Item 21
For Noting

GLASGOW KELVIN COLLEGE

Board of Management – Meeting of 7 June 2021

Community Delivery Update

Report by Vice Principal Curriculum & Quality and Director of Community Engagement & Curriculum

1. Introduction

This report provides an update on community delivery undertaken this year and plans for 2021-22.

2. Overview of Community Learning and Development Activity 2020-21

The College provides a wide range of community outreach services. Much of this activity is delivered by Lecturing staff who teach a range of access level programmes in community-based venues. However, a significant level of the College's community engagement and support activity is delivered by the Community Development team who support local residents across the following three broad areas of College activity:

- *Youth Access Provision* targeting young adults outwith College core hours providing access to engagement activities such as computer skills and music production and performance.
- *Supporting Community Groups* mainly through the coordination of Community Achievement Awards which helps residents and community groups to complete SCQF accredited capacity building awards.
- *Providing Additional in-Class Support* for vulnerable learners in mainstream College provision, particularly our Transitions programmes which are provided in liaison with Social Work services and targeted at care experienced young people.

Due to Coronavirus related lockdowns and social distancing requirements, community engagement in 2020-21 have been significantly impacted, particularly as community outreach activity is predominantly based on face to face interaction with hard to reach cohorts. As a result, overall enrolment levels in 2020-21 for direct Community Development activity are currently around 15% of pre-Covid levels.

Despite these huge constraints on our service provision, we have continued to work with a number of community partners and innovate our service delivery making good use of digital approaches and pro-active street engagement work when able. Example programmes include an online youth access summer music festival and a Street Work programme in partnership with Glasgow Life. The musical workshop supported young people to create an online music festival in December 2020. 10 young volunteers helped to produce this piece of work which supported young people to perform using YouTube:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?fbclid=IwAR1MDWMIvMPztbISMQ0NOreBVxZxpl7P2MhWkglJAVkxGflmyd4t41YY4&v=1vTYTsRTVgc&feature=youtu.be

A new Street Work programme was also developed and deployed in October 2020 presenting the Youth Access programme an additional resource to engage young people, helping to direct them into College and partner services. Within the first few weeks of delivery the Bridge enrolment total increased from 6 to 39 as a result. We continue to evaluate and grow the Street work provision which is showing a high degree of success in engaging community youth back into service provision as lockdown restrictions ease.

3. Planning for 2021-22

Community Development services are supported partnership funding from the Glasgow City Council Integrated Grant Fund (IGF). In April 2020, a new Community Grant fund replaced the IGF, with the intention to spread the allocation of funds over a wider range of community partners, particularly Third Sector organisations. As a result of this change, funding for the College was reduced by around 50% and the College is in the process of long standing, ongoing consultation with staff and union colleagues to determine Community Development staffing needs. Some new community outreach funding streams have been secured and the College will continue to develop frontline Community Development services. As a result, there are no plans for a significant reduction in the number of learners able to access Community Development services in 2021-22, notwithstanding any impacts that Covid might continue to have on service delivery going forwards.

Session 2021-22 planning is well underway with a focus on providing Community based activity which assists in community recovery from the Covid pandemic. This includes plans to introduce new routes into our vocational curriculum through greater use of subject tasters with a continued focus on digital learning and inclusion. In addition, we have the following three new projects which we hope to be able to deliver from August 21:

- Extension of Youth Access provision to our East-End campus in partnership with Scottish Sports Futures.
- Development of an outreach programme for the Easterhouse area in partnership with Glasgow Life.
- Working with FUSE community group in relation to a community Virtual Reality café

These new developments will help us to continue to enhance our Community Development activity, reaching out to the community to provide fluid pathways to positive destinations and a healthy lifestyle balance.

4. Resource Implications

The reduction in Glasgow City Council funding for Community Development activity will have a significant impact on expected College income levels going forwards. As

indicated above, the College is considering the implications of this reduction and identifying options to mitigate the impact of this reduced level of funding.

5. Equalities

The ongoing restrictions related to COVID-19 have significantly constrained community outreach participation levels. As a result, overall levels of engagement with students from SIMD10 areas will have decreased in comparison to historical levels.

6. Risk and Assurance

This report provides assurance that the College is continuing to innovate in the delivery of community outreach activity and reach out to north east Glasgow residents at this very challenging time. The reduction in funding by Glasgow City Council increases risks to the financial sustainability of the College. However, the College is seeking to minimise these risks through identification of new funding streams and a reshaping of Community Development staffing supported by voluntary severance.

7. Data Protection

There are no data protection implications arising directly from this report

8. Recommendations

Members are recommended to:

i) note the contents of the report.

9. Further Information

Members can obtain additional information on the contents of this report from Robin Ashton, Vice Principal Curriculum and Quality or Tracy Leavy, Director of Community Engagement and Curriculum.

Glasgow Kelvin College
RA/TL
24/05/2021