work carried out. The board delegates aspects of the planning to the audit committee, with input from senior executive management and, where applicable, the internal auditor.

Control weakness identified

The audit committee must provide independent assurance to the board that its financial and non-financial controls, and risk management procedures, are operating effectively. The work of internal auditors is key to identify and making recommendations for the control of weakness identified. Where control weakness is identified, the audit committee oversee the implementation of recommendations and regularly review the progress of these implementations ensuring control weaknesses are dealt with in a timely and effective way.

Responsibilities under funding agreements

The audit committee provides assurance to the corporation that the college has met its contractual responsibilities under its funding agreements and contracts with ESFA by :

- The audit committee must provide the board with an opinion on the adequacy and effectiveness of the corporation's assurance arrangements, framework of governance, risk management and control processes for the effective and efficient use of resources, solvency, and the safeguarding of assets.
- The corporation must submit an annual report to ESFA, summarising the areas reviewed, key findings, recommendations and conclusions of the audit committee and management action taken by 31 December each year.
- The audit committee must advise the corporation on the appointment, reappointment, dismissal and remuneration of the external auditor.
- The audit committee should also assess the expertise and resources, effectiveness and independence of the external auditors regularly.
- The audit committee must have regular review of periodic and annual financial reports which indicate finical performance against forecast
- internal auditor provide the audit committee with an annual report, drawing on the reports produced throughout the year. This report will enables the audit committee to form a holistic view. It will also provide the accounting officer with key evidence to enable them to sign off their statement on regularity, propriety and compliance, and the board with information for its statement of responsibilities of the members of the corporation, all reports are submitted to ESFA with the audited accounts.

Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021



Statement of Corporate Governance and Internal Control (continued)

Statement from the audit committee

The audit committee has advised the board of governors that the corporation has an effective framework for governance and risk management in place. The audit committee believes the corporation has effective internal controls in place. The specific areas of work undertaken by the audit committee in 2020/21 and up to the date of the approval of the financial statements are:

- Review of risk register and key risks
- Review of financial statements 2021
- Review of regularity assurance report 2021
- Review of actions register
- Approval of internal audit plan
- Approval of external audit plan
- Review of annual audit committee programme
- Review of Audit Code or Practice
- Review of internal audit reports :

Report	Grading	No. of Recommendations:		
		High	Medium	Low
14-16 Provision*	Substantial	-	-	-
Cyber Resilience*	Good	-	2	1
Health and safety (c/fwd from 2019/20)	Substantial	-	-	-
Payroll	Substantial	-	-	-
Corporate Governance	Good	-	3	5
Bursary	Good	-	2	2
Follow up	Good	-	-	-
IT Infrastructure	Reasonable	-	3	-
Apprenticeships	Limited	6	3	-
Total		6	11	7

*There reports relate to the 2019/20 year but were reviewed by the audit committee at the 23rd November 2020 meeting.

The Committee receive risk management updates at every meeting. The identification, assessment, management, and mitigation of risks are important to the efficient and effective operation of the college. During the year there has been a thorough review of the risk areas by the college, with focus on those considered key to the efficient and effective operation of the college. The committee considered, questioned, and challenged the revisions to the risk register during the course of this process and are satisfied with the resultant risk register.

There were no reported cases of fraud, irregularity or whistleblowing during the year ending 31-July-2021

Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021



Statement of Corporate Governance and Internal Control (continued)

Review of effectiveness

As Accounting Officer, the Principal/CEO 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.

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 29 November 2021 meeting, the Corporation carried out the annual assessment for the year ended 31 July 2021 by considering documentation from the senior management team and internal audit, and taking account of events since 31 July 2021.

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

As the world continues to emerge from the grips of the global pandemic much uncertainty still remains. The past year has been very different to previous years and the delivery of the curriculum was based around extended induction, shortened teaching days, lengthened teaching year and restricted capacity in classrooms leading to a blended model of delivery. As the uncertainty remains for the future 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 than originally anticipated. Whilst there has been a reduction in income the group moves into 'good' financial health with 220 points and is forecasting to meet the covenant with end of year cash balances at £3.257m

The quarter 1 forecast shows a clearer position on adult education number, 16-19 study programme numbers, HE and other ESFA including high needs. The college anticipates some reduction in adult numbers and this has been reflected in the qtr1 forecast. Where there still remains some risk these areas, the forecast is expected to be achieved. This is the most up to date and realistic information at this point. Budget have been prepared for 2022/23 and shown the group moving to an 'outstanding' outturn at 260 points and a surplus of 3.64% of income and budgeted cash balances projected to be £3.028m. Growth is projected to continue in the 14-16 provision and HE. The covenant is projected to be met in 2021/22 with a debt servicing ratio of 2.82.

Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021

Bishop
Auckland
College

Statement of Corporate Governance and Internal Control (continued)

The 2021/22 budget will undergo a review at the end of March-22 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.

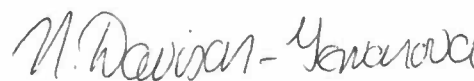
Approved by order of the members of the Corporation on 13 December 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

Signed



Patrick Lonergan
Chair

Signed



Natalie Davison-Terranova
Accounting Officer

Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021

Bishop
Auckland
College

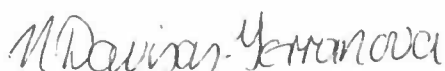
Statement of Regularity, Propriety and Compliance

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



Natalie Davison-Terranova
Accounting Officer
Date

Signed



Patrick Lonergan
Chair of Governors
Date

Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021



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.

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 13th December 2021 and signed on its behalf by:


Patrick Lonergan
Chair

Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021



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 subsidiary (the "Group") for the year ended 31 July 2021 which comprise the consolidated and college statements of comprehensive income, the consolidated and college balance sheets, the consolidated statement of changes in reserves, the consolidated statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including 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 2021 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

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the governors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the group's or the college's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the governors with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

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 contained within the Report and Financial Statements. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

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 course of 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 this gives

Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021



rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. 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 2020 to 2021 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 notes 2,3 and 4 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 14 to 27, 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.

Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021



The extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

Irregularities are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. The objectives of our audit are to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding compliance with laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, to perform audit procedures to help identify instances of non-compliance with other laws and regulations that may have a material effect on the financial statements, and to respond appropriately to identified or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations identified during the audit.

In relation to fraud, the objectives of our audit are to identify and assess the risk of material misstatement of the financial statements due to fraud, to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the assessed risks of material misstatement due to fraud through designing and implementing appropriate responses and to respond appropriately to fraud or suspected fraud identified during the audit.

However, it is the primary responsibility of management, with the oversight of those charged with governance, to ensure that the entity's operations are conducted in accordance with the provisions of laws and regulations and for the prevention and detection of fraud.

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud, the group audit engagement team:

- obtained an understanding of the nature of the sector, including the legal and regulatory frameworks that the group and College operate in and how the group and college are complying with the legal and regulatory frameworks;
- inquired of management, and those charged with governance, about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities, including any known actual, suspected or alleged instances of fraud;
- discussed matters about non-compliance with laws and regulations and how fraud might occur including assessment of how and where the financial statements may be susceptible to fraud.

As a result of these procedures we consider the most significant laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the financial statements are FRS 102, Further and Higher Education SORP and the College Accounts Direction published by the Education and Skills Funding Agency and Regulatory Advice 9: Accounts Direction published by the Office for Students. We performed audit procedures to detect non-compliances which may have a material impact on the financial statements which included reviewing financial statement disclosures and reviewing relevant correspondence with the main funding bodies.

The most significant laws and regulations that have an indirect impact on the financial statements are those which are in relation to the Education Inspection Framework under the Education and Inspections Act 2006, Keeping Children Safe in Education under the Education Act 2002 and the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018. We performed audit procedures to inquire of management and those charged with governance whether the group is in compliance with these law and regulations and inspected correspondence with licensing or regulatory authorities.

The group audit engagement team identified the risk of management override of controls as the area where the financial statements were most susceptible to material misstatement due to fraud. Audit procedures performed included but were not limited to testing manual journal entries and other adjustments and evaluating the business rationale in relation to significant, unusual transactions and transactions entered into outside the normal course of business, challenging judgments and estimates.

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

Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021



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 25 November 2021. 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
1 St James Gate
Newcastle Upon Tyne
NE1 4AD

RSM UK Audit LLP

16 Dec 2021

Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021



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 25 November 2021 and further to the requirements of the grant funding agreements and contracts with the Education and Skills Funding Agency (the "ESFA") or any other public funder, to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Bishop Auckland College during the period 1 August 2020 to 31 July 2021 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 2020 to 31 July 2021 have 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 Code) issued by the ESFA and in any relevant conditions of funding concerning adult education notified by a relevant funder. 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) data 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 are 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 Code.

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.

Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021



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 2020 to 31 July 2021 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.

RSM UK Audit LLP

RSM UK AUDIT LLP
Chartered Accountants
1 St James' Gate
Newcastle Upon Tyne
NE1 4AD

16 December 2021

Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021



CONSOLIDATED AND COLLEGE STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

	Notes	2021		2020	
		Group £'000	College £'000	Group £'000	College £'000
INCOME					
Funding body grants	2	9,163	7,909	9,114	8,042
Tuition fees and education contracts	3	2,991	2,973	2,674	2,587
Other grants & contracts	4	240	237	426	420
Other income	5	477	536	418	557
Investment income	6	-	-	2	2
Total income		12,870	11,655	12,634	11,608
EXPENDITURE					
Staff costs	7	8,426	7,742	8,224	7,570
Restructuring costs	7	24	20	34	34
Other operating expenses	9	3,534	3,146	3,129	2,877
Depreciation	13	1,215	1,046	1,329	1,079
Interest and other finance costs	10	487	487	469	469
Total expenditure		13,686	12,441	13,185	12,029
Deficit before other gains and losses		(816)	(789)	(551)	(421)
Gain on disposal of assets	13	-	-	60	60
(Loss)/gain on investments		(816)	(789)	(491)	(361)
Deficit before tax		(816)	(789)	(491)	(361)
Taxation	11	-	-	-	-
Deficit for the year		(816)	(786)	(491)	(361)
Unrealised surplus on revaluation of tangible fixed assets					
Remeasurement of net defined benefit pension liability	22	2,457	2,457	(6,140)	(6,140)
Total Comprehensive Income for the year		1,641	1,671	(6,631)	(6,501)
Represented by:					
Restricted comprehensive income		-	-	-	-
Unrestricted comprehensive income		1,641	1,671	(6,631)	(6,501)
		1,641	1,671	(6,631)	(6,501)

The statement of comprehensive income is in respect of continuing activities

Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021



Consolidated and College Statement of Changes in Reserves

	Income and expenditure account £'000	Revaluation reserve £'000	Total £'000
Group			
Balance at 1 August 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)
Deficit from the income and expenditure account	(816)		(816)
Other comprehensive income			
Actuarial gain	2,457		2,457
Total comprehensive income in year	1,641	2,393	1,641
Balance at 31 July 2021	(10,609)	2,393	(8,216)

Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021



Consolidated and College Statement of Changes in Reserves (continued)

	Income and expenditure account £'000	Revaluation reserve £'000	Total £'000
College			
Balance at 1 August 2019	(6,064)	2,242	(3,822)
(Deficit) from the income and expenditure account	(361)		(361)
Other comprehensive income			
Actuarial loss	(6,140)		(6,140)
Total comprehensive income in year	(6,501)	2,242	(6,501)
Balance at 31 July 2020	(12,565)	2,242	(10,323)
(Deficit) from the income and expenditure account	(786)		(786)
Other comprehensive income			
Actuarial gain	2,457		2,457
Total comprehensive income for year	1,671	2,242	1,671
Balance at 31 July 2021	(10,894)	2,242	(8,652)

Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021



Balance sheets as at 31 July 2021

	Notes	Group 2021 £'000	College 2021 £'000	Group 2020 £'000	College 2020 £'000
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	13	33,654	31,490	34,393	32,077
Negative goodwill	12	-	-	-	-
Total fixed assets		33,654	31,490	34,393	32,077
Current assets					
Debtors	14	1,319	1,156	1,132	1,030
Cash at bank and in hand	21	3,131	2,434	2,187	1,368
Total current assets		4,450	3,590	3,319	2,398
Less: Creditors – amounts falling due within one year	16	(4,033)	(3,981)	(3,139)	(2,970)
Net current assets/(liabilities)		417	(391)	180	(572)
Total assets less current liabilities		34,072	31,099	34,573	31,505
Less: Creditors – amounts falling due after more than one year	17	(28,418)	(25,881)	(29,058)	(26,456)
Provision for liabilities	20	(13,870)	(13,870)	(15,372)	(15,372)
NET LIABILITIES		(8,216)	(8,652)	(9,857)	(10,323)
Unrestricted reserves					
Income and expenditure account		(10,609)	(10,894)	(12,250)	(12,565)
Revaluation reserve		2,393	2,242	2,393	2,242
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED		(8,216)	(8,652)	(9,857)	(10,323)

The financial statements on pages 33 to 66 were approved and authorised for issue by the Corporation on 13th December 2021 and were signed on its behalf on that date by:

Patrick Lonergan
Chair

N Davison-Terranova
Principal / Chief Executive

Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021

Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows

	Notes	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Cash flow from operating activities			
Deficit for the year		(816)	(491)
Adjustment for non-cash items			
Depreciation		1,215	1,329
Release of negative goodwill		-	-
(Increase)/Decrease in debtors		(187)	101
Increase/(Decrease) in creditors due within one year		1,013	(460)
Decrease in creditors due after one year		(331)	(753)
Pensions costs less contributions payable		970	810
Capital grants		(422)	-
Adjustment for investing or financing			
Investment income		-	(2)
Interest payable		273	274
Gain on sale of fixed assets		-	(60)
Net cash flow from operating activities		1,716	748
Cash flows from investing activities			
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets		-	60
Investment income		-	2
Capital grants received		422	-
Payments made to acquire fixed assets		(477)	(228)
		(56)	(166)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Interest paid		(273)	(274)
Repayments of amounts borrowed		(307)	(310)
Repayment of Lennartz VAT		(137)	(138)
		(717)	(722)
Increase in cash and cash equivalents	21	944	(140)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year		2,187	2,327
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year	21	3,131	2,187

Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021



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 accounting

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 2020 to 2021* 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.

Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021



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 2021.

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 £4.980m 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 12 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 2021/22 budget/forecast. The budget/forecast 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 2023 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 £700k, with no 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 2022/23 and for 12 month from sign off of the financial statements. For this reason the group will continue to adopt the going concern basis in the preparation of the 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.

Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021



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 Onegym, NRCPD and others.

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.

Retirement

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.

Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021



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.

Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021

Bishop
Auckland
College

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.

Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021



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.

Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021



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.

Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021



Notes to the Consolidated Financial statements (continued)

1 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND ESTIMATION TECHNIQUES (CONTINUED)

Critical accounting judgement and 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 re-assessing 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 2021. 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.

Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021



Notes to the Consolidated Financial statements (continued)

2 FUNDING BODY GRANTS

	Group 2021 £'000	College 2021 £'000	Group 2020 £'000	College 2020 £'000
Recurrent grants				
Education and Skills Funding Agency – adult	1,960	1,845	2,073	2,073
Education and Skills Funding Agency - 16-18	4,399	4,026	4,592	4,192
Education and Skills Funding Agency – apprenticeships	1,074	314	1,124	486
Office for Students	652	652	417	417
Specific grants				
Releases of government capital grants	577	577	572	572
Teachers pension scheme contribution grant	206	206	183	183
HE Grant	126	126	129	95
Covid mass testing grant	39	39	-	-
16-18 Tuition fund	131	125	-	-
Agency – Provider Relief Scheme	-	-	24	24
Total	9,163	7,909	9,114	8,042

3 TUITION FEES AND EDUCATION CONTRACTS

	Group 2021 £'000	College 2021 £'000	Group 2020 £'000	College 2020 £'000
Adult education fees	41	40	33	29
Apprenticeship fees and contracts	10	6	-	-
Fees for FE loan supported courses	523	522	625	625
Fees for HE loan supported courses	12	-	83	-
Total tuition fees	586	568	741	654
Education contracts	2,404	2,404	1,933	1,933
Total	2,991	2,973	2,674	2,587

4 OTHER GRANTS AND CONTRACTS

	Group 2021 £'000	College 2021 £'000	Group 2020 £'000	College 2020 £'000
Other Grants	222	222	335	335
Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme grant	18	16	91	85
Total	240	237	426	420

The corporation furloughed 37 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.

Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021



Notes to the Consolidated Financial statements (continued)

5 OTHER INCOME

	Group 2021 £'000	College 2021 £'000	Group 2020 £'000	College 2020 £'000
Catering Operations	13	13	9	9
Other Income generating activities	157	281	141	345
Releases from Deferred Capital Grants	150	86	151	86
Nursery Operations	157	157	117	117
Released from Negative Goodwill	-	-	-	-
Total	477	536	418	557

6 INVESTMENT INCOME

	Group 2021 £'000	College 2021 £'000	Group 2020 £'000	College 2020 £'000
Interest receivable	-	-	2	2
Dividends	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	2	2

Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021



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

	2021 No.	2020 No.
Teaching staff	153	150
Non teaching staff	58	59
	<u>211</u>	<u>209</u>

Staff costs for the above

	Group 2021 £'000	College 2021 £'000	Group 2020 £'000	College 2020 £'000
Wages and salaries	5,973	5,419	5,975	5,446
Social security costs	487	438	462	415
Pension costs (including LGPS adjustments of £760,000 (2020: £630,00))	1,966	1,885	1,787	1,709
Payroll sub total	<u>8,426</u>	<u>7,742</u>	<u>8,224</u>	<u>7,570</u>
Contracted out staffing services	103	103	50	50
Restructuring costs – contractual	4	-	22	22
- non	20	20	12	12
Total Staff costs	<u>8,553</u>	<u>7,865</u>	<u>8,312</u>	<u>7,858</u>

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.

Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021



Notes to the Consolidated Financial statements (continued)

8. KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL (CONTINUED)

	2021 No.	2020 No.
The number of key management personnel including the Accounting Officer was:	7	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 management personnel		Other staff	
	2021 No.	2020 No.	2021 No.	2020 No.
£ 5,001 to £10,000 p.a.	1	-	-	-
£10,001 to £20,000 p.a.	-	1	-	-
£20,001 to £30,000 p.a.	-	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	3	-	-
£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.	-	-	-	-
£100,001 to £105,000 p.a.	1	1	-	-
	7	8	-	-

Key management personnel compensation is made up as follows:

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Salaries	383	398
Employers National Insurance	45	46
Benefits in kind	-	-
	428	444
Pension contributions	76	76
Total key management personnel compensation	503	520

Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021



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:

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Salaries	101	101
Benefits in kind	-	-
	101	101
Pension contributions	24	23
Total	125	124

The basic salary of the accounting officer for 2020-21 has remained the same as 2019-20. 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. No remunerations committees took place during 2020/21 and no changes were made to the Accounting Officers remunerations.

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.

	2021 No	2020 No
Basic salary as a multiple of median basic salary of staff	4.8	4.9
Total remuneration as a multiple of median total remuneration of staff	7.1	6.0

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

Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021



Notes to the Consolidated Financial statements (continued)

9 OTHER OPERATING EXPENSES

	2021	2021	2020	2020
	Group	College	Group	College
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Teaching costs	1,442	1,259	1,112	1,070
Non teaching costs	1,198	1,108	1,183	1,084
Premises costs	894	779	834	724
Total	3,534	3,146	3,129	2,877

Other operating expenses include:

	2021	2020
	£'000	£'000
Auditors' remuneration:		
Financial Statements Auditors *	32	38
Internal Auditor **	10	4
Hire of plant and machinery – operating leases	51	67
Gain/(loss) on disposal of fixed assets	-	58
Payments to partners for sub-contracted provision	-	6

* Includes £24,840 in respect of the college (2019/20 £24,420)

** Includes £9,677 in respect of the college (2019/20 £4,342)

9a ACCESS AND PARTICIPATION SPENDING

	2021	2020
	£'000	£'000
Access investment	25	19
Financial support for students	45	21
Disability support	-	-
Research and evaluation (relating to access and participation)	20	1
Total	90	41

10 INTEREST AND OTHER FINANCE COSTS

	2021	2020
	£'000	£'000
On bank loans, overdrafts and other loans:		
Repayable wholly or partly in more than five years	273	285
	273	285
Net pension finance costs (note 22)	210	180
Interest on enhanced pension provisions	4	4
Total	487	469

Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021



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 2020	1,022
Additions	
At 31 July 2021	<u>1,022</u>
Amortisation	
At 1 August 2020	1,022
Amortisation for the period	
At 31 July 2021	<u>1,022</u>
Net book value	
At 31 July 2021	<u><u> </u></u>
At 31 July 2020	<u><u> </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.

Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021



Notes to the Consolidated Financial statements (continued)

13 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS – GROUP

	Land and buildings		Plant, Machinery, Fixtures & Equipment	Total
	Freehold £'000	Long leasehold £'000	£'000	£'000
Cost or valuation				
At 1 August 2020	47,250	195	7,882	55,327
Additions	54	-	423	477
Reclassification	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At 31 July 2021	47,304	195	8,305	55,804
Depreciation				
At 1 August 2020	13,770	195	6,969	20,934
Charge for the year	962	-	254	1,215
Elimination in respect of disposals	-	-	-	-
At 31 July 2021	14,731	195	7,222	22,149
Net book value at 31 July 2021	32,572	-	1,083	33,655
Net book value at 31 July 2020	33,480	-	913	34,393

No depreciation has been charged on revalued freehold land.

Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021



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 2020	42,446	195	3,790	46,431
Additions	53	-	405	458
Reclassification	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At 31 July 2021	42,499	195	4,197	46,891
Depreciation				
At 1 August 2020	10,671	195	3,487	14,354
Charge for the year	927	-	119	1,046
Elimination in respect of disposals	-	-	-	-
At 31 July 2021	11,598	195	3,606	15,399
Net book value at 31 July 2021	30,901	-	591	31,490
Net book value at 31 July 2020	31,775	-	299	32,077

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.

Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021



Notes to the Consolidated Financial statements (continued)

14 DEBTORS

	Group 2021 £'000	College 2021 £'000	Group 2020 £'000	College 2020 £'000
Amounts falling due within one year:				
Trade debtors	32	27	54	49
Prepayments and accrued income	1,286	1,129	1,078	957
Amounts owed by subsidiaries	-	-	-	24
Total	1,319	1,156	1,132	1,030

16 CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	Group 2021 £'000	College 2021 £'000	Group 2020 £'000	College 2020 £'000
Bank loans and overdrafts	307	307	291	291
Other loan	29	29	29	29
Lennartz VAT	-	-	138	138
Payments received in advance	320	279	241	209
Trade creditors	381	369	111	109
Other creditors	13	13	8	8
Other taxation and social security	766	737	1,082	1,039
Accruals	848	785	517	489
Amounts owed to Funding Bodies	646	635	-	-
Deferred grants	723	658	723	658
Amounts owed to subsidiaries	-	169	-	-
Total	4,033	3,981	3,139	2,970

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

Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021



Notes to the Consolidated Financial statements (continued)

17 CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER ONE YEAR

	Group 2021 £'000	College 2021 £'000	Group 2020 £'000	College 2020 £'000
Bank loans	4,673	4,673	4,980	4,980
Lennartz VAT	-	-	-	-
Lease Rent received in advance	63	63	92	92
Other loan	-	-	-	-
Deferred grants	23,681	21,144	23,986	21,384
Total	28,418	25,880	29,058	26,456

18 MATURITY OF DEBT

Bank loans and overdrafts are repayable as follows:

	Group 2021 £'000	College 2021 £'000	Group 2020 £'000	College 2020 £'000
In one year or less	307	307	291	291
Between one and two years	321	321	307	307
Between two and five years	1,005	1,005	1,018	1,108
In five years or more	3,348	3,348	3,655	3,656
Total	4,980	4,980	5,271	5,271

Total loans £4,980k as 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.

Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021

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 chang es	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
At 1 August 2020	15,140	182	50	15,372
Utilised in the year	970	(15)	-	955
(Release)/Additional provision in the year	(2480)	23	-	(2457)
At 31 July 2021	13,630	190	50	13,870

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:

	2021	2020
CPI Rate	2.6%	2.2%
Discount rate	1.7%	1.4%

Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021



Notes to the Consolidated Financial statements (continued)

21 ANALYSIS OF CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	At 1 August 2020 £'000	Cash flows £'000	Other changes £'000	At 31 July 2021 £'000
Cash in hand and at bank	2,187	944	-	3,131
Investments				
Total	2,187	944	-	3,131

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 2016 and of the LGPS 31 March 2019.

Total pension cost for the year	2021 £000	2020 £000
Teachers' Pensions Scheme: contributions	545	503
Local Government Pension Scheme:		
Contributions paid	530	520
Unfunded		
FRS102 (28) charge	760	630
Charge to the Income and Expenditure Account (staff costs)	1290	1,150
Other pension costs	50	56
SWDT contributions	81	78
Total Pension Cost for Year	1,966	1,787

Included above are pension contributions paid by SW Durham Training Limited of £81,081 (2020: £78,000).

Contributions amounting to £368,079 (2020: £488,025) were payable to the scheme at 31 July 2021 and are included within creditors.

Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021



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. 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. The TPS is a multi-employer pension plan and there is insufficient information to account for the scheme on as a defined benefit plan so it is accounted for as a defined contribution plan.

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

Not less than every four years the Government Actuary ("GA"), using normal actuarial principles, conducts a formal actuarial review of the TPS. The aim of the review is to specify the level of future contributions. Actuarial scheme valuations are dependent on assumptions about the value of future costs, design of benefits and many other factors. The latest actuarial valuation was carried out as at 31 March 2016 and in accordance with The Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014 except it has been prepared following the Government's decision to pause the operation of the cost control mechanisms at the time when legal challenges were still pending.

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

The valuation report was published in April 2019. The key results of the valuation and subsequent consultation are:

- Total scheme liabilities for service (pensions currently payable and the estimated cost of future benefits) of £218 billion
- Value of notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the proceeds from the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £196 billion
- Notional past service deficit of £22 billion
- Discount rate is 2.4% in excess of CPI

As a result of the valuation, new employer contribution rates were set at 23.68% of pensionable pay from September 2020 onwards (compared to 16.48% during 2019/20). DfE agreed to pay a Teachers Pensions employer contribution grant to cover the additional costs during the 2020-21 academic year, and currently through to March 2022. The next valuation result is due to be implemented from 1 April 2023. The pension costs paid to TPS in the year amounted to £989,000 (2020: £1,490,000).

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined-benefit plan, with the assets held in separate funds administered by Durham County Council Local Authority. The total contributions made for the year ended 31 July 2021 were £285,000, of which employer's contributions totalled £178,000 and employees' contributions totalled £107,000. The agreed contribution rates for future years are 17.3% for employers and range from 5.5% to 7.5% for employees, depending on salary.

The pension costs paid to TPS in the year amounted to £545,000 (2020: £320,000).

Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021



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 2021 £'000	Year Ended July 2020 £'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)

Pension finance costs

(4)	(4)
-----	-----

Amounts recognised in the statement of comprehensive income

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	(19)	(10)

Actuarial gain (loss) recognised in SOCI

(19)	(10)
------	------

Movement in surplus during year

Deficit in scheme at 1 August	(181)	(182)
Current service credit	15	15
Net (interest) on assets	(4)	(4)
Actuarial (loss) or gain	(19)	(10)

Deficit in scheme at 31 July

(189)	(181)
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Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021



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 2021 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 2021	At 31 July 2020
Discount rate	1.70%	1.40%
CPI inflation	2.60%	2.20%
Pension increases	2.60%	2.20%
Pension accounts revaluation rate	2.60%	2.20%
Salary increases	3.60%	3.20%

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 2021	At 31 July 2020
<i>Males</i>		
Member aged 65 at accounting date	22.3	22.2
Member aged 45 at accounting date	23.3	23.2
<i>Females</i>		
Member aged 65 at accounting date	24.3	24.2
Member aged 45 at accounting date	25.8	25.7

Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021



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 2021 £'000	Fair Value at 31 July 2021 %	Fair Value at 31 July 2020 £'000	Fair Value at 31 July 2020 %
Equities	11470	55.8%	8480	49.3%
Property	1270	6.2%	1238	7.2%
Government bond	3290	16.0%	4162	24.2%
Corporate bonds	3600	17.5%	2528	14.7%
Cash	930	4.50%	791	4.6%
Other	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
	20560	100%	17200	100%

Reconciliation of funded status to balance sheet:

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Fair value of assets	20560	17,200
Present value of funded defined benefit obligation	(34190)	(32,340)
Funded status	(13,630)	(15,140)
Unrecognised asset	-	-
Liability recognised on the balance sheet	(13,630)	(15,140)

Amounts recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income in respect of the plan are as follows:

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Operating cost		
Current service cost	1,280	1,020
Past service costs	-	130
Curtailment costs	10	-
Financing cost		
Net interest cost	210	180
Total	1,500	1,330

Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021



Notes to the Consolidated Financial statements (continued)

22 DEFINED BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS (CONTINUED)

Amounts recognised in other comprehensive Income

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Asset gains arising during the year	2,850	(420)
Liability gains/(losses) during the period	(370)	(5,720)
Amount recognised in other comprehensive income	2,480	(6,140)

Movements in the present value of defined benefit obligations were as follows:

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Liabilities at start of period	32,340	25,562
Current service cost	1,280	1,020
Interest expense on defined benefit obligation	450	560
Contributions by participants	150	160
Actuarial (gain) / loss on liabilities	370	5,720
Net benefits paid out	(410)	(870)
Curtailment cost	10	-
Past Service Costs	-	130
Liabilities at end of period	34,190	32,340

Movements in the fair value of college's share of scheme assets:

	2021 £'000	2020 £,000
Assets at start of period	17,200	17,430
Interest income on assets	240	380
Remeasurement gains/losses on assets	2,850	(420)
Contributions by the employer	530	520
Contributions by participants	150	160
Benefits paid	(410)	(870)
Assets at end of period	20,560	17,200

Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021



Notes to the Consolidated Financial statements (continued)

22 DEFINED BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS (CONTINUED)

Actual Return on Assets

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Interest income on assets	240	380
Gain/loss on assets	2,850	(420)
	<u>3,090</u>	<u>(40)</u>

23 CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Commitments contracted for at 31 July	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

24 LEASE OBLIGATIONS

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

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Plant and Equipment:		
Expiring within one year	57	67
Expiring within two and five years inclusive	37	52
Expiring in over five years	-	-
	<u>94</u>	<u>119</u>

Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021

Bishop
Auckland
College

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.

No governors have claimed expenses in the year. (2020: £720; 1 governor).

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

26 AMOUNTS DISPERSED AS AGENT

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Funding body grants	403	440
Other Funding body grants	-	-
Interest earned	-	-
	<hr/> 403	<hr/> 440
Disbursed to students	(246)	(379)
Administration costs	(11)	(18)
Balance underspent (overspent) as at 31 July	<hr/> 145	<hr/> 43

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.