

The Lanarkshire Board,
New College Lanarkshire,
Motherwell ML1 2TX
6th December 2018.

Jenny Marra, MSP
Convenor,
Public Audit and Post-legislative Scrutiny Committee,
Room T 3.60,
The Scottish Parliament,
Edinburgh. EH99 1SP

Dear Convenor,


2016/17 Audit of New College Lanarkshire

Previously, you sought the views of the Non-Executive Members of the Lanarkshire Board with regard to this audit of New College Lanarkshire (NCL). We welcomed this, contributed our views and thanked you for the opportunity provided to us.

Alongside this, we have made clear to the Auditor General our concerns with regard to elements of the Scotland's Colleges 2018 Report, in particular those comparing progress in the Lanarkshire region to that made by other multi-college Regional Boards in the University of the Highlands and Islands (UHI) and Glasgow areas. The attached document is our agreed response to the content of the report provided by the Auditor General, considered, in part at least, by your Committee. It is supported by a copy of our Regional Strategic Plan, also provided.

While we acknowledge and accept that this report has been delivered and is now in the public domain, we remain disappointed that the ongoing progress that has been achieved in Lanarkshire has not been presented or, indeed, reflected in the same way as that afforded our colleagues in UHI and Glasgow. We have little desire to re-open the previous debate, wishing instead to focus on how we can build upon the successes achieved already. However, we believe it important, indeed crucial, that appropriate recognition is given to what has been delivered to date in the Lanarkshire Region. Consequently, we ask that this submission be regarded as part of the overall consideration being given by your Committee to the review of New College Lanarkshire.

Yours sincerely



Keith Fulton
Interim Chair
The Lanarkshire Board