

**Interim Report 2013 – 2014 to Scottish Funding Council**

**1 Introduction**

SWAP receives funding from SFC for the period 2013 – 2016. The purpose of the funding is to continue the work SWAP is delivering in widening participation for adults, particularly those residing in the most disadvantaged communities in Scotland. The funding is also used to ensure a consistency of approach across Scotland in the opportunities provided for adult students.

This report advises on the success of SWAP students in the academic year 2013 – 2014.

A financial report for 2013 - 2014 is contained in Appendix A

**2 Targets**

These targets relate to the basket of measures that reflected the strategic over view of the Access and Inclusion Committee of SFC.

**Recruitment and progression of SWAP students:**

Target: Maintain student enrolments at 1400 students

Numbers enrolled were 1339.

This was a drop from 1376 in previous year. As we had intimated through the year, it has been a volatile position over the past 2 years both in terms of provision of the programme and recruitment. While the headline figure looks similar, we have seen significant changes with regionalisation. This has brought opportunities for growth in some areas and for rationalisation in others. While we will dig a bit deeper in terms of regional stats, for purposes of SWAP outcomes we still think the figure of 1400 is a proportionate one for delivery of access programmes. Next year is likely to see a figure back closer to 1400 but we would stress it is likely to remain volatile for the next few years. For example the curriculum strategy in Glasgow will see changes over a 3 year period, in the region with the most enrolments. In terms of progression from the programmes, outcomes remained fairly stable and there is confidence these will continue.

The MD20 figures in terms of progression have remained stable and it is pleasing that these remain in line with enrolments. Need to look at increasing the MD20 figures again though the wider basket of widening participation measures reflects a healthier position.

From the final number, students progressed as follows:

University: 746 (752)

HNC / College (other) 183 (161)

Employment 22 (18)

Completed (unknown) 36 (27)

Total 987 (952) 74% (72%)

**Recruitment and progression of SIMD MD20 students:**

Target: MD20 enrolment at 490 students (35%). Increase successful completion to similar % as other students.

2013: MD20 enrolment: 469 enrolled (34%)

MD20 completion: 343 completed ((34%).

2014: MD20 enrolment: 435 enrolled (33%)

MD20 completion: 316 completed (33%)

While completion rates are now similar to enrolment rates, there is still a bit of work to be done here. Particularly important where new tutors or curriculum leaders have joined the programme.

**Other Targets**

**No qualifications at SCQF level 6**

**Target - 1120**

2014: 1027 (1035) enrolled 77% (75%),

**No family experience of HE**

**Target - 770**

2014: 1039 (970) enrolled

**Disability**

**Target - 168**

2014: 154 enrolled. Again for the second year students who declared a disability have done better than % of other students who progressed. There has been some discussion about looking at this figure again as a number of SWAP students only become aware of their disability when they are on the programme e.g. dyslexia. So students who know early do well, can we do something with students who find out while on the programme?

**Gender**

Target 70:30 ratio

2014: 72: 28 remains the same as previous year. Did see an increase in % of women SWAP candidates completing.

Ethnicity – as agreed we are going to look at this across regional and ascertain % differences in terms of the above w.p. indicators.

1. **Curriculum Issues**

We have worked with Colleges in terms of how our curriculum framework will work alongside new national units for Curriculum for Excellence. While some Colleges have started blending some of the new National 5 units in to the programme, Glasgow Kelvin science have taken the opportunity to provide a full programme of CfE units. We agreed to use this programme as a pilot and then monitor for success. The pilot will provide feedback for the national frameworks for curriculum provision with a view to considering issues for academic years 2015 – 2017.

In respect of the volatility issues in recruitment highlighted in the earlier statistical part of the report. SWAP has worked with our College partners, to re-instate programmes in Science at Edinburgh College, Primary Education in Kilwinning and Humanities at New College Lanarkshire and to develop new programmes in Celtic studies at Newbattle Abbey, Science at Glasgow Clyde (Langside) and West College Scotland (Clydebank). It is still anticipated that there will be further rationalisation of curriculum areas and we will work with our College programmes to consider how they can be aligned in terms of regional outcome agreements.

**4. Working with college regions**

We continue to work closely with the new College regions. As part of that process, SWAP completed an internal review to consider our governance, staffing levels, cost effectiveness, student and community engagement. The results of the review are being put in place this academic year. They will see SWAP taking a more high profile role, as well as considering how we can contribute towards community engagement and develop our work utilising students.

**Annex A – Financial Report**

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| **Income** | £175,000 |

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| **Expenditure** | **Total to Date** |
| Salaries / Staff Costs | 151269 |
| Travel | 1569 |
| Email, Phone | 955 |
| Photocopy, Stationery, Printing | 4317 |
| Computing Equipment, Software, Development | 7388 |
| Marketing, Promotion | 4104 |
| Governance | 1500 |
| Other Costs\* | 3898 |
| **TOTAL** | **£175,000** |

\*other costs included figures for the SWAP conference in November 2014