



 Scotland's Colleges

Moving Forward 2010

About Us

Scotland's Colleges exists to support, represent and promote Scotland's college sector.

Through our work we:

- seek to prepare and assist the sector deliver its vital contribution to the economic and social needs of Scotland
- serve the ambitions of Scotland's learners and the demands of Scotland's employers
- enhance the sector's national and international reputation.

Moving Forward



Scotland's Colleges is building on our traditions and creating new ones. We are creating an organisation which will better engage with colleges and their staff to identify needs and priorities; an organisation which will respond with services to meet these needs and an organisation which is prepared to lead. We are building an organisation that is committed to exceeding the expectations of a dynamic college sector.

Our strategic plan identifies sector outcomes which are the ultimate consequence of our activities. Scotland's Colleges has made clear the contribution we intend to ensure the achievement of these outcomes. The strategic plan sets out our commitments and our intention to be excellent. A key feature of the plan is our commitment to working with

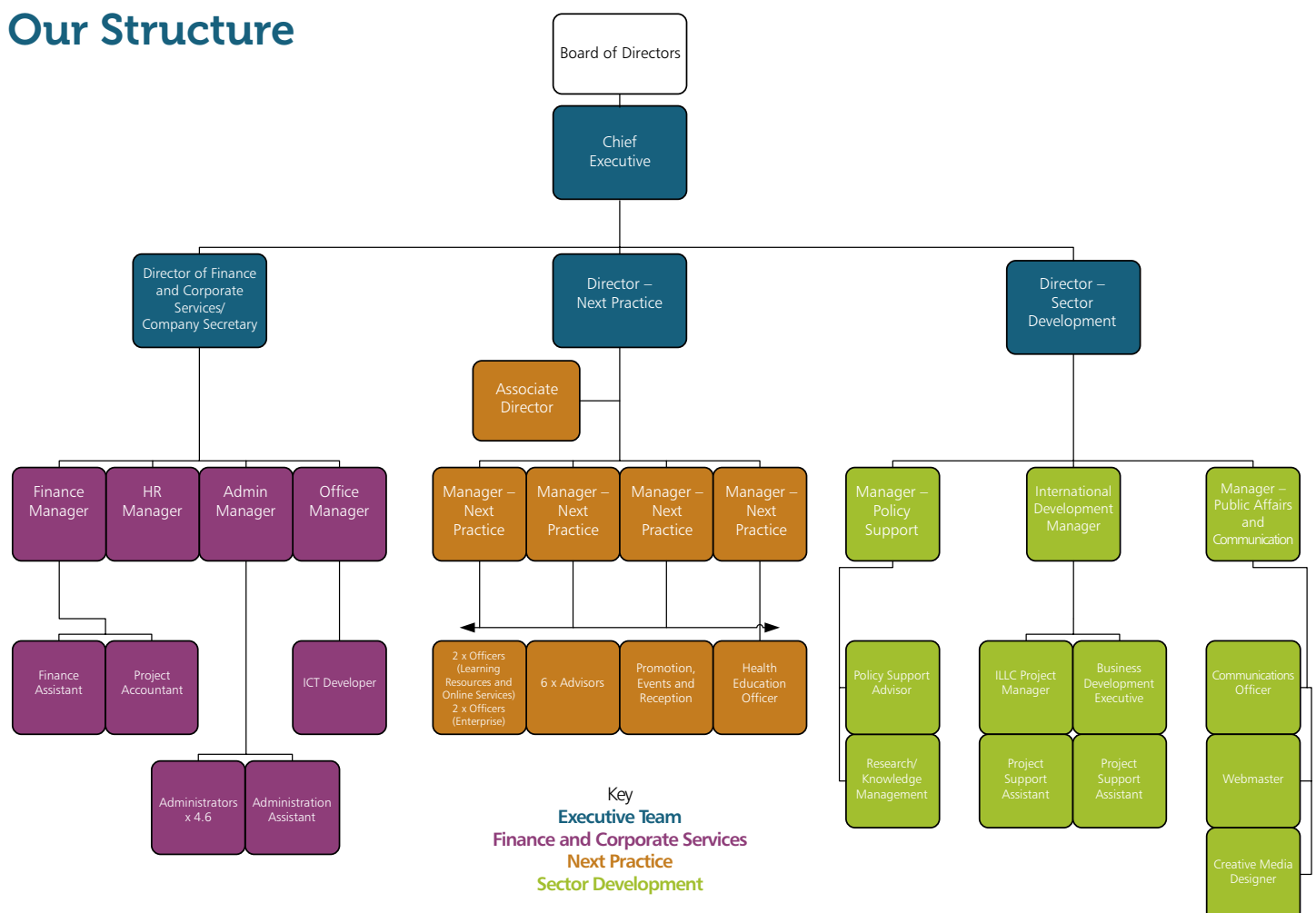
partners. We will build sustainable partnerships with those organisations who share our purpose and values.

Collectively, our staff have years of experience working in colleges. We share college values of flexibility, responsiveness and high quality delivery; we provide secondment opportunities for college staff which help us ensure continued relevance and bring us fresh insights; Scotland's Colleges looks forward to building further mechanisms for college staff to influence our activity. We do things because colleges have told us what is important and what works for them.

We are owned by all colleges in Scotland; we exist for the sector and we are of the sector. That is what our name says – Scotland's Colleges.

Ray Harris
Chief Executive, Scotland's Colleges

Our Structure



Sector Development

Sector Development promotes and sustains the sector's position as a vital component of Scotland's learning system by developing national and international representation and a knowledge base of relevant research to inform sector perspectives, national policy and college practice.

We do this by:

- Informing and advising politicians, senior government officials and other key audiences about the work of colleges
- Stimulating debate and contributing to strategy formulation
- Supporting the Principals' Convention and Chairs' Congress to influence policy development
- Providing a single source of authoritative information and intelligence about the college sector in Scotland
- Undertaking environmental scanning, delivering briefing papers and maintaining expertise on relevant, current and emerging issues which may impact colleges and the sector
- Strengthening our international perspectives to reinforce the global reputation of our colleges, to benchmark sector activities and to identify developmental opportunities for colleges internationally.

Next Practice

Next Practice supports creative and innovative practices in learning, teaching and curriculum, enabling colleges to ensure that learners are successful in learning, life and work.

We do this by:

- Delivering national and regional events, workshops and seminars covering all aspects of learning, teaching and the curriculum to support the professional development of college staff
- Supporting the sector to address and implement national initiatives such as Curriculum for Excellence and Knowledge Transfer
- Producing innovative learning materials and e-learning tools
- Providing bespoke consultancy services and tailored professional learning experiences for colleges
- Providing information, guidance and support to enable next practice developments
- Providing a support programme for college governors, leaders and managers
- Facilitating a subject-based network for college practitioners
- Facilitating a Community of Practice programme for college support staff.

Finance and Corporate Services

Finance and Corporate Services supports the organisation in delivering its vital contribution to the sector.

We do this by:

- Managing the organisation's financial performance and contributing to securing sustainable funding streams which provide continued financial stability and enable the planning of activities to meet the future needs of the sector
- Delivering operational efficiencies while protecting member services and maintaining the quality of our products and services
- Ensuring that the governance and executive arrangements are effectively supporting the business
- Providing HR services which drive the organisation forward and ensure we deliver effective and efficient services to the sector
- Providing ICT solutions and development to enhance internal operations and the organisation's interaction with colleges
- Providing administrative support and ensuring that administrative processes best support the work of the organisation
- Supporting the continuous improvement of procedures and systems to positively impact on the business of *Scotland's Colleges*.

From Purpose to Action

Our activities are extensive and diverse – just like the colleges we serve. These are some of the activities that demonstrate how *Scotland's Colleges* puts purpose into action:

Our support includes:

- Providing a comprehensive series of activities working with policy makers, senior college staff and practitioners to make Curriculum for Excellence a reality
- Working with college staff through Communities of Practice and Subject Networks to help them take their practice forward
- Publication of briefing papers, case studies of practice and learning resources which inform and enhance.

Our representation includes:

- Provision of support to both the Chairs' Congress and Principals' Convention in their work in taking the sector forward
- Informing partners in the learning system of the work of colleges and building common, collective approaches
- Contributing to the work of qualifications bodies and others as they work to ensure learners gain recognition of their achievements.

Our promotion includes:

- Exploring international markets for opportunities and supporting our colleges who wish to take advantage of these opportunities
- Engaging with leaders of Scotland's business community to ensure they are fully aware of the work of colleges and partnership possibilities
- Securing an evidence base of issues relevant to colleges which informs policy positions and practice.

Our Members

Aberdeen College
Adam Smith College
Angus College
Annie'sland College
Ayr College
Banff and Buchan College
Barony College
Borders College
Cardonald College
Carnegie College
Central College Glasgow
Clydebank College
Coatbridge College
Cumbernauld College
Dumfries and Galloway College
Dundee College
Edinburgh's Telford College
Elmwood College
Forth Valley College
Glasgow College of Nautical Studies
Glasgow Metropolitan College
Inverness College
James Watt College
Jewel & Esk College
John Wheatley College
Kilmarnock College
Langside College
Lews Castle College
Moray College
Motherwell College
Newbattle Abbey College
North Glasgow College
North Highland College
Oatridge College
Orkney College
Perth College
Reid Kerr College
Sabhal Mòr Ostaig
Shetland College
South Lanarkshire College
Stevenson College Edinburgh
Stow College
West Lothian College



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