Item 12
For Information

GLASGOW KELVIN COLLEGE

Finance and Resources Committee – 15 September 2020

Student Support Funds Update

Report by Head of Finance and Finance Manager

1. Introduction

The purpose of this report is to provide members of the Financial Control Committee with final student support fund expenditure figures for session 2019/20 and an update in respect of applications received to date in the current session.

2. Student Support Funds

2.1 Session 2019/20

The budgetary allocations and actual spend for the session are summarised below. The initial funding allocations were made by the Scottish Funding Council (SFC) in consultation with the Glasgow Colleges Regional Board (GCRB). The College then applied for additional funding through the re-distribution process mid-year. Members should note that these funds must be spent in line with the guidance issued by the SFC and are not available for any other purpose.

SESSION 2019/20	Bursary	FE Discretionary Fund (FEDF)	FE Childcare Fund (FECC)	HE Childcare Fund (HECC)	HE Discretionary Fund (HEDF)
2018-19 Funds b/f	**£59,437**	**£8,291**	**£10,461**		**£4,925**
Funds Allocation	£3,930,000	£423,000	£730,000	£270,000	£140,696
ESF/YEI Allocation	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
IY Redistribution	£670,000	£50,000	£150,000	£0	£5,200
COVID-19 Allocation	£0	£0	£0	£0	£18,931
Clawback (GCRB/SAAS)	-£59,437	-£8,291	-£10,461	£0	-£4,925
Potential Virement	£0	£244,659	-£209,659	-£35,000	£0
Total Available	**£4,600,000**	**£717,659**	**£670,341**	**£235,000**	**£173,827**
Expenditure to date	-£4,211,823	-£711,091	-£647,718	-£198,965	-£170,819
YE Funds Balance c/f	**£388,177**	**£6,568**	**£22,623**	**£36,035**	**£3,008**

As reported in the table above the College requested slightly more funds in the re-distribution process than it required during the year. The GCRB claw back was in recognition of this and enabled these funds to be reallocated to other colleges within the Glasgow Region.

During July 2020, as reported to members at the previous meeting on 26 May 2020, the College was able to support 326 students with laptops and broadband access using surplus FE Discretionary funds of £229k.

Unspent Student Support Funds are normally clawed back in the following academic year. HEDF is an exception in session 2020/21.

The figures presented above are subject to audit, the audit is largely complete and a detailed report from the auditor will be considered by the Audit & Risk Committee in due course.

2.2 Session 2020/21

The initial allocations of funding available to the College for the current session are:

SESSION 2020/21	Bursary	FE Discretionary Fund (FEDF)	FE Childcare Fund (FECC)	HE Childcare Fund (HECC)	HE Discretionary Fund (HEDF)
2019/20 Funds b/f	£388,177	£6,568	£22,623	£36,035	£3,008
Funds Allocation	£4,410,511	£750,000	£1,000,000	£300,000	£140,632
ESF/YEI Allocation	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
IY Redistribution	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
COVID-19 Allocation	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
Clawback (GCRB/SAAS)	-£388,177	-£6,568	-£22,623	-£36,035	£0
Potential Virement	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
Total Available	**£4,410,511**	**£750,000**	**£1,000,000**	**£300,000**	**£143,640**
Expenditure to date	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
Balance	**£4,410,511**	**£750,000**	**£1,000,000**	**£300,000**	**£143,640**

2.3 Application Status 2020/21

It is too early at the time of writing to make a meaningful prediction in respect of the demands on the funds for the current session. Applications are being processed at present and the College has received the following applications so far for session 2020/21:

Fund	No of applications
Bursary	1116
Childcare	174
General Hardship*	0
Emergency*	0
Part time Travel Expenses	34

*note – the General Hardship & Emergency Funds are not open yet

The ability of the College to fully fund student support during the current session is not currently considered to be a high-risk matter. The value of the commitment will be monitored carefully in the coming weeks and reported to the next meeting of the Finance and Resources Committee.

3. COVID-19 – Session 2019/20

As the COVD-19 pandemic evolved, SFC worked with colleges and the NUS to consider how best to support students, particularly those in hardship.

The college processed additional Discretionary emergency payments as follows:

FEDF - £134,000
HEDF - £27,900

SFC had also requested that Colleges should be looking to ensure that no students are disadvantaged in their studies due to the lack of access to the appropriate technology required for them to be able to continue their engagement in the current remote learning environment. Accordingly, after taking all Student Support funding needs into account, the college purchased ICT equipment and services as described above.

The students funded were eligible under 2019/20 funding regulations and will be continuing with the college in session 2020/21.

The Scottish Government also released additional COVID-19 HE Discretionary funding of £18,931, which was fully utilised.

4. Resource Implications

The contents of this report have no significant resource implications in respect of the College Income and Expenditure account.

5. Equalities

No adverse impacts on people with protected characteristics have been identified as a consequence of this report.

6. Risk and Assurance

There is a slight risk of excess demand for funds.

In respect of assurance, the student support funds are audited by the College Internal Auditor each year in accordance with Scottish Funding Council Audit Guidance. The outcome of the audit is reported by the Internal Auditor to the Audit and Risk Committee annually.

7. Data Protection

The Student Support Teams hold a significant volume of sensitive personal information in respect of learners and their families. This is managed carefully within the terms of the College's Data Protection Policy and procedures.

8. Recommendations

Members of the Finance and Resources Committee are recommended to note the contents of this report provided for their information.

9. Further Information

Members of the Finance and Resources Committee can obtain further information on the contents of this report from Alan Carr, Head of Finance, acarr@glasgowkelvin.ac.uk, Andrea Daly, Finance Manager, adaly@glasgowkelvin.ac.uk.

AC/AD
Glasgow Kelvin College
September 2020