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| **FOR DISCUSSION/INFORMATION**  |
| Meeting: **Curriculum and Student Affairs and Outcome** |
| Presented by | **Nicola Mulholland** |
| Author/Contact | **Nicola Mulholland** | Department / Unit | **SMT** |
| Date Created | **February 2025** | Telephone | **2734** |
| Appendices Attached | **Developing the Young Workforce/School College Partnership/****Undergraduate School** |
| Disclosable under FOISA | **Yes** |

1. **PURPOSE**

 To update CSAO on all School-College Partnership Activity and Undergraduate School Developments.

1. **BACKGROUND**

 This paper gives a detailed overview of the core School-College Partnership Activity that operates across the college. NCL has worked in partnership with local authorities for a number of years to support young people to engage with vocational education and provide opportunities for these individuals to experience work-based learning in a variety of modes.

In addition, the paper will also provide information on the progress and development of the Undergraduate School and all related activities. As a new initiative for AY 2024/2025, the Undergraduate School is a key strategic objective for NCL and building capacity for the future.

1. **DETAIL**

 New College Lanarkshire offer a varied programme to schools in five Local Authorities: North Lanarkshire, South Lanarkshire, East Dunbartonshire, Falkirk and Stirling. Our courses range from level 1 to level 7 and cover over thirty disciplines. In AY 2024/2025, we have 1775 pupils from 118 class groups, bringing in a current total of 5972 credits and an estimated separate income of circa £300k.

The Undergraduate School offers both full-time and part-time study options across 13 undergraduate course options. Almost all of our higher education students now have a degree pathway at NCL with multiple entry points to support articulation from a variety of different NCs and HNC/Ds.

1. **BENEFITS AND OPPORTUNITIES**
* Recruitment to FT college programmes.
* Enhanced reputation in our local communities.
* Fulfilling national agenda obligations.
* Participating in the widening access agenda.
1. **STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS**

 The Board retains an overview of NCL activity in the interests of good governance.

1. **RISK**Pupils will not sustain the course which will lead to low PIs.

 Pupils will not progress on to full time programmes.

 Pupils do not have the correct entry requirements.

 Students will not sustain their place on an undergraduate programme.

 Competition from partner HEIs.

 Challenges with regards to infrastructure across Lanarkshire to allow for travel to our main campuses.

1. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

 It is hoped that these courses will be feeder courses for the full-time programmes of the future.

 The Undergraduate School provides an alternative income source for the college and scope for growth both locally and internationally.

1. **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

 There are no legal implications.

1. **WORKFORCE IMPLICATIONS**

There are no workforce implications.

1. **REPUTATIONAL IMPLICATIONS**

Engaging with pupils from our local communities can help to enhance and improve our reputation.

1. **EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

There are equalities implications.

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| **CONCLUSIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS**CSAO are asked to note the information contained in this report and raise or discuss any issues which may prevent publication. |

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

* 1. This paper seeks to provide an update on the School-College Partnership Activity for academic year 2024-2025.

### **2. North Lanarkshire Council and East Dunbartonshire Council**

2.1 The S5/6 vocational courses are delivered in partnership with North Lanarkshire Council and East Dunbartonshire Council.

2.2 Table 1: S5/6 Vocational Programmes:

###  **S5/6 Vocational Courses**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Course Title** | **Location** | **No’s** **Enrolled****2024/2025** | **No’s Withdrawn****2024/2025** |
| Early Learning & Childcare | Cardinal Newman | 18 | 2 |
| Early Learning & Childcare | OLHS M/St Aidan’s High  | 19 | 1 |
| Early Learning & Childcare | Greenfaulds | 15 | 2 |
| Early Learning & Childcare | Airdrie Academy | 23 | 6 |
| Criminology | St Andrew’s High  | 23 | 0 |
| Make-Up Artistry | St Aidan’s | 14 | 1 |
| Beauty, Make-Up & Hair | Coatbridge | 15 | 1 |
| Beauty, Make-Up & Hair | OLHS M | 16 | 1 |
| Hair and Beauty  | Chryston | 14 | 0 |
| Intro to Hair & Make-Up Practices | Kirkintilloch | 16 | 0 |
| Intro to Hair & Make-Up Practices | Kirkintilloch | 19 | 2 |
| Exercise & Fitness Leadership | OLHS, C/nauld | 17 | 0 |
| Sport Coaching & Health | Greenfaulds High | 26 | 1 |
| ESOL | Coatbridge | 16 | 1 |
| Auto | St Maurice’s | 13 | 4 |
| Auto  | Caldervale | 14 | 4 |
|  | **Total** | 278 | 26 |

2.3 There has been a 24% increase in students enrolled on vocational programmes in S5/6 for 2024/2025, despite there being a reduction in the number of classes (5 less than 2023/2024). Current retention is 90%, which is a 13% improvement on last year’s final position of 77%. It is our ambition to keep retention above 80% for this year.

2.4 Auto now features with this suit of courses as the qualification being delivered has changed. The Auto delivery is no longer a Foundation Apprenticeship; the department are now delivering IMI qualifications based on feedback from pupils, lecturing staff and schools.

### **3. North Lanarkshire Council**

3.1 The S4 vocational courses are delivered in partnership with North Lanarkshire Council.

3.2 Table 2: S4 Vocational Programmes:

###  **S3/4 Vocational Courses**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Course Title** | **Location** | **No’s** **Enrolled****2024/2025** | **No’s Withdrawn****2024/2025** |
| Beauty | St Andrew’s High  | 16 | 0 |
| Football Participation, Coaching and Performance | St Maurice’s  | 26 | 0 |
| Football Participation, Coaching and Performance | St Maurice’s | 23 | 0 |
| Football Participation, Coaching and Performance | St Maurice’s | 18 | 0 |
|  | **Total** | **83** | **0** |

3.3 There has been an 8% increase in students enrolled on vocational programmes in S4 for 2024/2025, despite there being a reduction in the number of classes (3 less than 2023/2024). Current retention is 100%.

3.4 There is has been great success in engaging with St Maurice’s regarding Football Participation, Coaching and Performance, which is further highlighted in the submitted case study.

### **4. Buchanan High School**

4.1 Our ASN courses are delivered in partnership with Buchanan High School.

4.2 Table 3: ASN Courses Buchanan High:

###  **ASN Courses**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Course Title** | **Location** | **No’s** **Enrolled****2024/2025** | **No’s Withdrawn****2024/2025** |
| Digital Media | Buchanan High | 10 | 0 |
| Early Learning & Childcare | Buchanan High | 8 | 1 |
| Hairdressing | Buchanan High | 10 | 1 |
| Hospitality - Wed | Buchanan High | 10 | 2 |
| Hospitality - Fri | Buchanan High | 11 | 1 |
| Sport & Fitness | Buchanan High | 9 | 1 |
| Vex Robotics | Buchanan High | 9 | 1 |
|  | **Total** | **67** | **7** |

### **4. Buchanan High School (continued)**

4.3 Buchanan High have a great partnership with us: the pupils are very engaged and many of them progress into college upon leaving school.

4.4 There is a slight dip in enrolments and withdrawal this year, however, retention is still high at 90%.

### **5. North Lanarkshire Council**

5.1 Our HNC Schools Pathway is delivered in partnership with North Lanarkshire Council.

5.2 Table 5: HNC Schools Pathway:

###  **HNC Schools Pathway**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Course Title** | **Location** | **No’s** **Enrolled****2024/2025** | **No’s Withdrawn****2024/2025** |
| Cyber Security | Motherwell | 21 | 3 |
| CADD | Motherwell | 16 | 0 |
| Social Services | Coatbridge | 12 | 1 |
|  | **Total** | **49** | **4** |

5.3 There has been a decrease in the number of enrolments this year by four pupils. Cyber Security has maintained the same numbers from last year, however, CADD and Social Services have dipped in numbers by two pupils each. Current retention is 92%.

5.4 Five HNC pupils from AY 2023/2024 are now on degrees within the Undergraduate School. Four pupils directly entered Year 2 of the BEng Cyber Security degree and one pupil directly entered Year 2 of the Collaborative Health and Social Care degree.

### **6. North Lanarkshire Council**

6.1 Our extra-curricular programmes are delivered in partnership with North Lanarkshire Council, Hamilton Grammar and e-Sgoil.

6.2 Table 6: Extra-curricular Activity:

###  **Extra-curricular Activity**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Course Title** | **Location** | **No’s** **Enrolled****2024/2025** | **No’s Withdrawn****2024/2025** |
| Vex Robotics | Motherwell | 34 | 0 |
| DYW Intro Psychology and Criminology | DYW Live | 8 | 1 |
| DYW NPA in Legal Studies | DYW Live | 16 | 4 |
| NQ Level 4 Into to Dance | Hamilton Grammar | 11 | 0 |
|  | **Total** | **69** | **5** |

6.3 L4 Into Dance is a partnership directly between the Music Industries and Performing Arts Department and Hamilton Grammar. The retention rate is 100% and is part of the department’s strategy to expand their provision in to dance.

6.4 The Vex Robotics programme is delivered in partnership with North Lanarkshire Council an takes place one evening a week on our Motherwell Campus.

On Wednesday 29th January 2025, we hosted a VEX V5 Robotics Competition, bringing together over 100 students from 18 teams across Scotland, with competitors ages 12 to 17. The event showcased impressive engineering, problem-solving and teamwork levels as students demonstrated their robotics skills in an exciting and competitive environment.

The six schools from North Lanarkshire that are part of our Wednesday VEX Club, which continues to grow and now boasts over 60% female participation, a fantastic step forward in promoting inclusivity in STEM.

The students from Buchanan High School, Braidhurst High School and NCL volunteered their time to help run the event and NCL’s Women’s Aid project for designed and produced the volunteer t-shirts.

6.5 There has been in a reduction in the number of extra-curricular courses that NCL delivers. This is mainly due to changes in direction regarding Future Friday activity across North Lanarkshire.

6.6 DYW Live continues to only engage with NCL regarding qualification delivery via its online platform. There have been significant issues regarding pupils access the platform due to resource issues within the schools.

### **7. North Lanarkshire Council, South Lanarkshire Council and Skills Development Scotland**

7.1 Foundation Apprenticeships are offered in partnership with North Lanarkshire Council, South Lanarkshire Council and Skills Development Scotland.

7.2 Table 7: Foundation Apprenticeships:

###  **Foundation Apprenticeship Courses**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Course Title** | **Location** | **No’s** **Enrolled****2022/2023** | **No’s Enrolled****2023/2024** |
| FA – Social Services Children & Young People | Coatbridge | 20 | 3 |
| FA – Social Services Children & Young People | Cumbernauld  | 21 | 3 |
| FA – Social Services Children & Young People | Motherwell | 23 | 7 |
| FA – Social Services & Healthcare | Motherwell | 22 | 8 |

###  **Foundation Apprenticeship Courses (cont)**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Course Title** | **Location** | **No’s** **Enrolled****24/25** | **No’s Withdrawn****24/25** |
| Construction | Airdrie Academy | 14 | 7 |
| Construction | Bellshill Academy | 13 | 2 |
| Construction | OLHS A | 13 | 2 |
| Construction | OLHS B  | 13 | 0 |
| Construction | Coatbridge A | 11 | 0 |
| Construction | Coatbridge B | 14 | 2 |
| Construction | St Aidan’s High A | 11 | 1 |
| Construction | St Aidan’s High B | 14 | 1 |
| FA – Engineering Y2 | SLC | 9 | 0 |
| FA – Creative & Digital Media | NLC | 10 | 3 |
|  | **Total** | 208 | 39 |

7.3 There has been in a reduction in the number of Foundation Apprenticeships being delivered by almost a third. This is due to a number of factors: for South Lanarkshire Council, issues with changes to travel subsidies and poor recruitment means that there is no Year 1 Engineering or Creative and Digital Media; in North Lanarkshire Council, there was not a viable class for Engineering or IT Software Development and recruitment for L6 Social Services and Healthcare did not meet anticipated targets. This being said, however, retention for all Foundation Apprenticeships is 81%.

### **7. North Lanarkshire Council, South Lanarkshire Council and Skills Development Scotland (continued)**

7.4 NCL offers L4/5 Foundation Apprenticeships in Construction only. The plan had been for nine classes, but, unfortunately, one of the classes did not come to fruition. It is hoped that for AY25/26 all nine classes will run as planned. L4/5 Foundation Apprenticeship in Construction as a retention rate of 88%.

7.5 NCL delivers the L6 Foundation Apprenticeships in both Social Services frameworks: Healthcare and Children and Young People. Social Services: Children and Young People recruited well for AY2024/2025, however, retention for the Motherwell cohort is a concern. The number of pupils undertaking Social Services and Healthcare continues to struggle to recruit and discussions are underway with North Lanarkshire Council to consider how we can build pathways in to this qualification and, subsequently, the HNC.

 Both qualitative and quantitative data points to the positive impact of the L6 Foundation Apprenticeships being delivered in one year only. Pupils are very enthusiastic about their workplace experience, as are employers.

Building on the success of last year, two school pupils, one from Greenfaulds High and the other from Coatbridge High, had a wonderful experience when they embarked on a two-week Turing's trip to Malta in June 2024. Both pupils had been studying the Foundation Apprenticeship in Social Services, Children and Young People one of them used this qualification to get into a Primary Teaching degree programme and the other continued her journey with New College Lanarkshire to become a Nursery Nurse, she is currently studying our HNC programme. Both pupils spent two weeks working in an Early Years setting in Malta, they showed maturity and professionalism at all times during the trip and both seen this as a life changing experience for themselves. The Schools Development Manager accompanied the pupils.

7.6 Following from the great success of last year, our Foundation Apprenticeships Programmes will continue to be included in our Apprenticeship Awards to celebrate Scottish Apprenticeship Week, which takes place between 3rd – 7th March. There will be one winner awarded Apprentice of the Year for each framework we deliver.

### **8. North Lanarkshire Council, South Lanarkshire Council, Falkirk, Stirling and East Dunbartonshire**

8.1 Our Supported Learning Department work with ASN schools in North Lanarkshire, South Lanarkshire, Falkirk, Stirling and East Dunbartonshire.

8.2 Table Support Learning School Programmes:

###  **Supported Learning**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Course Title** | **Location** | **No’s** **Enrolled****24/25** | **No’s Withdrawn****24/25** |
| Steps to Work | CoatbridgeMotherwell | 27 | 0 |
| Supported Link | CoatbridgeCumbernauldMotherwell | 21 | 0 |
| Partnership Link | CoatbridgeCumbernauldMotherwell | 62 | 0 |
|  | **Total** | **110** | **0** |

8.3 These programmes are designed to support enhanced transition pathways for some of the most vulnerable learners in our society. Throughout the year, students visit our college sites to ensure that they become comfortable and confident with college staff and the environment to ensure the successful transition to a college course once they leave school.

 Whilst numbers are down slightly for AY 2024/2025, retention rates are excellent with no withdrawals to date.

### **9. North Lanarkshire Council, South Lanarkshire Council, Falkirk, Stirling and East Dunbartonshire**

9.1 Our Access and Progression Department works with a variety of schools across North Lanarkshire, South Lanarkshire, Falkirk, Stirling and East Dunbartonshire.

9.2 Table: Access and Progression Courses:

###  **Access and Progression**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Course Title** | **Location** | **No’s** **Enrolled****24/25** | **No’s Withdrawn****24/25** |
| Winter Leavers | All campuses | 57 | 10 |
| Merkland School Partnership | Kirkintilloch | 12 | 0 |
| St Philip’s School Partnership | Motherwell | 11 | 0 |
| School Link MW | Motherwell | 103 | 0 |
| School Link CB | Coatbridge | 23 | 2 |
| School Link CU | Cumbernauld  | 28 | 8 |
|  | **Total** | **234** | **20** |

9.3 School Link courses have been delivered by the college for a number of years and provide those who are disengaged with school or who require an alternative curriculum to attend college and compete taster sessions in lots of different subjects, including vocational disciplines, such as construction.

 Retention rate for these courses is 91%.

9.4 The Access and Progression Department also work directly with schools to provide transition programmes and personal development courses for pupils with SEBN and other additional support needs.

9.5 Our Access and Progression Department have supported North Lanarkshire Council with their Winter/Summer Leavers programme since its pilot year in 2020/2021. This programme is also delivered in partnership with Routs to Work, with a focus on supporting individuals in to employment. The KPIs on these programmes have improved, with most withdrawals related to individuals taking up employment before the end of the course.

9.6 Access and Progression have made new links with schools in Stirling with a new January School Link starting in January in Cumbernauld. The successful Boxing Therapy classes will also restart in Semester 2, along with programmes for Summer School Leavers from North Lanarkshire Council.

### **10. South Lanarkshire Council**

10.1 The Gradu8 Programme is delivered exclusively from out Motherwell campus in partnership with South Lanarkshire Council.

### **10. South Lanarkshire Council (continued)**

10.2 Table: SLC Gradu8 Programme and Winter/Summer Leavers:

###  **South Lanarkshire Council Gradu8 Programme**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Course Title** | **Location** | **No’s** **Enrolled****2024/2025** | **No’s Withdrawn****2024/2025** |
| Beauty A  | Motherwell | 18 | 6 |
| Beauty B  | Motherwell | 13 | 1 |
| Beauty C | Motherwell | 14 | 3 |
| Construction\* | Motherwell | 14 | 3 |
| Construction\* | Motherwell | 14 | 2 |
| Construction\* | Motherwell | 13 | 2 |
| Construction\* | Motherwell | 14 | 1 |
| Construction\* | Motherwell | 14 | 6 |
| Construction\* | Motherwell | 13 | 1 |
| Creative and Digital Media | Motherwell | 13 | 0 |
| Creative and Digital Media | Motherwell | 11 | 4 |
| ELCC | Motherwell | 18 | 4 |
| ELCC | Motherwell | 12 | 5 |
| ELCC | Motherwell | 15 | 2 |
| ELCC | Motherwell | 17 | 3 |
| Engineering A  | Motherwell | 15 | 3 |
| Engineering B | Motherwell | 13 | 1 |
| SWAP Engineering YR 1 & YR 2 | Motherwell | 9 | 1 |
| Hair and Barber | Motherwell | 16 | 6 |
| Hair and Barber | Motherwell | 16 | 2 |
| Hair and Barber | Motherwell | 18 | 4 |
| Health and Social Care | Motherwell | 13 | 6 |
| Health and Social Care | Motherwell | 10 | 2 |
| Hospitality | Motherwell | 15 | 2 |
| Hospitality | Motherwell | 14 | 4 |
| Make up Artistry A | Motherwell | 15 | 4 |
| Make up Artistry B | Motherwell | 17 | 3 |
| Sports Fitness (Ravenscraig) | Motherwell | 15 | 2 |
| Sports Fitness (Ravenscraig) | Motherwell | 21 | 3 |
| UES A | Motherwell | 11 | 2 |
| UES B | Motherwell | 18 | 2 |
| Winter Leavers Engineering | Motherwell | 15 | 0 |
| Winter Leavers Hair and Beauty | Motherwell | 13 | 3 |
| Winter Leavers Sport | Motherwell | 14 | 2 |
| Winter Leavers Construction | Motherwell | 15 | 2 |
| Summer Leavers Engineering | Motherwell | 11 | 0 |
| Summer Leavers Hair and Beauty | Motherwell | 11 | 0 |
| Summer Leavers Sport | Motherwell | 13 | 0 |
| Summer Leavers Construction | Motherwell | 13 | 0 |
|  | **Total** | **554** | **97** |

### **10. South Lanarkshire Council (continued)**

10.3 South Lanarkshire Council (SLC) have expanded their provision and the pupils are well supported by the Gradu8 team whilst they are in college. Class size vary in numbers and discussions are underway with SLC regarding this and, perhaps, reducing multiple classes in some subject areas.

 Current retention rate for the Gradu8 programmes is 82%. This is down 7% from last year.

10.4 In addition to this programme there is a partnership with Strathclyde University’s Engineering Academy which sees the pupils attend college two afternoons per week and study the SWAP Access to Engineering course. This is a very successful course with the pupils progressing on to our HNC Engineering.

10.5 SLC also run classes for Winter Leavers and Summer Leavers. These classes provide students with a taster of different subjects to support transition to FT college courses or employment.

10.6 Induction days did not take place in June prior to AY2024/2025 beginning and this, coupled with the disruption to the beginning of the session, both due to industrial action, is being reported as having an impact on class size numbers and retention.

### **11. Other School-College Partnership Activity**

11.1 **STEM Events**

 There are two upcoming STEM Events in our Coatbridge Campus in Partnership with SMART Stems: 25th February for S2 pupils from across Lanarkshire and 25th May for upper primary school pupils across Lanarkshire. NCL will host five of the ten workshops which pupils will be engaging with. The maximum number of pupils on each campus is 150 for each event.

11.2 **Career Events**

 To date, we have been present at 26 school career events across Lanarkshire, East Dunbartonshire, West Lothian, Stirling and Falkirk. In addition, we have had two events, on in Cumbernauld and one in Motherwell, to promote our courses for August 2025 direct to key influencers in schools across North Lanarkshire. 29 individuals have attended, and included DHTs, Careers Advisers, DYW Leads and Pupils Support Teachers.

11.3 **NCL Schools Prize**

 The NCL Schools Prize has now launched and has its own space on our website, which you can access [here.](https://www.nclanarkshire.ac.uk/partnering-with-our-community/skyrora-schools-prize/#:~:text=The%20New%20College%20Lanarkshire%20Schools,sustainability%2C%20environment%20and%20climate%20change.) Skyrora continue to be our sponsors for the prize and will help to choose the winners. The celebration event is on the 3rd June 2025 in our Coatbridge Campus from 6.30pm – 8pm. During this event the winners will be announced. IN line with last year’s competition, there is a focus on Sustainability and we will try to tie this in with the celebrations for the 160th anniversary for Coatbridge Campus.

### **11. Other School-College Partnership Activity (continued)**

11.4 During catch-up week, Vivien Townsley, CADD Lecturer, organised workshops focusing on pupils in S2 across Lanarkshire. Over the three days, 340 pupils participated in these sessions focused on supporting pupils with their subject choices and address the gender bias within this subject area. They engaged in both Architectural and Engineering CAD workshops and also attended a presentation on WorldSkills, delivered by former competitors.

11.5 **NCL Scottish Regional Heat of the AHT Competition at the Motherwell Campus**

NCL hosted the Scottish Regional Heat of the AHT Competition at the Motherwell Campus. John O'Hara, Head of Student Engagement & Wellbeing and the Scottish Chair for The Association of Hairdressers and Therapists (AHT), organised the event, which saw colleges from across Scotland competing. The college achieved outstanding success, being named Best College in Scotland after winning an impressive total of 43 medals, including 17 Golds.

The Department of Beauty, Aesthetics, and Hair Design had numerous entries, including participants from our GRADU8 South Lanarkshire Hairdressing courses who attend Motherwell Campus. They achieved fantastic results in the school pupils’ category:

**Evening Style with Ornamentation on a Professional Feminine Uniformed Colour Mannequin Head.**

* **Gold:** Lily Chalmers
* **Silver:** Jessica Clark
* **Bronze:** Chloe Fraser

The Department of Visual and Creative Arts also had GRADU8 Make-Up Artistry students competing in the schools’ category:

**Prom-Themed Make-Up, where competitors could complete their look on themselves or a live model.**

* **Gold:** Ailidh Wallace
* **Silver:** Orlaigh Boyce & Leah McDowall
* **Bronze:** Brooke Elrick

### **12. Undergraduate School Update**

12.1 **Figures to date**

 Full-time Degree Students:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Total Enrolled | Enrolled to Date | Retention |
| 255 | 229 | 89.9% |

 Part-time Degree Students:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Total Enrolled | Enrolled to Date | Retention |
| 6 | 5 | 83.3% |

 Seven of the 13-degree courses within the Undergraduate School have had no withdrawals to date.

12.2 **Honorary Appointees**

 NCL had its first Honorary Appointee Christmas lunch in its MLOne restaurant on the 4th December. 16 Honorary Appointees were able to join us for a lunch prepared and served by our very own Hospitality and Culinary Arts students and they also received a small Christmas present from the Braw Wee Shop.

 Following from this, all Honorary Appointees were written to in January and introduced to departments leads in order to start a programme of student engagement. Honorary Appointees are working with departments to provide: a guest lecture; Q+A sessions; Seminars; facilitated site visit; opportunities to form part of a panel to witness student presentations; opportunities to attend celebration events and showcases; or any other idea them may have for engaging with our students.

 Liz McCutcheon, CEO of Inspirent, as already engaged with the students on our BA Business Marketing and Enterprise degree. Liz and a member of her team joined the class on 15th January 2025 to promote Inspirent’s Pathways Programme for female start-ups – Women Can Grow. This provides an opportunity for upcoming entrepreneurs to engage with a nine-week practical programme with a launch and networking event held across Glasgow and Lanarkshire funded by the Scottish Government. Following from this one of our students is already enrolled in this course and taking advantage of this fantastic opportunity.

12.3 **Community of Practitioners**

We had our second Community of Practitioners meeting on the 17th December in Motherwell’s Wellbeing Academy. The team came together to discuss good practice and highlight development needs to support the student experience. Complimentary spa therapies were offered.

12.4 **Undergraduate School Quarterly**

The inaugural edition of the Undergraduate School Quarterly is almost ready to be shared and a draft edition has been submitted as part of this agenda item. The content includes a focus on an Honorary Appointee, a lecturer and an Undergraduate School Students.

### **12. Undergraduate School Update (continued)**

12.5 **Journal of Perspectives in Applied Academic Practice Submission**

This JPAAP special issue is seeking submissions from the tertiary education sector, both in the UK and internationally, concerning influence and contribution through pedagogies, practices, and partnerships, towards enterprise and skills development. The guest editor for this special issue is Robert Crammond, Senior Lecturer (Associate Professor) in Enterprise at the University of the West of Scotland (UWS), Co-Director of the Transformative Enterprise Research Group (TERG) at UWS, and a Visiting Professor in Entrepreneurship at CBS International Business School, Germany. We are in discussions with UWS to submit a joint submission focusing on the BA Business Enterprise and Marketing degree and how this was created to support students to start their own businesses. This degree is unique as it accommodates students from a range of different disciplines and bridges the gap between their vocational knowledge and skills and the business acumen required to start their own business.

12.6 **Awards**

We are currently preparing material to enter the Undergraduate School initiative for a number of awards, including the Queen’s Anniversary Prize, the Times Higher Education Awards, The Herald Higher Education Awards and the CDN Awards.

12.7 **Internship**

North Lanarkshire Council has approached us on the strength of our BSc Digital Development degree with an opportunity for one of our students to take up an internship. North Lanarkshire Council are willing to offer one of our students on this degree pathway a part-time position from year one of their studies until they achieve their degree. Once they have achieved their degree they will be offered the job full-time on a starting salary of circa £28,000. This is supporting North Lanarkshire Council to create a talent pipeline for an area with significant workforce demand. If this is successful, there is opportunity for this to be replicated both in this particular are of the council, as well as other departments.

12.8 **Recruitment for Next Year**

