University of Glasgow

Academic Standards Committee – Friday 24 May 2019

Annual Report to the Scottish Funding Council on Institutional-led Reviews of Quality

Mrs Catherine Omand, Senior Academic Policy Officer, Senate Office

It is a requirement for all Higher Education Institutions to report annually to the Scottish Funding Council (SFC) on institutional-led reviews of quality, and on enhancement activities. In recent years the scope of this report has widened beyond reporting on the nature and outcomes of our institution-led quality activity to the inclusion of contextual information relating to analysis of performance indicators along with commentary on actions taken to address issues, changes to quality procedures and highlighting good practice. The report therefore requires more reflection on the findings and actions arising from a range of internal processes including:

- Periodic Subject Review
- Annual Monitoring
- Course Evaluation
- Graduate School Reviews
- Support Services
- Reviews by Professional, Statutory or Regulatory Bodies (PSRB)

Previously the report has been prepared by the Senate Office, confirmed by the Vice Principal (Academic & Educational Innovation) and signed off by Court for submission to SFC in October (with an advance draft submitted by 30 September).

SFC also requests QAA (Scotland) to provide an annual summary statement of assurance covering all funded institutions based on their review of all institutional annual reports submitted to the Funding Council. This report also identifies key developments and areas of good practice noted across institutions.

In light of the changes to the report and its increased commentary on quality enhancement, and stronger focus on analysis of performance indicators, it is proposed that both Planning and Business Intelligence (PBI) and ASC have input to its production. Accordingly, the Senate Office will draft the report with input from PBI on the contextual data and submit the draft document to ASC in early October for endorsement prior to submission to Court. This would provide ASC with an opportunity to have oversight of all quality processes and to recognise its role in any changes made to processes.

Following approval by ASC and PBI, the Vice Principal (Learning & Teaching) will endorse prior to submission to Court for institutional sign-off. These additional ratifications ensure appropriate oversight is given on our quality processes.

Action

ASC is requested **to approve** the recommendation that the Annual Report to the Scottish Funding Council on Institutional-led reviews on quality is presented to the October meeting before submission to Court.