Shrewsbury Colleges Group

Financial Statements

Year Ended 31 July 2018

SHREWSBURY COLLEGE

SHREWSBURY COLLEGES GROUP

SHREWSBURY SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

Key Management Personnel, Board of Governors and Professional advisers

Key management personnel

Key management personnel are defined as members of the College Senior Leadership Team and were represented by the following in 2017/18:

Shrewsbury Colleges Group
James Staniforth - Principal and CEO; Accounting Officer
Catherine Armstrong - Group Vice Principal, Curriculum Support & Operations
Mark Brown - Group Vice Principal, Information & Strategic Development
Donna Lucas - Group Principal, Human Resource Development
Paul Morgan – Director of A Level Studies
Chris Pemberton - Group Vice Principal, Quality & Curriculum Management
Paul Partridge – Finance Director

Board of Governors

A full list of Governors is given on pages 11 to 13 of these financial statements.

Ms T Cottee is Clerk to the Shrewsbury Colleges Group Board and can be contacted at Shrewsbury Colleges Group, Priory Road, Shrewsbury, SY1 1RX.

Professional advisers

Financial statements auditor and reporting accountants:	Grant Thornton UK LLP, The Colmore Building, 20 Colmore Circus, Birmingham, B4 6AT
Internal auditors:	TIAA Ltd, 53-55 Gosport Business Centre Aerodrome Road Gosport, PO13 0FQ
Bankers:	NatWest, 8 Mardol Head, Shrewsbury, SY1 1HE
Solicitors:	The College uses a variety of legal firms, dependent upon the matter under consideration

CONTENTS

Strategic Report

Nature, Objectives and Strategies

The members present their report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 July 2018.

Legal status

Shrewsbury Colleges Group is a designated Sixth Form College. The Corporation was established under the Further and Higher Education Act 1992 for the purpose of conducting the activities of Shrewsbury Colleges Group.

Vision

Shrewsbury Colleges Group, where every student makes outstanding progress.

Mission

Shrewsbury Colleges Group's mission is to:

- Provide outstanding academic and vocational education and training for all 16-19 students and adults.
- Be a local centre of excellence for higher education
- Be the College of choice.

Goals

- To be outstanding for all our students
- To be an outstanding place to work for all our staff
- To add value to our community through working in partnership
- To provide an outstanding environment

Public Benefit

Shrewsbury Colleges Group is an exempt charity under Part 3 of the Charities Act 2011 and is regulated by the Secretary of State for Education. The members of the Governing Body, who are trustees of the charity, are disclosed on pages 11 to 13.

In setting and reviewing the College's strategic objectives, the Governing Body has had due regard for the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and particularly upon its supplementary guidance on the advancement of education. The guidance sets out the requirement that all organisations wishing to be recognised as charities must demonstrate, explicitly, that their aims are for the public benefit.

In delivering its mission, the College provides the following identifiable public benefits through the advancement of education:

- High-quality teaching
- Widening participation and tackling social exclusion
- Excellent employment record for students
- Strong student support systems
- Links with employers, industry and commerce.

The delivery of public benefit is covered throughout the Members' Report.

Financial objectives

The College's financial aim is to maintain a robust financial base. The Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) assesses financial health by scoring of three key metrics to provide an overall financial health score. There are four possible overall health scores: Inadequate, Satisfactory, Good and Outstanding. The College's financial objective is to maintain an overall financial health score of "Good".

Performance indicators

The College is required to complete the annual Finance Record for the Education & Skills Funding Agency. The College is assessed by the Education & Skills Funding Agency as having a "Good" financial health grading. Following the merger of the two Colleges the merged College received an OFSTED Monitoring visit in October 2016 and was assessed as Good.

Key performance Indicator	Target/Budget for 2017/18	Actual for 2017/18
Earnings before Interest, Tax, Depreciation and Amortisation - EBITDA	£1.8m	£2.10m
Staff costs as % of income (excluding subcontracted activity)	Less than 69%	68.0%
Cash available at year end	£1.98m	£2.28m
Current Ratio	More than 1.0	1.20
Borrowing as % of income	Less than 16%	13.4%
Financial Health Score	Good	Good

FINANCIAL POSITION

Financial results

The College generated a loss before other gains and losses in the year of £656k (2016/17 – loss of £377k), with total comprehensive income of £2.379m (2016/17 £1.353m). The impact of FRS102 Pension adjustments relating to the College's LGPS defined benefit scheme and which the College has little influence over, causes significant variations to these results. After excluding the impact of FRS102 Pension charges the underlying operating result for the year was an operating surplus of £302k (2016/17 £425k). This is summarised in the table below:

	2017/18 £'000	**2016/17 £'000**
EBITDA	2,102	1,983
Depreciation	(1,703)	(1,491)
Interest costs net of interest received	(97)	(67)
Underlying Operating surplus	302	425
Less FRS102 Pension charges in respect of defined benefit pensions	(958)	(802)
Statutory Operating (deficit) / surplus	(656)	(377)
Actuarial Gains in respect of Pension revaluations	3,056	1,586
Revaluation gain/(loss) in respect Enhanced Pension provision	(21)	144
Total Comprehensive income	2,379	1,353

During the year the College invested £1,264k in renewing classroom based equipment and in refurbishing and improving its facilities in order to ensure that these continue to provide and improve the environment needed to support its education provision (2016/17 - £1,106k).

Included within the £1,264k capital investment above is a grant allocation of £209k from the Marches Local Enterprise Partnership. The grant was received as a 76% capital investment towards the College's 'Investing in our Future Workforce' Project which totalled £276k.

Treasury policies and objectives

Treasury management is the management of the College's cash flows, its banking, money market and capital market transactions; the effective control of the risks associated with those activities; and the pursuit of optimum performance consistent with those risks.

Short term borrowing for temporary revenue purposes is authorised by the Accounting Officer. All other borrowing requires the authorisation of the Corporation and shall comply with the requirements of the Financial Memorandum.

Cash flows and liquidity

Cash held at the year-end increased by £150k despite increased investments in fixed assets of £1,264k during the year. The cash position at 31 July 2018 was £2,278k (2016/17: £2,128k). The College has budgeted for a further investment of £1.2m to improve and renew classroom information technology, IT infrastructure and building facilities during 2018-19.

Payment performance

The Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest) Act 1998, which came into force on 1 November 1998, requires Colleges, in the absence of agreement to the contrary, to make payments to suppliers within 30 days of either the provision of goods or services or the date on which the invoice was received. The target set by the Treasury for payment to suppliers within 30 days is 95 per cent. For the accounting period ending July 2018, the college recorded an average creditor days figure of 31 days (2016/17: 31 days).

Going concern

The Corporation carried out a Going Concern assessment at its December 2018 Finance & Business Operations meeting. The process involved reviewing key considerations supplied by the college auditors, and cash flow projections for the 12 months from December 2018.

After carrying out the Going Concern assessment, the Corporation considers that the College has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, it continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Current and future development and performance

Student numbers

In the year to July 2018 the College had 8,221 funded students (2016/17: 7,209) and 1,011 non-funded students (2016/17: 857).

Student achievements

The College's vision is to ensure all students make outstanding progress. The College has taken significant steps towards the goal of providing outstanding academic and vocational education and training to 16-18 and adult students. Student achievement across the range and breadth of classroom based qualifications was excellent in 2017-18 and marked a step change from the good performance of 2016-17. The percentage of students achieving a grade 4/C pass in GCSE English and Maths fell but remained significantly above the national rate. The apprenticeship achievement rate improved and is now above the national rate.

	2017	2018
Overall Achievement	87%	89%
16-18 Achievement	85%	85%
19+ Achievement	90%	93%
A Level %MTG	65.1%	72.6%
A Level Alps	6	3
A Level grades A*-B	45.1%	51.5%
A Level pass rate	97.1%	98.7%
L3 BTEC % MTG	49.5%	68.6%
L3 BTEC Alps	5	3
L3 BTEC grades DMM+	64%	88%
L3 BTEC pass rate	99%	99%
GCSE grades C+	45.7%	40.5%
Apprentice achievement	61.7%	67.1%

Overall achievement rose to 89% compared with the national rate of 82%. At 85%, 16-18 achievement remained above the national rate of 79% and 19+ achievement rose to 93% compared with 89% nationally. The largest single area of the College's work is Level 3 graded courses for 16-18 year olds. A Level pass rates, A*-E high grades and value-added all improved significantly. The Alps value-added improved from grade 6 (performance between the 26th and 40th percentile nationally) to grade 3 (performance between the 76th and 89th percentile nationally). BTEC Level 3 DMM or better high grades and value-added improved significantly. The Alps value-added improved from grade 5 (performance at the median nationally) to grade 3. These improvements were achieved in a context of significant changes in qualifications and assessment which saw national outcomes decline.

Curriculum delivery and developments

Shrewsbury Colleges Group is a designated sixth form college which serves the town of Shrewsbury, much of Shropshire and Telford. The breadth and range of provision and students means that despite being a designated sixth form college, the reality is that Shrewsbury Colleges Group is effectively a tertiary college and able to allow students to choose between academic and vocational courses as best suits their needs and aspirations. The College also delivers a number of Higher Education courses based on its strength in Engineering, Construction, Counselling, Education Training, and Sports Coaching. The College operates from three campuses, the Welsh Bridge Campus, the English Bridge Campus and the London Road Campus.

The Welsh and English Bridge Campuses are situated in the heart of the town centre of Shrewsbury. The curriculum offers a broad range of A Levels for 16-18 year olds and a limited number of BTEC single A Level equivalent qualifications. Vocational Art and Textiles courses are also based at the English Bridge Campus. In addition, there is a small one year '2+ programme' which provides vocational L2 courses and English and Maths resit opportunities for students.

The London Road Campus offers a wide range of vocational, technical and professional qualifications for 16-18 year olds and for adults. While most of the provision at this Campus is vocational, this Campus also provides Higher Education courses and from 2018-19 Higher Education students will benefit from a dedicated Higher Education Centre. Our employer responsive provision operates beyond the local geographical area and includes provision in both the North West, South West and the South East. The college provides apprenticeship training for a broad range of curriculum areas for local and regional SME and large employers.

Shrewsbury Colleges Group is a member of Shrewsbury Partnerships for Education (SPET) and collaborates with 11-16 providers to share information and develop the 16-19 curriculum. The College is also a partner in the Shropshire and Wrekin Association of Colleges and a member of the West Midlands Sixth Form Colleges' Consortium.

Future prospects

The Corporation carried out a Going Concern assessment at its December 2018, Finance & Business Operations meeting. The process involved reviewing key considerations supplied by the College auditors, and cash flow projections for the 12 months from December 2018. After carrying out the Going Concern assessment, the Corporation considers that the College has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

The College is independently financially viable and comparatively well placed to face the ongoing financial challenges facing the sector. The College anticipates increasing upward cost pressures on Teachers Pay in 2018/19 and significantly increased Teacher Pension contribution costs in 2019/20. Unless offset by appropriate funding changes these factors will place additional further pressure on the financial resilience of the College as well as upon other Sixth Form Colleges and Further Education institutions generally.

Resources

The College has various resources that it can deploy in pursuit of its strategic objectives.

Tangible resources include land and buildings on three distinct campuses in Shrewsbury, fixtures & fittings, computer hardware & software, motor vehicles and plant & equipment.

Financial

As at 31 July 2018 the College had £15.7 million (2016/17 £15.5m) of net assets (excluding defined benefit pension liabilities), and long term debt of £2.8 million (2016/17 £3.0m).

People

The College employs 384 people (expressed as full time equivalents), of whom 151 are teaching staff.

Reputation

The College has a good reputation locally and nationally. Maintaining a quality brand is essential for the College's success at attracting students and external relationships.

Principal risks and uncertainties

The College operates an effective system of internal control, including financial, operational and risk management which is designed to protect the College's assets and reputation.

The Senior Leadership Team undertakes a comprehensive review of the risks to which the College is exposed. They identify systems and procedures, including specific preventable actions which should mitigate any potential impact on the College. Where appropriate additional internal controls are implemented and the subsequent year's appraisal will review their effectiveness and progress against risk mitigation actions. In addition to the annual review, the Senior Leadership Team will also consider any risks which may arise as a result of a new area of work being undertaken by the College.

A risk register is maintained at the College level which is reviewed termly by the Audit Committee and more frequently where necessary. The risk register identifies the key risks, the likelihood of those risks occurring, their potential impact on the College and the actions being taken to reduce and mitigate the risks. Risks are prioritised using a consistent scoring system.

Outlined below are the principal risk factors that affect the College. Not all the factors are within the College's control. Other factors besides those listed below may also adversely affect the College.

1. Government funding

The College has considerable reliance on continued government funding through the further education sector funding bodies. In 2017/18, circa 88% (2016/17: 83%) of the College's revenue was ultimately publicly funded and this level of requirement is expected to continue.

2. Maintain its reputation

The College aims to ensure that the experience of all students and apprentices is outstanding, by providing excellence in teaching, learning and assessment. This will ensure outstanding student outcomes, including progression beyond the college into employment or to higher education.

Students, teaching and learning has been placed at the heart of the college with new systems for target setting, tracking and monitoring and a whole college focus on feedback and growth mind-sets.

3. Impact of the continued changes to Apprenticeship funding and the impact of Devolution of Adult Education funding upon the College's existing Adult Education provision.

The College continues to ensure that it is prepared to respond promptly to the large employer's use of their Apprenticeship Levy funds to secure access to Non Levy funding after March 2019 and to allow SME employers to direct Non Levy funding to the College when these systems are implemented by the ESFA. The College is also working to identify and manage risks and uncertainties relating to the continuation of funding for Adult Education provision currently delivered within Devolved Authority areas.

4. Maintain adequate funding of pension liabilities

The financial statements report the share of the Local Government Pension Scheme deficit on the College's balance sheet in line with the requirements of FRS 102. The main risk facing the College is that cash contributions required by the scheme are increased significantly in order to reduce this liability over a shorter period than currently required.

5. Ensuring positive liquidity to service loan repayments

The College manages and monitors its financial performance against budget, and ensures that it can service its loan and meet all bank covenants, while investing to support outstanding teaching, learning and assessment. This is achieved by effective budget setting, regular review of management information and loan covenants, and timely action to address any areas of under-performance.

STAKEHOLDER RELATIONSHIPS

In line with other colleges and with universities, Shrewsbury Colleges Group has many stakeholders. These include:

- Students;
- Education sector funding bodies;
- Sixth Form Commissioner;
- Staff;
- Local employers (with specific links);
- Local authorities;
- Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs);
- The local community;
- Other sixth form institutions;
- Trade unions;
- Professional bodies.

The College recognises the importance of these relationships and engages in regular communication with them through the College Internet site and by meetings.

Equal opportunities

The College is committed to ensuring equality of opportunity for all who learn and work here. We respect and value positively differences in race, gender, sexual orientation, disability, religion or belief and age. We strive vigorously to remove conditions which place people at a disadvantage and we will actively combat bigotry. This College's policies are reviewed, impact assessed, implemented and monitored on a planned basis. The College's Equal Opportunities Policy is published on the College's Intranet site.

Disability statement

The College complies with the requirements of the Equality Act 2010 and is committed to being as inclusive as possible. We welcome the Public Sector Equality Duty and actively consider how we can minimise any disadvantages suffered by people due to their disability and meet their needs during time at our College.

We will:

a. Assess each student on an individual basis
b. Identify needs and offer support at an early stage
c. Work to remove barriers to learning and make reasonable adjustments when needed
d. Provide a range of specialist facilities, equipment and assistive software
e. Maintain an experienced team of Learning Support Specialists and Tutors
f. Provide information for students through our intranet sites
g. Negotiate exam access requirements with awarding bodies for any on-course assessments and examinations
h. Ensure easy access wherever possible to our buildings and facilities
i. Offer familiarisation visits and an informal meeting with one of the Learning Support Specialists or Student Support Tutors
j. Arrange for support at course interviews
k. Provide opportunities throughout the year for students to tell us about their support requirements
l. Maintain a list of specialist equipment, such as laptops, which the College can make available for use by students
m. Make available on the website an admissions policy for students to access. Appeals against a decision not to offer a place are dealt with under the complaints policy

Disclosure of information to auditors

The members who held office at the date of approval of this report confirm that, so far as they are each aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the College's auditors are unaware; and each member has taken all the steps that he or she ought to have taken to be aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the College's auditors are aware of that information.

Approved by order of the members of the Corporation on 10 December 2018 and signed on its behalf by:

Gordon Channon
Chair

Statement of Corporate Governance and Internal Control

The following statement is provided to enable readers of the annual report and accounts of the College to obtain a better understanding of its governance and legal structure. This statement covers the period from 1st August 2017 to 31st July 2018 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

The College endeavours to conduct its business:

i. in accordance with the seven principles identified by the Committee on Standards in Public Life (selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership);
ii. having due regard to the UK Corporate Governance Code 2014, insofar as it is applicable to the further education sector.

The College is committed to exhibiting best practice in all aspects of corporate governance. We have not adopted and therefore do not apply the UK Corporate Governance Code. However, we have reported on our Corporate Governance arrangements by drawing upon best practice available, including those aspects of the UK Corporate Governance Code we consider to be relevant to the further education sector and best practice.

The College is an exempt charity within the meaning of Part 3 of the Charities Act 2011. The Governors, who are also the Trustees for the purposes of the Charities Act 2011, confirm that they have had due regard for the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and that the required statements appear elsewhere in these financial statements.

The Corporation

The members who served on the Shrewsbury Colleges Group Corporation during the year and up to the date of signature of this report were as listed in the table below.

Key:				
	Q,S&C	Quality, Standards & Curriculum	FBO	Finance & Business Operations
	S&G	Search & Governance	HR	Human Resources

Governors serving on the Shrewsbury Sixth Form College Board during 2017/18:

Name	Date of Appointment	Term of Office	Expiry of Term	Date of Resignation	Status of Appointment	Committee Served	Attendance
A Allen	Reappointed 18/12/2017	4 year term (2 term of office)	11/12/2021		Independent	Q,S & C S&G	100%
L Carroll	01/10/2017	4 year term (1st term of office)	30/09/2021		Staff (Academic)	Q,S & C	66%
G. Channon (Chair 16/11/2016 – Present)	26/09/2015	4 year term (1st term of office)	31/03/2019		Independent	F&BO Remuneration Branding Task Force	83%
C. Davies	30/03/2011 Extended on 12/12/2016 from 17/07/2017 to 19/07/2019	4 year term (2nd term office)	19/07/2019		Independent	Q,S & C (Chair) Remuneration	100%

Name	Date of Appointment	Term of Office	Expiry of Term	Date of Resignation	Status of Appointment	Committee Served	Attendance
A Dokov	Reappointed 26/03/2018	1 year term (2^{nd} term of office)	23/03/2019		Co-opted	HR	100%
J Evans	26/09/2017	2 year term (1^{st} term of office)	24/09/2019		Higher Education	Q,S & C	88%
I. Gilmour	13/10/2010 Extended on 14/10/2018	5 year term (2nd term of office)	13/10/2019		Independent	Audit HR (Chair) Remuneration Special	100%
C. Gore	12/12/2012	4 year term (2nd term of office)	12/12/2020		Independent	Q,S & C	100%
R. Heath	22/03/2017	4 year term (1^{st} term of office)	22/03/2021		Independent	F&BO S&G	100%
G Kelly	16/10/2017	1 year term of office	15/10/2018		Student	Q,S & C	67%
S. Lewis	03/07/2017	4 year term (1st term of office)	03/07/2021	31/07/2018	Staff (Academic)	Q,S & C	88%
N. Merchant	15/12/2014 Reappointed 18/12/2017	3 year term (2nd term of office)	18/12/2020		Parent	Audit (Chair) Q, S & C	83%
D. Pulford	16/03/13 Extended on 12/12/2016 from 16/03/2017 to 16/03/2019	4 year term (2nd term of office)	16/03/2019		Independent	F&BO	90%
R. Rosson (Vice-Chair 12/12/2016 – Present)	02/05/2011	4 year term (3rd term of office	02/05/2019		Independent (previously parent, appointed 05/2008)	F&BO HR Remuneration Branding Task Force	100%

Name	Date of Appointment	Term of Office	Expiry of Term	Date of Resignation	Status of Appointment	Committee Served	Attendance
R. Sartain	13/06/2016	4 year term	11/07/2020		Independent	Audit HR Branding Task Force	100%
J. Staniforth	16/04/2017	-	-		Principal/CEO	F&BO Q,S&C HR S&G Branding Task Force	86%
M. Thompson	22/03/2017	2 year term (1st term of office)	22/03/2019		Parent Governor	F&BO Branding Task Force	90%
P. Tucker	26/09/2017	4 year term (1st term of office)	24/09/2021		Staff (Support)	F&BO	100%
M. Willmot	12/10/2011	4 year term(2nd term of office)	12/10/2019		Independent	Q, S & C S&G (Chair)	83%
	Clerk to Corporation T. Cottee – from 03/01/2017						

It is the Corporation's responsibility to bring independent judgement to bear on issues of strategy, performance, resources and standards of conduct.

The Corporation is provided with regular and timely information on the overall financial performance of the College together with other information such as performance against funding targets, proposed capital expenditure, quality matters and personnel-related matters such as health and safety and environmental issues. The Corporation meets each term.

The Corporation conducts its business through a number of committees. Each committee has terms of reference, which have been approved by the Corporation. These committees are Audit, Finance & Business Operations, Human Resources, Quality, Standards & Curriculum, Remuneration and Search & Governance.

Full minutes of all meetings, except those deemed to be confidential by the Corporation, are available on the College's website www.scg.ac.uk or from the Clerk to the Corporation at:

Shrewsbury Colleges Group
London Road
Shrewsbury
Shropshire
SY2 6PR

The Clerk to the Corporation maintains a register of financial and personal interests of the governors. The register is available for inspection at the above address.

All governors are able to take independent professional advice in furtherance of their duties at the College's expense and have access to the Clerk to the Corporation, who is responsible to the Board for ensuring that all applicable procedures and regulations are complied with. The appointment, evaluation and removal of the Clerk are matters for the Corporation as a whole.

Formal agendas, papers and reports are supplied to governors in a timely manner, prior to Board meetings. Briefings are provided on an ad hoc basis.

The Corporation has a strong and independent non-executive element and no individual or group dominates its decision-making process. The Corporation considers that each of its non-executive members is independent of management and free from any business or other relationship which could materially interfere with the exercise of their independent judgement.

There is a clear division of responsibility in that the roles of the Chairman and Accounting Officer are separate.

Appointments to the Corporation

Any new appointments to the Corporation are a matter for the consideration of the Corporation as a whole. The Corporation has a Search & Governance Committee, consisting of at least three members of the Corporation, which is responsible for the selection and nomination of any new member for the Corporation's consideration. The Corporation is responsible for ensuring that appropriate training is provided as required.

Members of the Corporation are appointed for a term of office not exceeding four years; Parent Governors for 3 years and Student Governors for 1 year.

Remuneration Committee

Throughout the year ending 31 July 2018, the College's Remuneration Committee comprised four members of the Corporation. The Committee's responsibilities are to make recommendations to the Board on the remuneration and benefits of the Accounting Officer and other key management personnel. Details of remuneration for the year ended 31 July 2018, are set out in note 6 to the financial statements.

Audit Committee

The Audit Committee comprises four members of the Corporation (excluding the Accounting Officer and Chair). The Committee operates in accordance with written terms of reference approved by the Corporation.

The Audit Committee meets on a termly basis and provides a forum for reporting by the College's internal, reporting accountants and financial statements auditors, who have access to the Committee for independent discussion, without the presence of College management. The Committee also receives and considers reports from the main funding bodies as they affect the College's business.

The College's internal auditors review the systems of internal control, risk management controls and governance processes in accordance with an agreed plan of input and report their findings to management and the Audit Committee.

Management is responsible for the implementation of agreed audit recommendations and internal audit undertakes periodic follow-up reviews to ensure such recommendations have been implemented.

The Audit Committee also advises the Corporation on the appointment of internal, reporting accountants and financial statements auditors and their remuneration for audit and non-audit work as well as reporting annually to the Corporation.

Internal control

Scope of responsibility

The Corporation is ultimately responsible for the College's system of internal control and for reviewing its effectiveness. However, such a system is designed to manage rather than eliminate the risk of failure to achieve business objectives, and can provide only reasonable and not absolute assurance against material misstatement or loss.

The Corporation has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the CEO, as Accounting Officer, for maintaining a sound system of internal control that supports the achievement of the College's policies, aims and objectives, whilst safeguarding the public funds and assets for which he is personally responsible, in accordance with the responsibilities assigned to him in the Financial Agreements between the College and the funding bodies. He is also responsible for reporting to the Corporation any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

The purpose of the system of internal control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives; it can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an ongoing process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of College policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in the College for the year ended 31 July 2018, and up to the date of approval of the annual report and accounts.

Capacity to handle risk

The Corporation has reviewed the key risks to which the College is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The Corporation is of the view that there is a formal ongoing process for identifying, evaluating and managing the College's significant risks that has been in place for the period ending 31 July 2018, and up to the date of approval of the annual report and accounts. This process is regularly reviewed by the Corporation.

The risk and control framework

The system of internal control is based on a framework of regular management information, administrative procedures including the segregation of duties, and a system of delegation and accountability. In particular, it includes:

- comprehensive budgeting systems with an annual budget, which is reviewed and agreed by the governing body
- regular reviews by the governing body of periodic and annual financial reports which indicate financial performance against forecasts
- setting targets to measure financial and other performance
- clearly defined capital investment control guidelines
- the adoption of formal project management disciplines, where appropriate.

The College management and Governors have assessed the internal controls and developed a Board Assurance Framework, clearly showing the mapping of assurance sources against the risks identified. The College analysed the risks to which it was exposed and a programme of assurance was agreed with the Audit Committee. An internal audit service was appointed on a service level agreement for the year ended 31st July 2018 to undertake audits on areas highlighted by the Board Assurance Framework.

The Committee was provided with regular reports on this assurance activity in the College which included:

- Cyber security
- Payroll
- Key financial controls - payments
- Health and safety
- Sub-contractor controls
- Post-merger review

Review of effectiveness

As Accounting Officer, the Principal/CEO has responsibility for reviewing the effectiveness of the system of internal control. The review of the effectiveness of the system of internal control is informed by:

- the Board Assurance Framework
- the work of the internal auditors

- the work of the executive managers within the College who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework
- comments made by the College's financial statements auditors, the reporting accountant for regularity assurance, the appointed funding auditors (for colleges subject to funding audit) in their management letters and other reports.

The Accounting Officer has been advised on the implications of the result of his review of the effectiveness of the system of internal control by the Audit Committee, which oversees the work of the internal auditor and other sources of assurance, and a plan to address weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

The senior management team receives reports setting out key performance and risk indicators and considers possible control issues brought to their attention by early warning mechanisms, which are embedded within the departments. The senior management team and the Audit Committee also receive regular reports from internal audit and other sources of assurance, which include recommendations for improvement. The Audit Committee's role in this area is confined to a high-level review of the arrangements for internal control. The Corporation's agenda includes a regular item for consideration of risk and control and receives reports thereon from the senior management team and the Audit Committee. The emphasis is on obtaining the relevant degree of assurance and not merely reporting by exception.

Based on the advice of the Audit Committee and the Accounting Officer, the Corporation is of the opinion that the College has an adequate and effective framework for governance, risk management and control, and has fulfilled its statutory responsibility for "*the effective and efficient use of resources, the solvency of the institution and the body and the safeguarding of their assets*".

Approved by order of the members of the Corporation on 10th December 2018 and signed on its behalf by:

Gordon Channon
Chair

James Staniforth
Accounting Officer

Governing Body's statement on the College's regularity, propriety and compliance with funding body terms and conditions of funding

The Corporation has considered its responsibility to notify the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with Education & Skills Funding Agency terms and conditions of funding, under the College's grant funding agreements and contracts with the ESFA. As part of our consideration we have had due regard to the requirements of the grant funding agreements and contracts with ESFA.

We confirm, on behalf of the Corporation, that after due enquiry, and to the best of our knowledge, we are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of funds by the College, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the College's grant funding agreements and contract with ESFA.

We confirm that no instances of material irregularity, impropriety or funding non-compliance have been discovered to date. If any instances are identified after the date of this statement, these will be notified to the ESFA.

Gordon Channon
Chair
10 December 2018

James Staniforth
Accounting Officer
10 December 2018

Statement of Responsibilities of the Members of the Corporation

The members of the Corporation are required to present audited financial statements for each financial year.

Within the terms and conditions of the grant funding agreements and contracts between the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA), the Corporation of the College, through its Accounting Officer, is required to prepare financial statements and an operating and financial review for each financial year in accordance with the 2015 Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting for Further and Higher Education, ESFA's college accounts direction and the UK's Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, and which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the College and surplus/deficit of income over expenditure for that period.

In preparing the financial statements, the Corporation is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- state whether applicable Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- prepare financial statements on the going concern basis, unless it is inappropriate to assume that the College will continue in operation.

The Corporation is also required to prepare a Strategic Report which describes what it is trying to do and how it is going about it, including the legal and administrative status of the College.

The corporation is responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the college and which enable it to ensure that the financial statements are prepared in accordance with relevant legislation including the Further and Higher Education Act 1992 and Charities Act 2011, and relevant accounting standards. It is responsible for taking steps that are reasonably open to it to safeguard its assets and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

The corporation is responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the college's website; the work carried out by auditors does not involve consideration of these matters and, accordingly, the auditors accept no responsibility for any changes that may have occurred to the financial statements since they were initially presented on the website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Members of the corporation are responsible for ensuring that expenditure and income are applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and that the financial transactions conform to the authorities that govern them. In addition, they are responsible for ensuring that funds from ESFA are used only in accordance with ESFA's grant funding agreements and contracts and any other conditions that may be prescribed from time to time. Members of the corporation must ensure that there are appropriate financial and management controls in place to safeguard public and other funds and ensure they are used properly. In addition, members of the corporation are responsible for securing economical, efficient and effective management of the college's resources and expenditure so that the benefits that should be derived from the application of public funds from ESFA are not put at risk. Approved by order of the members of the Corporation on 10th December 2018 and signed on its behalf by:

Gordon Channon
Chair

Independent auditor's report to the Corporation of Shrewsbury Colleges Group

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Shrewsbury Colleges Group (the College) for the year ended 31 July 2018 which comprise Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Changes in Reserves, Balance Sheet, Statement of Cash Flows, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102; The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the College's affairs as at 31 July 2018 and of the College's deficit of income over expenditure for the year then ended; and
- have been prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice and the Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting for Further and Higher Education issued in March 2014

Basis for opinion

We have been appointed as auditor under the College's Articles of Government and report in accordance with regulations made under it. We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) ("ISAs (UK)") and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the College in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Who are we reporting to

This report is made solely to the College's Corporation, as a body, in accordance with Article 22 of the College's Articles of Government. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the College's Corporation those matters we are required to state to it in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the College and the College's Corporation as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the Corporation's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the Corporation has not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the College's ability to continue to adopt the going concern

basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Other information

The Corporation is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, set out on pages 4 to 18 other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The Corporation is responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Post-16 Audit Code of Practice issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept by the College; or
- the College annual accounts are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of the Corporation for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the Statement Responsibilities of the Corporation set out on page 18, the College's Corporation is responsible for the preparation of financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Corporation determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Corporation is responsible for assessing the College's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Corporation either intend to liquidate the College or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Grant Thornton UK LLP

Grant Thornton UK LLP

Statutory Auditor, Chartered Accountants

Birmingham

18 December 2018

Reporting accountant's assurance report on regularity

To the corporation of Shrewsbury Colleges Group and Secretary of State for Education acting through the Department for Education ('the Department')

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 2 August 2018 and further to the requirements and conditions of funding in ESFA's grant funding agreements and contracts we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether anything has come to our attention that would suggest that, in all material respects, the expenditure disbursed and income received by Shrewsbury Colleges Group during the period 1 August 2017 to 31 July 2018 have not been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

The framework that has been applied is set out in the Post-16 Audit Code of Practice ('the Code') issued by ESFA. In line with this framework, our work has specifically not considered income received from the main funding grants generated through the Individualised Learner Record returns, for which ESFA has other assurance arrangements in place.

This report is made solely to the corporation of Shrewsbury Colleges Group and ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the corporation of Shrewsbury Colleges Group and ESFA those matters we are required to state in a limited assurance report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the corporation of Shrewsbury Colleges Group, as a body, and ESFA, as a body, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of Shrewsbury Colleges Group and the reporting accountant

The corporation of Shrewsbury Colleges Group is responsible, under the requirements of the Further and Higher Education Act 1992, subsequent legislation and related regulations and guidance, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

Our responsibilities for this engagement are established in the United Kingdom by our profession's ethical guidance and are to obtain limited assurance and report in accordance with our engagement letter and the requirements of the Code. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that, in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 August 2017 to 31 July 2018 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Approach

We conducted our engagement in accordance with the Code issued by ESFA. We performed a limited assurance engagement as defined in that framework.

The objective of a limited assurance engagement is to perform such procedures as to obtain information and explanations in order to provide us with sufficient appropriate evidence to express a negative conclusion on regularity.

A limited assurance engagement is more limited in scope than a reasonable assurance engagement and consequently does not enable us to obtain assurance that we would become aware of all significant matters that might be identified in a reasonable assurance engagement. Accordingly, we do not express a positive opinion.

Our engagement includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the regularity of the college's income and expenditure.

The work undertaken to draw our conclusion includes:

- an assessment of the risk of material irregularity and impropriety across the college's activities;
- evaluation of the processes and controls established and maintained in respect of regularity and propriety for the use of public funds through observation of the arrangements in place and enquiries of management;
- consideration and corroboration of the evidence supporting the Accounting Officer's statement on regularity, propriety and compliance and that included in the self-assessment questionnaire (SAQ); and
- limited testing, on a sample basis, of income and expenditure for the areas identified as high risk and included on the SAQ.

Conclusion

In the course of our work, nothing has come to our attention which suggests that, in all material respects, the expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 August 2017 to 31 July 2018 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Grant Thornton UK LLP

Grant Thornton UK LLP
Chartered Accountant
Birmingham

18 December 2018

Statement of Comprehensive Income

	Notes	Year ended 31 July 2018	Year ended 31 July 2017
		£'000	£'000
INCOME			
Funding body grants	2	19,544	18,078
Tuition fees and education contracts	3	2,140	2,543
Other income	4	1,258	1,216
Investment income	5	3	3
Total income		**22,945**	**21,840**
EXPENDITURE			
Staff costs	6	15,666	14,789
Other operating expenses	7	5,796	5,502
Depreciation	9	1,703	1,491
Interest and other finance costs	8	436	435
Total expenditure		**23,601**	**22,217**
Deficit before other gains and losses		**(656)**	**(377)**
Loss on disposal of assets		-	-
Deficit before tax		**(656)**	**(377)**
Taxation		-	-
Deficit for the year		**(656)**	**(377)**
Actuarial gain/(loss) in respect of pensions schemes	19	3,035	1,730
Total Comprehensive Income for the year		**2,379**	**1,353**
Represented by:			
Restricted comprehensive income		-	-
Unrestricted comprehensive income		**2,379**	**1,353**
		2,379	**1,353**

The statement of comprehensive income is in respect of continuing activities.

Statement of Changes in Reserves

	Income and expenditure account	Revaluation reserve	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Balance at 1st August 2016	(7,161)	7,244	83
Surplus/(deficit) from the income and expenditure account	(377)	-	(377)
Other comprehensive income	1,730	-	1,730
Transfers between revaluation and income and expenditure reserves	295	(295)	-
Total comprehensive income for the year	1,648	(295)	1,353
Balance at 31st July 2017	(5,513)	6,949	1,436

	£'000	£'000	£'000
Balance at 1st August 2017	(5,513)	6,949	1,436
Surplus/(deficit) from the income and expenditure account	(656)	-	(656)
Other comprehensive income	3,035	-	3,035
Transfers between revaluation and income and expenditure reserves	296	(296)	-
Total comprehensive income for the year	2,675	(296)	2,379
Balance at 31st July 2018	(2,838)	6,653	3,815

Balance sheet as at 31 July

	Notes	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
Fixed assets			
Tangible Fixed assets	9	25,274	25,713
Investments		-	-
Pensions asset		-	-
		25,274	**25,713**
Current assets			
Stocks		3	3
Trade and other receivables	10	1,136	615
Investments		-	-
Cash and cash equivalents	15	2,278	2,128
		3,417	**2,746**
Less: Creditors – amounts falling due within one year	11	(3,269)	(2,677)
Net current assets		**148**	**69**
Total assets less current liabilities		**25,422**	**25,782**
Creditors – amounts falling due after more than one year	12	(9,732)	(10,268)
Provisions			
Defined benefit obligations	14	(11,875)	(14,078)
Other provisions		-	-
Total net assets		**3,815**	**1,436**
Unrestricted Reserves			
Income and expenditure account		(2,838)	(5,513)
Revaluation reserve		6,653	6,949
Total unrestricted reserves		**3,815**	**1,436**

The financial statements on pages 24 to 44 were approved and authorised for issue by the Corporation on **10th December 2018** and were signed on its behalf on that date by:

Gordon Channon

Chair

James Staniforth

Accounting Officer

Statement of Cash Flows

	Notes	2018	2017
		£'000	£'000
Cash flow from operating activities			
Deficit for the year		(656)	(377)
Adjustment for non-cash items			
Depreciation	9	1,703	1,491
(Increase)/decrease in debtors		(521)	(249)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors due within one year		574	8
Increase/(decrease) in creditors due after one year		(270)	47
Increase/(decrease) in provisions		(91)	(229)
Pensions costs less contributions payable		923	772
Adjustment for investing or financing activities			
Investment income	5	(3)	(3)
Interest payable	8	97	70
Net cash flow from operating activities		1,756	1,530
Cash flows from investing activities			
Investment income	5	3	3
Payments made to acquire fixed assets		(1,245)	(973)
		(1,242)	(970)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Interest paid	8	(97)	(70)
Repayments of amounts borrowed		(267)	(326)
		(364)	(396)
Increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents in the year		**150**	**164**
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year	15	2,128	1,964
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year	15	2,278	2,128

Notes to the Accounts

1 Statement of accounting policies and estimation techniques

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the financial statements.

Basis of preparation

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the *Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting for Further and Higher Education 2015* (the 2015 FE HE SORP), the *College Accounts Direction for 2017 to 2018* and in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102 – *"The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland"* (FRS 102). The College is a public benefit entity and has therefore applied the relevant public benefit requirements of FRS 102.

The preparation of financial statements in compliance with FRS 102 requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise judgement in applying the College's accounting policies.

Basis of accounting

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention as modified by the use of previous valuations as deemed cost at transition for certain non-current assets.

Going concern

The activities of the College, together with the factors likely to affect its future development and performance are set out in the Members Report. The financial position of the College, its cashflow, liquidity and borrowings are presented in the Financial Statements and accompanying Notes.

Accordingly the College has a reasonable expectation that it has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future, and for this reason will continue to adopt the going concern basis in the preparation of its Financial Statements.

Recognition of income

Government revenue grants include ESFA funding body 16-18 recurrent grants and other grants and are accounted for under the accrual model as permitted by FRS 102. Funding body recurrent grants are measured in line with best estimates for the period of what is receivable and depend on the particular income stream involved. Any under achievement for the Adult Education Budget is adjusted for and reflected in the level of recurrent grant recognised in the income and expenditure account. The final grant income is normally determined with the conclusion of the year end reconciliation process with the funding body following the year end, and the results of any funding audits. 16-18 learner-responsive funding is not normally subject to reconciliation and is therefore not subject to contract adjustments.

Grants (including research grants) from non-government sources are recognised in income when the College is entitled to the income and performance related conditions have been met. Income received in advance of performance related conditions being met is recognised as deferred income within creditors on the balance sheet and released to income as the conditions are met.

Government capital grants are capitalised, held as deferred income and recognised in income over the expected useful life of the asset, under the accrual method as permitted by FRS 102. Other capital grants are recognised in income when the College is entitled to the funds subject to any performance related conditions being met.

Income from tuition fees is stated gross of any expenditure which is not a discount and is recognised in the period for which it is received.

All income from short-term deposits is credited to the income and expenditure account in the period in which it is earned on a receivable basis.

Accounting for post-employment benefits

Post-employment benefits to employees of the College are principally provided by the Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS) and the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS). These are defined benefit plans, which are externally funded and contracted out of the State Second Pension.

The TPS is an unfunded scheme. Contributions to the TPS are calculated so as to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the College in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by qualified actuaries on the basis of valuations using a prospective benefit method. The TPS is a multi-employer scheme and the College is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the scheme on a consistent and reasonable basis. The TPS is therefore treated as a defined contribution plan and the contributions recognised as an expense in the income statement in the periods during which services are rendered by employees.

The LGPS is a funded scheme. The assets of the LGPS are measured using closing fair values. LGPS liabilities are measured using the projected unit credit method and discounted at the current rate of return on a high quality corporate bond of equivalent term and currency to the liabilities. The actuarial valuations are obtained at least triennially and are updated at each balance sheet date. The amounts charged to operating surplus are the current service costs and the costs of scheme introductions, benefit changes, settlements and curtailments. They are included as part of staff costs as incurred. Net interest on the net defined benefit liability/asset is also recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income and comprises the interest cost on the defined benefit obligation and interest income on the scheme assets, calculated by multiplying the fair value of the scheme assets at the beginning of the period by the rate used to discount the benefit obligations. The difference between the interest income on the scheme assets and the actual return on the scheme assets is recognised in interest and other finance costs.

Actuarial gains and losses are recognised immediately in other recognised gains and losses.

Short term Employment benefits

Short term employment benefits such as salaries and compensated absences (holiday pay) are recognised as an expense in the year in which the employees render service to the College. Any unused benefits are accrued and measured as the additional amount the College expects to pay as a result of the unused entitlement.

Enhanced Pensions

The actual cost of any enhanced ongoing pension to a former member of staff is paid by a college annually. An estimate of the expected future cost of any enhancement to the ongoing pension of a former member of staff is charged in full to the College's income in the year that the member of staff retires. In subsequent years a charge is made to provisions in the balance sheet using the enhanced pension spreadsheet provided by the funding bodies.

Non-current Assets - Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are stated at deemed cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Certain items of fixed assets that had been revalued to fair value on or prior to the date of transition to the 2015 FE HE SORP, are measured on the basis of deemed cost, being the revalued amount at the date of that revaluation.

Land and buildings

Freehold buildings are depreciated on a straight line basis over their expected useful economic life to the College of between 25 and 50 years. The College has a policy of depreciating major adaptations to buildings over the period of their useful economic life of between 15 and 25 years.

Freehold land is not depreciated.

Where land and buildings are acquired with the aid of specific grants, they are capitalised and depreciated as above. The related grants are credited to a deferred income account within creditors, and are released to the income and expenditure account over the expected useful economic life of the related asset on a systematic basis consistent with the depreciation policy. The deferred income is allocated between creditors due within one year and those due after more than one year.

A review for impairment of a fixed asset is carried out if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of any fixed asset may not be recoverable.

On adoption of FRS 102, the College followed the transitional provision to retain the book value of land and buildings, which were revalued in 1994, as deemed cost but not to adopt a policy of revaluations of these properties in the future.

Subsequent expenditure on existing fixed assets

Where significant expenditure is incurred on tangible fixed assets after initial purchase it is charged to income in the period it is incurred, unless it increases the future benefits to the College, in which case it is capitalised and depreciated on the relevant basis.

Equipment

Equipment costing less than £1,000 per individual item is recognised as expenditure in the period of acquisition. All other equipment is capitalised at cost.

Capitalised equipment is depreciated on a straight-line basis over its remaining useful economic life as follows:

- technical equipment 5 -10 years
- computer equipment 3 - 5 years
- furniture, fixtures and fittings 5 years

Assets inherited from local education authority

Land and buildings inherited from the Local Education Authority are stated in the balance sheet at valuation on the basis of depreciated replacement cost as the open market value for existing use is not readily obtainable. The associated credit is included in the revaluation reserve. The difference between depreciation charged on the historic cost of assets and the actual charge for the year calculated on the revalued amount is released to the income and expenditure account reserve on an annual basis. Building improvements made since incorporation are included in the balance sheet at cost.

Borrowing costs

Borrowing costs are recognised as expenditure in the period in which they are incurred.

Leased assets

Costs in respect of operating leases are charged on a straight-line basis over the lease term. Any lease premiums or incentives relating to leases signed after 1st August 2014 are spread over the minimum lease term. The College has taken advantage of the transitional exemptions in FRS 102 and has retained the policy of spreading lease premiums and incentives to the date of the first market rent review for leases signed before 1st August 2014.

Leasing agreements which transfer to the College substantially all the benefits and risks of ownership of an asset are treated as finance leases.

Assets held under finance leases are recognised initially at the fair value of the leased asset (or, if lower, the present value of minimum lease payments) at the inception of the lease. The corresponding liability to the lessor is included in the balance sheet as a finance lease obligation. Assets held under finance leases are included in tangible fixed assets and depreciated and assessed for impairment losses in the same way as owned assets.

Minimum lease payments are apportioned between the finance charge and the reduction of the outstanding liability. The finance charges are allocated over the period of the lease in proportion to the capital element outstanding.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash includes cash in hand, deposits repayable on demand and overdrafts. Deposits are repayable on demand if they are in practice available within 24 hours without penalty.

Cash equivalents are short term, highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash with insignificant risk of change in value. An investment qualifies as a cash equivalent when it has maturity of 3 months or less from the date of acquisition.

Financial liabilities and equity

Financial liabilities and equity are classified according to the substance of the financial instrument's contractual obligations, rather than the financial instrument's legal form.

All loans, investments and short term deposits held by the College are classified as basic financial instruments in accordance with FRS 102. These instruments are initially recorded at the transaction price less any transaction costs (historical cost). FRS 102 requires that basic financial instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost, however the College has calculated that the difference between the historical cost and amortised cost basis is not material and so these financial instruments are stated on the balance sheet at historical cost. Loans and investments that are payable or receivable within one year are not discounted.

Taxation

The College is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the College is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by sections 478-488 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

The College is VAT registered. Irrecoverable VAT on inputs is included in the costs of such inputs and added to the cost of tangible fixed assets as appropriate, where the inputs themselves are tangible fixed assets by nature.

Provisions and contingent liabilities

Provisions are recognised when the College has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required to settle the obligation and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the amount expected to be required to settle the obligation is recognised at present value using a pre-tax discount rate. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as a finance cost in the statement of comprehensive income in the period it arises.

A contingent liability arises from a past event that gives the College a possible obligation whose existence will only be confirmed by the occurrence or otherwise of uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the College. Contingent liabilities also arise in circumstances where a provision would otherwise be made but either it is not probable that an outflow of resources will be required or the amount of the obligation cannot be measured reliably.

Contingent liabilities are not recognised in the balance sheet but are disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.

Agency arrangements

The College acts as an agent in the collection and payment of discretionary support funds. Related payments received from the funding bodies and subsequent disbursements to students are excluded from the income and expenditure of the College where the College is exposed to minimal risk or enjoys minimal economic benefit related to the transaction.

Judgements in applying accounting policies and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In preparing these financial statements, management have made the following judgements:

- Determine whether leases entered into by the College either as a lessor or a lessee are operating or finance leases. These decisions depend on an assessment of whether the risks and rewards of ownership have been transferred from the lessor to the lessee on a lease by lease basis.
- Determine whether there are indicators of impairment of the College's tangible assets, including goodwill. Factors taken into consideration in reaching such a decision include the economic viability and expected future financial performance of the asset and where it is a component of a larger cash-generating unit, the viability and expected future performance of that unit.

Other key sources of estimation uncertainty

- *Tangible fixed assets*

Tangible fixed assets are depreciated over their useful lives taking into account residual values, where appropriate. The actual lives of the assets and residual values are assessed annually and may vary depending on a number of factors. In re-assessing asset lives, factors such as technological innovation and maintenance programmes are taken into account. Residual value assessments consider issues such as future market conditions, the remaining life of the asset and projected disposal values.

- *Local Government Pension Scheme*

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost (income) for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 20, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2016 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 July 2018. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

2 Funding body grants

	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Recurrent grants		
Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA)	18,104	16,746
Specific grants		
ESFA non-recurrent grants	962	919
Releases of government capital grants	478	412
Total	**19,544**	**18,078**

3 Tuition fees and education contracts	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Tuition Fees		
UK Higher Education students	441	477
Non-EU students fees	97	127
UK Further Education Students	926	947
Total fees paid by or on behalf of individuals	**1,464**	**1,551**
Education contracts		
Local Education Authority (LEA) & Schools	25	41
Higher Education (HE) income	534	420
Other Contracts	117	533
	676	**993**
Total tuition fees & education contracts	**2,140**	**2,543**

4 Other income	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Residences, catering & conferences	296	234
Other income generating activities	284	349
Releases of deferred capital grants (non SFA/EFA)	-	-
Miscellaneous income	678	632
Total	**1,258**	**1,216**

Miscellaneous income includes turnover from the following activities: Refectory £295,680 *(£234,078 2016/17)*, £61,445 *(£107,928 2016/17)*, Training Restaurant, £78,139 *(£97,963 2016/17)* Salon, £224,952 *(£185,698 2016/17)* Bus Passes and £217,952 *(£220,153 2016/17)* Student visits and trips.

5 Investment income	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Bank interest receivable	3	3
Total	**3**	**3**

6 Staff costs

The average number of persons (including key management personnel) employed by the College during the year, described as full-time equivalents, was:

	2018	2017
	No.	No.
Teaching staff	151	150
Non-teaching staff	233	223
	384	**373**

Staff costs for the above persons

	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Wages and salaries	11,664	10,783
Social security costs	1,038	999
Other pension costs	2,522	2,214
Payroll sub total	**15,224**	**13,995**
Contracted out staffing services	413	713
Restructuring - Non contractual	29	81
Total Staff costs	**15,666**	**14,789**

Relevant union officials

During the year ending 31 March 2018 there were 4 employees who were relevant union officials, representing 3.075 full-time equivalents. All 4 employees granted paid facility time spend between 1-50% of their working hours on facility time.

During the period April 2017 to March 2018 the total cost of facility time provided was £16,384 and total pay costs (excluding FRS102 Defined Benefit Pension costs) were £14.7m. During the period April 2017 to March 2018 0.11% of total payroll costs was spent on trade union activities. The percentage of total paid facility time spent on paid trade union activities was 18.07%.

Key management personnel

Key management personnel are those persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the College and are represented by the College Leadership Team which comprises the Principal, Finance Director, vice- principals and Director of A Level Studies.

Emoluments of Key management personnel, Accounting Officer and other higher paid staff

	2018	2017
	No.	No.
The number of key management personnel including the Accounting Officer was:	7.0	9.0

The number of key management personnel and other staff who received annual emoluments, excluding pension contributions but including benefits in kind, in the following ranges was:

	Key management personnel	
	2018	2017
	No.	No.
£60,001 to £70,000 p.a.	-	-
£70,001 to £80,000 p.a.	2.0	4.0
£80,001 to £90,000 p.a.	4.0	2.0
£90,001 to £100,000 p.a.	-	1.0
£100,001 to £110,000 p.a.	-	-
£110,001 to £120,000 p.a.	-	-
£120,001 to £130,000 p.a.	-	-
£130,001 to £140,000 p.a.	-	-
£140,001 to £150,000 p.a.	1.0	2.0
	7.0	**9.0**

No individuals other than key management personnel received annual emoluments of more than £60,000.

Key management personnel compensation is made up as follows:

	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Salaries - gross of salary sacrifice and waived emoluments	614	606
Employers National Insurance	77	74
Benefits in kind	-	15
	691	**695**
Pension contributions	97	79
Total key management personnel compensation	788	774

The amounts payable to the Accounting Officers (who are also the highest paid officers) during the year are made up as follows:

L Surgeon (August 2016 – April 2017)	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Salaries	-	101
Benefits in kind	-	7
	-	108
Pension contributions	-	-

J Staniforth (April 2017 – to date)	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Salaries	146	42
Benefits in kind	-	8
	146	50
Pension contributions	24	7

Aggregated (2016-2017)	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Salaries	146	151
Benefits in kind	-	15
	146	166
Pension contributions	24	8

7 Other operating expenses

	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Teaching costs	1,913	1,689
Non-teaching costs	2,726	2,572
Premises costs	1,157	1,241
Total	**5,796**	**5,502**

Other operating expenses include:	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Auditors' remuneration:		
Financial statements audit	29	29
Internal audit	13	20
Hire of assets under operating leases	78	76

8 Interest and other finance costs

	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
On bank loans, overdrafts and other loans:	97	70
Pension finance costs (note 20)	339	365
Total	**436**	**435**

9 Tangible Fixed Assets

	Freehold Land and buildings	Assets under Construction	Equipment	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Cost or valuation				
At 1 August 2017	34,300	56	4,768	39,124
Additions	309	175	780	1,264
Transfers	11	(56)	45	-
Disposals	(329)	-	(1,516)	(1,845)
At 31 July 2018	**34,291**	**175**	**4,077**	**38,543**
Depreciation				
At 1 August 2017	10,221	-	3,190	13,411
Charge for the year	1,044	-	659	1,703
Elimination in respect of disposals	(329)	-	(1,516)	(1,845)
At 31 July 2018	**10,936**	-	**2,333**	**13,269**
Net book value at 31 July 2018	**23,355**	**175**	**1,744**	**25,274**
Net book value at 31 July 2017	24,079	56	1,578	25,713

Land and buildings were valued for the purpose of the 1994 financial statements at depreciated replacement cost by a firm of independent chartered surveyors, in accordance with the RICS Statement of Asset Valuation Practice and Guidance notes. Other tangible fixed assets inherited from the local education authority at incorporation have been valued by the Corporation on a depreciated replacement cost basis with the assistance of independent professional advice.

Land and buildings with a net book value of £23,400,000 (2017: £24,079,000) have been partly financed from exchequer funds through, for example, the receipt of capital grants. Should these assets be sold, the College may be liable, under the terms of its financial memorandum, to surrender the proceeds.

If inherited land and buildings had not been valued, they would have been included at nil value being the historical cost amount.

In the table above £1,845k was been included for disposals at cost and also for cumulative depreciation for the same assets. These amounts represent and adjustment made for fixed assets carrying a zero net book value at the point merger that were not recorded on the new asset register.

10 Debtors

	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Trade debtors	162	126
Grant debtors	676	289
Other debtors	37	3
Prepayments and accrued income	261	197
Total	**1,136**	**615**

11 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Loans and overdrafts	267	267
Payments received on account	352	337
Trade payables	529	660
Other taxation and social security	512	353
Accruals and deferred income	940	416
Holiday pay accrual	199	199
Deferred income - government capital grants	470	447
Total	**3,269**	**2,677**

Creditors falling due within one year includes amounts due in respect pf purchases of Fixed Assets £152,292 (2017: £132,906). £78,942 (2017: £128,860) of this is included in trade creditors and £73,350 (2017: £4,046) is included in accruals.

12 Creditors: amounts falling due after one year

	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Loans	2,800	3,067
Deferred income – government capital grants	6,932	7,202
Total	**9,732**	**10,268**

13 Maturity of debt

(a) Bank loans and overdrafts

Bank loans and overdrafts are repayable as follows:

	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
In one year or less	267	267
Between one and two years	267	267
Between two and five years	800	800
In five years or more	1,733	2,000
Total	**3,067**	**3,334**

The bank loan secured on the London Road Campus bears interest at 1.95% above base rate and is repayable by instalments falling due between February 2015 and January 2030.

14 Provisions for liabilities and charges

	Defined benefit obligations	Restructuring	Enhanced pensions	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
At 1 August 2017	12,577	-	1,501	14,078
Expenditure in the period (note 19)	(852)	-	(126)	(978)
Additions in period	(1,281)	-	35	(1,246)
Enhanced Pension provision revaluation	-	-	21	21
At 31 July 2018	**10,444**	**-**	**1,431**	**11,875**

Defined benefit obligations relate to the liabilities under the College's membership of the Local Government pension Scheme. Further details are given in Note 19.

The enhanced pension provision relates to the cost of staff who have already left the College's employ and commitments for reorganisation costs from which the College cannot reasonably withdraw at the balance sheet date. This provision has been recalculated in accordance with guidance issued by the funding bodies.

The principal assumptions for this calculation are:

	2018	2017
Price inflation	1.3%	1.3%
Discount rate	2.3%	2.3%

15 Cash and cash equivalents

	At 1 August 2017	Cash flows	Other changes	At 31 July 2018
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Cash and cash equivalents	2,128	150	-	2,278
Overdrafts	-	-	-	-
Total	**2,128**	**150**	**-**	**2,278**

16 Capital and other commitments

	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Commitments contracted for at 31 July	1,003	117
Commitments authorised but not contracted for at 31 July	311	69

17 Lease obligations

At 31 July the College had minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Future minimum lease payments due		
Not later than one year	60	61
Later than one year and not later than five years	3	61
Later than five years	-	-
	63	122

18 Unrestricted Reserves

	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Income and expenditure account excluding pension liability	9,037	8,565
Defined benefit obligations	(10,444)	(12,577)
Unfunded benefit obligations	(1,431)	(1,501)
Revaluation reserve	6,653	6,949
	3,815	1,436

19 Defined benefit obligations

The College's employees belong to two principal post-employment benefit plans: the Teachers' Pension Scheme England and Wales (TPS) for academic and related staff; and the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) for non-teaching staff, which is managed by Shropshire Council. Both are multi-employer defined-benefit plans.

Total pension cost for the year		**2018**		**2017**
		£000		**£000**
Teachers' Pension Scheme: contributions paid		1,052		968
Local Government Pension Scheme:				
Contributions paid	852		809	
FRS 102 (28) charge	619		437	
Charge to Statement of Comprehensive Income		1,471		1,246
Enhanced pension charge to Statement of Comprehensive Income		127		125
Total Pension Cost for Year within staff costs		**2,650**		**2,339**

The pension costs are assessed in accordance with the advice of independent qualified actuaries. The latest formal actuarial valuation of the TPS was 31 March 2012 and of the LGPS 31 March 2016.

There were no outstanding or prepaid contributions at either the beginning or the end of the financial year.

Teachers' Pension Scheme

The Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS) is a statutory, contributory, defined benefit scheme, governed by the Teachers' Pension Scheme Regulations 2014. These regulations apply to teachers in schools and other educational establishments, including colleges. Membership is automatic for teachers and lecturers at eligible institutions. Teachers and lecturers are able to opt out of the TPS.

The Teachers' Pension Budgeting and Valuation Account

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and members contribute on a 'pay as you go' basis – these contributions, along with those made by employers, are credited to the Exchequer under arrangements governed by the above Act. Retirement and other pension benefits are paid by public funds provided by Parliament.

Under the definitions set out in FRS 102 (28.11), the TPS is a multi-employer pension plan. The College is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the plan.

Accordingly, the College has taken advantage of the exemption in FRS 102 and has accounted for its contributions to the scheme as if it were a defined-contribution plan. The College has set out above the information available on the plan and the implications for the College in terms of the anticipated contribution rates.

The valuation of the TPS is carried out in line with regulations made under the Public Service Pension Act 2013. Valuations credit the teachers' pension account with a real rate of return assuming funds are invested in notional investments that produce that real rate of return.

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

The latest actuarial review of the TPS was carried out as at 31 March 2012. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education (the Department) on 9 June 2014. The key results of the valuation are:

- New employer contribution rates were set at 16.48% of pensionable pay (including administration fees of 0.08%);
- total scheme liabilities for service to the effective date of £191.5 billion, and notional assets of £176.6 billion, giving a notional past service deficit of £14.9 billion;
- an employer cost cap of 10.9% of pensionable pay.
- the assumed real rate of return is 3.0% in excess of prices and 2% in excess of earnings. The rate of real earnings growth is assumed to be 2.75%. The assumed nominal rate of return is 5.06%.

The new employer contribution rate for the TPS was implemented in September 2015. The next valuation of the TPS is currently underway based on April 2016 data, whereupon the employer contribution rate is expected to be reassessed and will be payable at some point in 2019.

A full copy of the valuation report and supporting documentation can be found on the Teachers' Pension Scheme website.

The pension costs paid to TPS in the year amounted to £1,052,000 (2016: £968,000)

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined-benefit plan, with the assets held in separate funds administered by Shropshire Council Local Authority. The total contributions made for the year ended 31 July 2018 were £1,131,000, of which employer's contributions totalled £852,000 and employees' contributions totalled £279,000. The agreed contribution rates for future years are 14.5% plus £203,000 for employers and range from 5.5% to 7.5% for employees, depending on salary.

Principal Actuarial Assumptions

The following information is based upon a full actuarial valuation of the fund at 31 March 2016 updated to 31 July 2017 by a qualified independent actuary.

	At 31 July 2018	At 31 July 2017
Rate of increase in salaries	3.7%	3.7%
Future pensions increases	2.3%	2.2%
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	2.9%	2.5%
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.2%	2.2%

The current mortality assumptions include sufficient allowance for future improvements in mortality rates. The assumed life expectations on retirement age 65 are:

	At 31 July 2018 years	At 31 July 2017 years
Retiring today		
Males	23.1	23.0
Females	26.3	26.2
Retiring in 20 years		
Males	25.3	25.2
Females	28.6	28.5

The College's share of the assets in the plan at the balance sheet date and the expected rates of return were:

	Long-term rate of return expected at 31 July 2018	**Fair Value at 31 July 2018 £'000**	**Long-term rate of return expected at 31 July 2017**	**Fair Value at 31 July 2017 £'000**
Equity instruments	50.8%	14,370	51.2%	13,392
Bonds - Other	22.3%	6,309	23.5%	6,147
Property	5.0%	1,415	4.8%	1,256
Cash	2.4%	679	4.7%	1,229
Other	19.5%	5,517	15.8%	4,133
Total fair value of plan assets		**28,290**		**26,157**
Weighted average expected long term rate of return		**4.6%**		**12.2%**
Actual return on plan assets		**1,288**		**3,182**

The amount included in the balance sheet in respect of the defined benefit pension plan and enhanced pensions benefits is as follows:

	2018 £'000	**2017 £'000**
Fair value of plan assets	28,290	26,157
Present value of plan liabilities	(38,734)	(38,734)
Present value of unfunded liabilities	(1,431)	(1,501)
Net pensions (liability)/asset (Note 19)	**(11,875)**	**(14,078)**

Amounts recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income in respect of the plan are as follows:

	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Amounts included in staff costs		
Current service cost	1,444	1,220
Past service cost	-	-
Total	**1,444**	**1,220**
Amounts included in interest expenditure		
Net interest expenditure	304	241

Amount recognised in Other Comprehensive Income

Return on pension plan assets	623	2,757
Experience losses arising on defined benefit obligations	-	222
Changes in assumptions underlying the present value of plan liabilities	2,433	(1,393)
Amount recognised in Other Comprehensive Income	**3,056**	**1,586**

Movement in net defined benefit liability during year

	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Net defined benefit liability in scheme at 1 August	(12,577)	(13,401)
Movement in year:		
Current service cost	(1,444)	(1,220)
Employer contributions	852	808
Curtailments	-	-
Administration expenses	(27)	(25)
Net interest on the defined liability	(304)	(325)
Actuarial gain	3,056	1,586
Net defined benefit liability at 31 July	**(10,444)**	**(12,577)**

Asset and Liability Reconciliation

	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations		
Defined benefit obligations at start of period	38,734	35,846
Current service cost	1,444	1,220
Interest cost	969	891
Contributions by Scheme participants	278	264
Experience gains and losses on defined benefit obligations	-	(222)
Changes in financial assumptions	(2,433)	1,393
Estimated benefits paid	(258)	(658)
Past Service cost	-	-
Curtailments and settlements	-	-
Defined benefit obligations at end of period	**38,734**	**38,734**

Changes in fair value of plan assets

Fair value of plan assets at start of period	26,157	22,445
Interest on plan assets	665	566
Return on plan assets	623	2,757
Administration expenses	(27)	(25)
Employer contributions	852	808
Contributions by Scheme participants	278	264
Estimated benefits paid	(258)	(658)
Fair value of plan assets at end of period	**28,290**	**26,157**

20 Related party transactions

Owing to the nature of the College's operations and the composition of the board of governors being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, it possible that transactions will take place with organisations in which a member of the board of governors may have an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted at arm's length and in accordance with the College's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures. During the year ended 31 July 2018 there have been no related party transactions.

No Governor has received any remuneration or waived payments from the College during the year (2017: None).

21 Amounts disbursed as agent

Learner support funds

	2018	**2017**
	£'000	**£'000**
Balance at 1st August	72	86
Transfers from ESFA Creditors	91	18
Funding body grants – hardship & childcare support	455	539
Amount reclaimed from previous year	(16)	-
	602	643
Disbursed to students	(529)	(548)
Administration costs	(25)	(23)
As at 31 July	48	72

Funding body grants are available solely for students. In the majority of instances, the College only acts as a paying agent. In these circumstances, the grants and related disbursements are therefore excluded from the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

22 Post balance sheet events

The College is awaiting guidance regarding any implications of recent legal cases relating to Guaranteed Minimum Pensions and any related impact on disclosed pension scheme liabilities. At this point, the College is unable to quantify the extent, if any, of adjustments to be made to pension figures included in these financial statements