

CCEA

COUNCIL BRIEFING

Note of Council Briefing meeting held on Thursday 26 August 2021 at 1.30 pm via MS Teams.

Present : Mr T O'Reilly (Chair) Mr H McCarthy
Dr L Caul Mrs K O'Hare
Mrs C Fitzsimons Professor P Hanna
Ms P Slevin Miss M Corrigan
Mrs P Leitch Mrs S Sellars

Miss M Farragher (Interim Chief Executive)
Mrs L Scott (Director of Finance & Corporate Services)
Ms A Swann (Temporary Director of Examinations)
Mrs C Latham (Temporary Director of Curriculum & Assessment)
Mrs S King (Head of Regulation)

Miss N Kennedy (Manager, Council Secretariat)

Introduction

The Chair welcomed members and officers to the meeting and advised on the protocols for participation. He introduced Mrs Corrine Latham, Temporary Director of Curriculum and Assessment and welcomed her to her first meeting.

1 Apologies

Apologies were received from Mrs A Kingsley, Mrs B Wilson, and Mr R Smyth.

2 Conflict of Interests

Members confirmed there were no conflicts of interests on any of the agenda items.

3 Issue of Results 2021

The Interim Chief Executive introduced this item and advised that a presentation would be given on the A Level and GCSE results (Summer 2021) followed by an update on the status of the 2020/21 Lessons Learned Report and looking ahead to those from the 2021 series.

GCE and GCSE NI Results

The Temporary Director of Examinations gave a high-level presentation on Summer Awarding for 2021. This included :

- The context of the NI Results and summary of awarding in 2021
- NI A Level Provisional Results 2021 – comparison of entries from 2017-2021
- A and A* awards 2021-2021
- Gender Comparisons for 2020-2021 (to include the gender Gap A* and A*-A over a 10 year trend)
- Most common A Level Subjects in NI 2021 with mathematics continuing to be the most popular A level subject choice

- Most common A Level Subject entries by Gender; NI GCE A Level STEM Entries 2020-2021; and NI Languages Entries 2019-2021
- NI AS Level Provisional Results : NI AS Entries 2017-2021; and Results for 2020-2021
- NI GCSE Level Provisional Results 2021: GCSE Full Course Entries;
- GCSE Results 2020-2021; Gender Comparisons 2020-2021; GCSE English & Mathematics; STEM Entries 2020-2021 and Languages entries 2020-21

Members sought and received clarification on a range of matters and were content with the explanations provided.

Lessons Learnt Report

The Director of Finance & Corporate Services advised that DE had requested a lessons learnt lessons report and provided a high-level summary of the content. She confirmed the final draft would come forward to Council at its September meeting.

The Chair thanked the temporary Director of Examinations and Director of Finance & Corporate Services for the detailed and informative presentations.

4 Interim Chief Executive's Update

The Interim Chief Executive gave an update on the range of activities ongoing across the organisation, these included all areas within Finance & Corporate Services; Regulation; Vocational Qualifications; Curriculum & Assessment and Examinations Delivery.

The Chair confirmed that draft advice on Standards was currently under development and would be brought to Council for discussion at the September meeting.

He thanked the Interim Chief Executive for the update.

5 Away Day Planning

The Chair deferred this item to the September meeting and confirmed the dates would be issued once finalised.

6 Any Other Business

None identified.

7 Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Thursday 30 September 2021 at 1.30 pm.