

# WQE & Regent College Group

Extraordinary Corporation Meeting 17<sup>th</sup> September 2025

17:00 -17:15

Room G01, G Building, University Road Campus

## **Members of the Corporation in attendance:**

Sarah Thomson (Chair), Joyce Black, Bernadette Green, Onkar Korotana, Iain McKenzie, Adeola Obadan, Hasan Peerbhai, Alison Stone & Paul Wilson

## **Apologies:** Phill Ashton, Jimmy Zachariah

## **Other attendees:**

Rachel Middleton, Dan Ismail

## **MINUTES**

### **1. Welcome and apologies for absence**

Sarah Thomson

The Corporation noted that Sarah Thomson had assumed her role as Chair of the Corporation from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2025. The Chair welcomed all attendees to the first meeting of the academic year, an extraordinary meeting of the Corporation with just a few short agenda items, due to be followed by the annual Governors' Kickstart meeting.

Apologies were received from Phill Ashton and Jimmy Zachariah.

Sarah welcomed to the meeting the new Chief Financial Officer and Associate Principal (Finance, Estates & Risk), Dan Ismail, who introduced himself to the Corporation. Dan was invited to stay for the meeting and the subsequent Kickstart session.

### **2. Declarations of Interest**

Sarah Thomson

There were no declarations of interest other than Iain McKenzie with regards to agenda item 4.

### **3. Minutes and matters arising – Paper 001**

Sarah Thomson

The minutes of the open Corporation meeting (Part 1) held on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2025 were approved as a correct record of proceedings and signed by the Chair.

One of the action points related to the CFO considering whether there should be some external assurance sought with regards to the College's Health & Safety Policy. The CFO agreed that this could be considered.

**3.1 The draft minutes from the closed meeting of the Corporation held on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2025 (Part 2)** were circulated in advance of the meeting to eligible Governors (External and Parent Governors only). The minutes were approved as an accurate record of proceedings and signed to affirm this.

## EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE GOVERNANCE

### 4. **Nomination for role as Vice Chair of Corporation – For approval**

Rachel Middleton

The Director of Governance reminded Governors of the steps which had been implemented to launch nominations for the role of Vice Chair of the Corporation. She reported that one Governor had submitted a statement of interest and that they had been nominated by the outgoing Chair of the Corporation and the Vice Chair (now the new Chair). The candidate was Iain McKenzie.

Iain stepped out of the room whilst the Corporation discussed the appointment. There were no matters to raise nor any objections.

Iain returned to the room and his appointment was confirmed. Iain will assume his role as Vice Corporation Chair with immediate effect and by dint of this role he also immediately becomes the Chair of the Governance & Search Committee.

The Corporation expressed its gratitude to Iain.

### 5. **Nominations for Chairs of Committees 2025-26 and memberships of committees – Paper 002 - For approval**

Rachel Middleton

The Director of Governance confirmed that all current Governors had been contacted over the summer about their committee memberships for 2025-26. Allocations had been informed by Governor experience, outcomes from the Governor Skills Audit and Committee quoracy thresholds. With new Governors anticipated in-year there may be some opportunity to revise memberships if Governors feel strongly that they would like a change in-year. All Governors were thanked for committing to members of a minimum of two committees this academic year.

The Director of Governance asked the Corporation to approve the nominations of the following Governors to Committee Chair positions:

- Phill Ashton to SECO Committee Chair following Bernie Green's end of tenure, from January 2026
- Onkar Korotana to Finance & Resources Committee Chair
- Iain McKenzie to Governance & Search Committee Chair

And to note again, the approved nomination of Joyce Black to Audit & Risk Committee Chair.

The Corporation Chair thanked all nominees for their commitment. The Corporation approved all appointments.

The Corporation approved the composition of its committees and also approved the ongoing appointment of Stuart Dawkins to Vaughan Committee and Philip Parkinson to Finance & Resources Committee and to the Remuneration Committee.

## STUDENT EXPERIENCE, CURRICULUM & OUTCOMES

### 6. Policy on Safeguarding Young People 2025-26 – Paper 003 - *For approval*

The Corporation noted the changes to the annually reviewed policy had been clearly highlighted.

The policy was approved by the Corporation.

The meeting ended at 17:15.

#### Action Plan

| Actions from the meeting on 25 <sup>th</sup> June 2025   | Who is responsible? | Date for completion |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|
| Seek external assurance of the College's Health & Safety Policy                                  | DI                  | To be considered    |
| Standing item  | Who is responsible? | Date for completion |
| To refer any matter which could be externally assured to the Chair of the Audit & Risk Committee | All Governors       |                     |

**Signature:** .....

Chair of the Corporation

**Date:** .....