EXTERNAL REVIEW OF GOVERNANCE

Weymouth College commissioned the Association of Colleges (AoC) to carry out an External Board Review which was undertaken in the first quarter of 2024 with the final report produced in April 2024. The review covered the AoC standard framework which reviews Board Composition, Board Structures and Board Interaction whilst also considering some reflections on the appropriateness of governance oversight and engagement with the preparations for potential merger with Kingston Maurward College.

The overall conclusion on Board effectiveness was that:

* There is evidence the Board is proficient and has an impact on college strategy, effectiveness, and outcomes

The review found that there were many strong features of governance at Weymouth College, with a positive Board composition, healthy Board structure and strong Board interaction and an overall maturity to the operation of governance. Inevitably there were some areas where further improvements could be made, but these were in the context of making the Board even stronger in its operation, rather than in any sense weaknesses or remedial actions.

The following table summarizes the headline strengths and some areas for development:

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|  | STRENGTH | AREA FOR DEVELOPMENT |
| BOARD COMPOSITION | * Experienced governors with wide-ranging skills and experience * Good use of governors’ particular skills in its committee memberships | * Wider diversity in membership |
| BOARD STRUCTURE | * Strong governance support arrangements * Systematic purposeful governance practices | * Refinements to reduce size and complexity of Board packs and presentations governors receive, creating more time for strategic discussions * Securing adequate governance admin support arrangements |
| BOARD INTERACTION | * Good team ethic, spirit of inclusion, support for Senior Leadership Team * Effective work in supporting student governors | * Building new team ethic post-merger if this goes ahead, with common purpose and shared objectives |