H

REGIONAL BOARD

26 October 2023

BORDERS COLLEGE REGIONAL BOARD

Report from Audit and Risk Committee 5 October 2023

1.0 PURPOSE OF PAPER

For discussion

1.1 The paper is to discuss the business of the most recent Audit and Risk Committee meeting.

2.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2.1 The paper highlights the key items of approval and discussion at the Audit and Risk Committee meeting on 5 October 2023 and invites Board to ask any questions or make any comments regarding the business of the Committee.

3.0 RECOMMENDATION(S)/ACTION(S) REQUIRED

3.1 I recommend that the Regional Board: -

3.1.1 Discuss the paper and raise any questions with the Committee members.

4.0 BACKGROUND

4.1 The Committee met via Teams with internal audit present.

4.2 In the absence of Carol Gillie, Vernice Key chaired the meeting.

4.3 Internal Audit Assignment: Disaster Recovery. The rating was 'strong' with several areas of good practice highlighted. The Committee noted the report and the positive feedback from the auditor.

4.4 Internal Audit Annual Report. This lists all the internal audits carried out during the year and the associated recommendations. The Report will form part of the Annual Report and Accounts. The Committee approved the report.

4.5 Annual Report to Regional Board. This was a draft of the report with items still to be added from External Audit. This will also be included in the Annual Report and Accounts. The Committee noted the draft.

4.6 Draft Annual Accounts. These are prepared in line with SFC guidance and have been amended in light of feedback from Board the previous year. An updated version will be discussed at the next Audit Committee with final approval at Board on 14 December.

4.7 Strategic Risk Register. Members noted the changed format and the allocation of a risk appetite to the risks.

4.8 Audit Recommendations Monitoring. Progress has been made to close off the recommendations which remain outstanding. The Committee welcomed the progress made.

4.9 Data Protection and Freedom of Information Update. 27 FOI requests received, none declined or refused. A number of the requests have been received by all colleges. One fell outside the required time frame for responding. Number of requests received by the College is on the lower side across the sector.

4.10 Register of Corporate Gifts. Recording of gifts will be included in the new HALO system going forward which will also include any that have been declined. Thought to be given to the ToR around this item when they are next due for review.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS AND CONSIDERATIONS

5.1 Financial Implications

5.2 Learner Implications

5.3 Staff Implications

5.4 Equality and Diversity Implications/Equality Impact Assessment

5.5 Sustainability/Environmental Implications

6.0 RISK COMMENTARY

6.1 The paper is for discussion and information, there are no proposed actions or decisions required.

7.0 CONCLUSION

7.1 Members are asked to raise questions about any of the items discussed at the Audit and Risk meeting, if required.

I Earp

Board Secretary

Previous Board or College Committee Approvals: None

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For publication ☐	**Not for publication** ☒ **If not, why not?** Approved minutes of the meeting will be published.