

**Minute of the Board of Management Meeting
Held by Hybrid Attendance at Ayr Campus and
via Video Conference Using Microsoft Teams
on Thursday 26 March 2026**

Present:

Sharon Morrow	Interim Chair
Alicia Clyde	Non-Executive Board Member
Tracey Dalling	Non-Executive Board Member
Brian Green	Non-Executive Board Member
Michael Ross	Non-Executive Board Member

(except items 6,7,9,10,13,14,15)

Chris Boyce (except items 13,14,15)	Elected Member, EIS-FELA Teaching Staff
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Darcie Hamilton	Elected Student President
Lisa Keggans	Elected Member, UNISON Support Staff
Janette Steel	Elected Member, Curriculum Staff
Marko Prorocic	Elected Member, Professional Services Staff

Angela Cox	Principal, Ex-Officio
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In attendance:

Sara Rae	Vice Principal – Skills and Enterprise
David Davidson	Vice Principal – People, Performance and Transformation
Hilary Denholm	Board Governance Adviser
Alan Ritchie	Vice Principal – Finance & Infrastructure
Angela Scoular	Executive Assistant to the Principal and Chief Executive (Minutes)

1. Welcome and Declarations of Interest

The Chair welcomed all present to the meeting.

There were no declarations of interest.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Jane Grant, Iain Shearer, Gillian Longmuir and Jason Currie, Non-Executive Board Members, and Alison Sutherland, Senior Independent Member, and Matthew Wilson, Vice Chair.

The Chair informed the Board that Connor Skipsey, Elected Student Vice President, had resigned in February 2026 and took the opportunity to thank Connor for his contributions to the College and the Board of Management and the great work that he had been involved in during his time as Elected Student Vice President.

The Chair also referred to the sudden passing of Russell Wilson on 26 February on campus and acknowledged staff members who were involved in responding to the situation. The Chair thanked the Executive Leadership Team for their actions

and communication that was provided following the tragic event and for the ongoing support that had been put in place for staff should they require it.

The meeting was confirmed as quorate.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting held on 11 December 2025 (Paper 1) (P)

The minutes were approved as a correct record.

Proposed: Angela Cox **Seconded:** Brian Green

Board of Management Action & Decision Log (Paper 1a) (P)

All actions due in the period were noted as complete.

The Chair noted that the request for a one-year extension of the Senior Independent Member role had not been approved by the Scottish Government, therefore, a recruitment process for a new member would be completed by the end of July in time for the new academic year.

4. Matters Arising

There were no outstanding matters arising from the minutes.

5. Student Association Report Q3 (Paper 2) (P)

Board members were provided with updates on the activities undertaken by the Student Association with particular reference to the two pillars of their work, namely the Student Voice and Student Community, and to further ensure that the student voice is heard in all relevant forums.

D Hamilton introduced Paper 2 as presented and summarised key highlights from the report.

The Board noted:

- Student Voice Audit – the Student Association achieved the outcome of “Strong – no recommendations” from the audit and extended thanks to the auditors for their support with this exercise.
- Class Ambassador Programme – the programme saw good attendance in Semester 1 with lots of students engaging with the Student Association and also out with meetings. The monthly meetings have been themed using the Student Learning Experience Model (designed by Sparqs) as part of the Tertiary Quality Enhancement Framework. This will provide rich feedback which will support curriculum areas with their end of year evaluations and subsequently support the development of the SEAP.
- The Student Association expressed their thanks to the College for the funds they had received from The Walker Trust of £31,853 which would go towards supporting student focused activities.
- Preparations for LGBT History Month have now been finalised, the theme of which will be Science and Innovation. The theme aims to highlight both

historical and contemporary contributions of LGBT+ individuals within STEM fields.

- During March, campaigns such as Young Carers Action Day and NeuroDiversity Celebration Week have taken place. The team will now look ahead to campaigns for nearer the end of the academic year including Mental Health Awareness Week.
- The Student Association are delighted to be sponsoring the 2026 Ayrshire College Film Festival which included a donation of £500 and ongoing support for promotion of the Film Festival. This event will take place in the historic Astoria Cinema in Ayr.
- With the assistance of Hope by the Roadside, pastoral support for students at the Ayr and Kilwinning Campuses is now up and running, with volunteers being on campus since the first week of February. Students have been made aware that the services are available.
- The Student Association Advisor is currently in preparatory works for this year's Student President Nominations and Elections, with elections scheduled for mid-May.

The Chair raised a query regarding the use of The Walker Trust and how it could be used in a sustainable way. D Hamilton advised that early discussions were taking place regarding how the £10,000 available could be spent per year over the next three academic years. The new officers that will come into post will look to allocate money for hardship support and the meta skills project however other options can be considered. A Ritchie added that due to the hardship fund not increasing with inflation, this will likely get worse in the coming years, and therefore, there will be more need for hardship support.

The Chair also enquired about the pastoral support available at the Ayr and Kilwinning Campuses. D Hamilton explained that support was already available at the Kilmarnock Campus, therefore the additional services provided were to ensure consistency across all campuses.

The Board noted the report as presented.

6. Interim Chair's Report (*Paper 3*) (P)

The Interim Chair provided an update on activities conducted since the last Board meeting in September and took the paper as read.

No additional points were highlighted and no queries were raised.

The Board noted the report as presented.

8. Board Governance & Programme of Meetings 2026-27 (*Paper 5*) (P)

H Denholm introduced Paper 5 which updated the Board on the changes to the Code of Good Governance, and following a gap analysis, highlighted areas of strong alignment, along with potential gaps and actions for full compliance that have been added into the Rolling Board Development Plan.

The Board was asked to discuss and note the Governance update.

The Board noted key changes included:

- Strengthened Student Engagement
- Governance Professional Role Clarified and Strengthened
- Mandatory Annual Board Effectiveness and Self Evaluation
- Remuneration Committee Training via CDN
- Commitment to Transparency and Accountability
- Diversity and Inclusion in Board Membership
- Committee Structures and Delegation
- Board Partnership and Collaboration

As part of the College governance framework, the annual programme of Board and Committee meeting dates was also presented to the Board for review and approval for the 2026-27 academic year.

Decision – BOM53-D01: The Board approved the 2026-27 annual programme of Board and Committee meeting dates.

11. Sustainability Framework and Climate Change Report (Paper 7) (P)

A Ritchie presented the College's Sustainability Framework and provided an update on progress toward its climate change commitments, including completion of the Public Bodies Climate Change Duties (PBCCD) return.

Following consideration and approval by the People, Infrastructure and Finance Committee, the Board was requested to approve the Sustainability Framework.

The Board noted:

- The Framework outlined the College's strategic approach to social, economic and environmental sustainability, aligned with the EAUC Climate Change Roadmap and mapped to the UN Sustainable Development Goals.
- The report summarised the College's three-year emissions performance, noting continued reductions in Scope 1 and 2 emissions due to energy-efficiency measures, alongside a recent rise in Scope 3 emissions driven by procurement activity.
- The report highlighted operational improvements across gas, electricity, water and waste, demonstrating progress while identifying areas requiring further focus to support ongoing improvement.

Decision – BOM53-D02: The Board approved the Sustainability Framework and Climate Change Report.

13. Committee Chairs' Reports on 3rd Quarter Committee Meetings (Papers 9, 10 and 11)

The Board received a written report from each Committee Vice Chair, in the absence of the Chairs, outlining a summary of key issues considered by the Standing Committees since the last meeting of the Board.

The confirmed minutes of these meetings will be received by the Board at its next meeting.

There was also a verbal update given by a member of the Remuneration Committee on behalf of the RemCo Chair.

The Board noted the reports from each Committee.

14. Confirmed Minutes: Standing Committees (Papers 12, 13 and 14)

The following confirmed Standing Committee Minutes were received by the Board:

- Learning, Teaching & Quality Committee
- People, Infrastructure and Finance Committee
- Audit & Risk Committee

The Board received the above minutes from noting.

15. AOCB

There were no other items of business for discussion.

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 18 June 2026 at 4pm in Kilmarnock

(C/P) Confirmed minutes will be published on College Website; (P) – Paper will be published on the College Website; (R) – Paper is reserved, because it contains data or information of a personal nature, which is restricted by legislation, or because it contains commercially sensitive information, and will not be published on the College Website

Reserved items on next page