

SOUTH WEST COLLEGE GOVERNING BODY

Minutes of a Special Meeting of the **South West College Governing Body**
held on Wednesday 22 October 2008 at 5.30 pm in Room MG04,
Enniskillen Campus, 1 Dublin Road, Enniskillen

PRESENT: Mr Joseph Martin (Presiding Chair)
Dr Mark Kelly
Mr Gerry Kingston
Mr Gerard McDermott
Councillor Thomas O'Reilly
Dr Nicholas O'Shiel
Mr Victor Refaussé (Director)
Mrs Diane Stevenson

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs Elizabeth McSorley, Secretary to the Governing Body

APOLOGIES: Mrs Kate Courtenay
Mr Martin Groom
Mr Adrian McCreesh
Mr Joe McFall
Ms Gwen Stevenson
Councillor Dr Philip Weir

1.0 ELECTION OF PRESIDING CHAIRMAN

The Secretary to the Governing Body, due to the absence of the Vice Chair, invited nominations from eligible governors for the position of Presiding Chairman to chair that evening's meeting.

AGREED: on the proposal of Dr O'Shiel, seconded by Councillor O'Reilly, that Mr Martin act as Presiding Chairman of the Special Governing Body meeting.

Mr Martin then took the Chair.

2.0 DRAFT VISION, MISSION STATEMENT, AND STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES FOR THE SOUTH WEST COLLEGE

PREVIOUSLY CIRCULATED: to all members, copy of the Director's proposed presentation to the meeting on the above subject.

The Presiding Chairman reminded members that this was deferred business from the September 2008 Governing Body meeting as members had felt it merited a special meeting in view of its strategic importance.

The Director then took members through his presentation document during which he highlighted the factors that had been taken into account in development of the options for a vision, mission, and key strategic objectives. These included the objectives for FE Colleges contained within FE Means Business, the broad themes which underpinned the Skills Strategy for Northern Ireland, as well as the draft strategic framework for the South West College which the Governing Body had developed in conjunction with Mr Mark Conway of Venture International earlier in the year. He then took members through each of the four proposed options for a mission statement, the four proposed options for the College vision, and a range of possible strategic objectives under key strategic headings. In relation to timing, he said that it was hoped this work could be completed in October/early November to enable it to be incorporated within the annual accounts.

Mrs Stevenson entered the meeting during the Director's overview of the presentation document.

Detailed examination of the draft options presented under each of the headings then took place which resulted in the outcomes set out below.

2.1 Mission Statement

AGREED: that the mission statement for the South West College be:

“To provide lifelong learning opportunities for the people of the South West region and beyond through quality education and training in support of economic, social and community development.”

2.2 Vision

AGREED: that the vision for the South West College be:

“Developing People – Achieving Potential”

2.3 Strategic Objectives

AGREED: (1) that the strategic themes and objectives for the South West College be developed and ranked in the following order:

(a) **Curriculum:**

- Preference for the first statement on last slide of page 5, but replace the word “area” with “South West region and beyond”;
- Technology to come under Curriculum and to include reference to centres of excellence in the context of development of information learning technology;
- Schools to come under Curriculum.

(b) **Economic Development:**

- Support for Industry
- Employability

to come under the “Economic Development” heading.

(c) **People** (to replace Quality) **and Organisational Development** (to replace Culture) with possible wording under “Culture” (taken from the Internal Areas of Focus section) to read *“To empower staff to embrace organisational change and to nurture a culture of shared values and common ethos”*.

(d) **Partnership** (drop Collaboration) and possibly include the words “partner” and “key driver” within the detail of the strategic objective.

(e) **Financial Sustainability**

(f) **International Links** – to replace Transnational Links.

Mr McDermott left the meeting towards the latter part of the above discussion.

AGREED: (2) that the detailed wording of each of the strategic objectives be developed by the Director with the proviso that any reference to South West region be amended to read “South West region and beyond”.

2.4 Internal Areas of Focus

AGREED: that with the exception of “Culture”, which was to be incorporated within People and Organisational Development, that the proposed Internal Areas of Focus (communication, equality, health and safety, other) do not be incorporated within the above strategic objectives.

2.5 Next Steps

AGREED: that a revised draft of the mission statement, vision, and strategic objectives would be circulated to members for further comment/sign off through the Secretary to the Governing Body, with responses, if any, to be made within five working days.

The meeting concluded at 7.03 pm

CHAIRMAN _____ **DATE** _____