

## Belfast Metropolitan College Resources Committee

3 pm on 4 March 2026 in the Boardroom, Titanic Quarter Campus and via Microsoft Teams

### Minutes

**Committee Members:** Seamus McGoran (Chair); Yvonne Murphy; Lauren McAteer; Michael Mearns; Michael McKernan; J Leaden, Tom Hesketh; and Damian Duffy, Principal & Chief Executive and Lioni Delgado.

**Management:** Aidan Sloane, Chief Operating Officer (COO); Siobhan Lyons, Interim Director of Development and Partnerships (IDDP); Paula Graham, Director of People and Culture (DPC); Fiona Dempsey Interim Director of Curriculum; Kristian Kinnaird, Head of IT and Digital Services, (HOIT) Laura Allen, Head of Finance (HF); Peter Kane, Head of Estate and Facilities Management (HEFM). Hadessa McCusker, Deputy Head of Finance.

**Secretary to the Governing Body:** Jim Woods

#### Quorum, Apologies, Welcome, Conflicts of Interest, Notice of AOB and Leadership Culture

RC29  
25-26

**Quorum:** The meeting was determined to be quorate under the terms of Section 6.2 of Terms of Reference V5 of the Resources Committee approved by the Governing Body on 11 December 2024 (2 Governors).

**Welcome:** A warm welcome was extended to Hadessa McCusker the Deputy Head of Finance.

**Conflicts of Interest:** No participants reported perceived, potential, or actual conflicts of interest under the terms of Section 8.1 of the Belfast Metropolitan College Governing Body Standing Orders.

**AOB:** No Items of AOB received.

**Leadership Culture:** The meeting set out the intent to engage in creative and courageous conversation in an atmosphere or culture of challenge and respect in line with our code of conduct.

Minutes Draft	
<b>RC30</b> 25-26	<p><b>Minutes of the meeting held on 5 November 2025</b></p> <p>The Committee approved of minutes of the previous meeting held <b>5 November 2025</b></p>
<b>RC31</b> 25-26	<p><b>Matters Arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 5 November 2025</b></p> <p>All matters arising are on the agenda of this governance meeting.</p>
<b>RC32</b> 25-26	<p><b>Governance Guidance and Information.</b></p> <p>Two items had been included with the papers on the completion of the 2024-25 accounts which were certified on 18 November 2025 and the full audit report which provided detailed information on the audit.</p> <p>The Committee recorded their thanks for the wonderful work of the finance team that achieved this outcome.</p> <p>The Resources Committee noted the update.</p>
<b>RC33</b> 25-26	<p><b>Notification of change to the internal control environment under Section 12d of Governing Body Standing Orders V5 22 June 2022</b></p> <p>COO reported that progress had been made on the move to a revised statutory financial year ending on 31 March, accordingly DfE have asked for the Colleges Article of Government to be updated by 18 March 2026.</p> <p>The Resources Committee noted the request that will be actioned by the Secretary.</p>
<b>RC34</b> 25-26	<p><b>Chair's Business</b></p> <p>There was no Chair's Business.</p>
<b>RC35</b> 25-26	<p><b>Financial Results to 31 December 2025 Accounting Period 9 and NDPB Month 9</b></p> <p>COO and HF took members through the report in detail outlining that the results underpin the strategic plan by maintaining a breakeven position, driven by strong performance, additional funding, apprenticeship income and controlled expenditure.</p> <p>Members were assured that the robust performance enables continued investment in core delivery, capital projects and compliance within DfE oversight, supporting college strategic objectives and operational resilience. Both Estates and IT have been able to avail of capital finance that was made available in December.</p> <p>The Committee noted the strong financial position.</p>

Minutes Draft	
<p><b>RC36</b> 25-26</p>	<p><b>Estate and Facilities Management Report</b></p> <p>HEFM took members through the Estates &amp; Sustainability Report which provided an update on key estates projects, compliance, and sustainability initiatives, including Castlereagh SOC, Millfield PFI expiry, capital works, and climate reporting.</p> <p>HEFM advised that the Committee that following the Governing Body Strategy Day a lot of progress has been made in developing the strategic case for Estates. The work will be presented to the meeting of the Governing Body scheduled 29 April 2026.</p> <p>Members were taken through the sustainability and carbon emissions in relation to the Climate Change Reporting regulations in detail. The impact of Martyns Law in relation to access control and lockdown procedures was noted.</p> <p>The Committee noted the information provided and the action taken by Management.</p>
<p><b>RC37</b> 25-26</p>	<p><b>IT &amp; Digital Services Report – Quarter 1 2025/26</b></p> <p>HOIT stepped members through the IT and Digital Services Report 2025-26 highlighting the following salient points:</p> <p>The IT &amp; Digital Services Report confirms strong Q2 performance, with all service KPIs exceeded. The update included major projects, Cyber security and essentials the digital framework and Digital innovation.</p> <p>The firewall UTM will be operational in March arising from £600k investment. Considerable expenditure had also been used to upgrade the network at Castlereagh. Members drilled into the volume of emails on a weekly basis and the volume of emails blocked by the system. Members were advised that the actions emanating from the simulation event had been progressed including the insurance cover being extended.</p> <p>The Committee noted the information and the progress on delivery of the Cyber response plan.</p>
<p><b>RC38</b> 25-26</p>	<p><b>Any other notified business</b></p> <p>There was no other business.</p>
<p><b>RC39</b> 25-26</p>	<p><b>Meeting Feedback</b></p> <p><b>Leadership Culture:</b> Chair sought feedback as to how well we lived up to our aspirations, the meeting is conducted with creative and courageous conversation in an atmosphere or spirit of challenge and respect in line with our code of conduct.</p> <p>There was consensus that the meeting had been conducted accordingly.</p>

Minutes Draft	
<p><b>RC40</b> <b>25-26</b></p>	<p><b>Date of next meetings for the Governance Programme 2025-26</b></p> <p>10 June 2026</p> <p>The meeting ended at 4:50 pm.</p>

Governing Body Attendance Report and Governing Body Member Assessment 2025-26	
Participation at 25-26 Resources Committee Meeting held 4 March 2025.	
In-person in the Board Room, Titanic Quarter Campus	via MS Teams
Seamus McGoran	Lauren McAteer
Tom Hesketh	Yvonne Murphy
Michael Mearns	Michael McKernan
Damian Duffy	
Janis Leaden	
Lioni Delgado	

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date 10 June 2026

Seamus McGoran  
Chair of Resources