



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Stella McManus
Principal and Chief Executive Officer
South Lanarkshire College

By email only

Public Audit Committee
Room T3.60
The Scottish Parliament
EDINBURGH
EH99 1SP

publicaudit.committee@parliament.scot

26 June 2023

Dear Ms McManus,

The 2021/22 audit of South Lanarkshire College

The Committee considered the abovementioned report at its meeting on [22 June 2023](#) by taking evidence from the Auditor General for Scotland (AGS) and the external auditors, Mazars LLP. At this meeting, the Committee noted that South Lanarkshire College (SLC) has improved its governance arrangements and was fully compliant with the code of good governance by the end of the academic year 2021-22.

Following the evidence session with the AGS, the Committee agreed to write to SLC to seek further information.

Progress against the auditor's recommendations

The Committee notes that progress is being made against the auditor's recommendations from the 2020/21 audit through its rolling governance review programme. The Committee further notes that two recommendations have been fully implemented, two have been mostly implemented and one has not been implemented although it is understood that the college has plans to address this.

The Committee is seeking an update on the progress of the audit recommendations that are still to be fully implemented regarding—

- **the reporting timetable of the board and its committees so that there is timely reporting to the Lanarkshire regional Board following meetings.**
- **the monitoring of progress on reviews' recommendations, particularly in relation to the need to “ensure that robust monitoring and reporting processes are in place and maintained, and that challenge, scrutiny and escalation arrangements are in place to drive the improvements required to the college governance framework”, as recommended by external reviews undertaken during 2021.**
- **the tenure of board members, following the recruitment of six new board members. [It is understood that the recruitment process commenced in May 2023.]**

Clerk to the board

The Committee notes that at the point in which the auditor signed their opinion on 19 April 2023, the acting clerk to the board remained in post, and would do so until a permanent appointment could be made.

The Committee seeks an update on the progress that has been made in appointing a new permanent clerk to the board.

The Committee would be grateful for a response by **28 July 2023**.

Yours sincerely,
Richard Leonard MSP,
Convener