

FROM THE MINISTER



Department for
**Employment
and Learning**
www.delni.gov.uk

**Ms Claire Sugden, MLA
Northern Ireland Assembly
Parliament Buildings
Ballymiscaw
Stormont
Belfast
BT4 3XX**

Adelaide House
39/49 Adelaide Street
Belfast
BT2 8FD
Tel: 028 9025 7791
email: private.office@delni.gov.uk

3 October 2014

AQW 36452/11-15

Ms Sugden has asked:

To ask the Minister for Employment and Learning for a numerical breakdown, by i) gender; ii) age; iii) disability; and iv) ethnicity, of the Governing Bodies of each Further Education College, including the College of Agriculture, Food and Rural Enterprise.

ANSWER

As part of my Department's commitment to equality of opportunity, membership of the Governing Bodies of the six further education colleges is monitored in line with the requirements of Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998.

However, Governing Body members are not compelled to provide this information and do so on a voluntary basis. As such, my Department only holds incomplete records in relation to the information requested. The table at Annex A outlines the information held on each further education college Governing Body at 30th September 2014.

Responsibility for oversight of the College of Agriculture, Food and Rural Enterprise (CAFRE) belongs to the Department for Agriculture and Rural Development. The Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development has advised me that CAFRE does not have a Governing Body.

Governance is provided within the structure of the Department. A College Advisory Group exists to provide advice at a strategic and operational level to the College Director and College Management Team. This group comprises representatives from external stakeholder groups across a number of sectors which are relevant to the work of the College. DARD does not hold Equality Monitoring information about this group; however the gender breakdown is two females and eleven males.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Stephen Farry".

DR STEPHEN FARRY MLA

Minister for Employment and Learning

Annex A

COLLEGE	CURRENT NUMBER OF GOVERNORS	GENDER	AGE							DISABILITY			RACE			
			30-39		40-49	50-59	OVER 60	NOT KNOWN	YES	NO	NOT KNOWN	CAUCASIAN	OTHER	NOT KNOWN		
			UNDER 30													
Belfast Metropolitan College	18	MALE	13	0	1	1	4	5	2	0	13	0	13	0	0	
		FEMALE	5	1	0	1	3	0	0	0	5	0	5	0	0	
		TOTAL	18	1	1	2	7	5	2	0	18	0	18	0	0	
Northern Regional College	17	MALE	11	1	0	2	2	3	3	0	11	0	11	0	0	
		FEMALE	6	0	0	4	0	1	1	0	6	0	5	1	0	
		TOTAL	17	1	0	6	2	4	4	0	17	0	16	1	0	
North West Regional College	15	MALE	11	0	1	1	3	2	4	0	11	0	11	0	0	
		FEMALE	4	0	0	2	0	1	1	0	3	1	4	0	0	
		TOTAL	15	0	1	3	3	3	5	0	14	1	15	0	0	
South Eastern Regional College	16	MALE	12	1	0	2	3	3	3	0	12	0	12	0	0	
		FEMALE	4	0	0	1	1	0	2	0	3	1	4	0	0	
		TOTAL	16	1	0	3	4	3	5	0	15	1	16	0	0	
Southern Regional College	18	MALE	11	1	3	0	5	2	0	11	0	11	0	0		
		FEMALE	7	0	1	2	0	2	2	0	7	0	7	0	0	
		TOTAL	18	1	4	2	5	4	2	0	18	0	18	0	0	

COLLEGE	CURRENT NUMBER OF GOVERNORS	GENDER	AGE							DISABILITY			RACE			
			30-39		40-49		50-59		OVER 60	NOT KNOWN	YES	NO	NOT KNOWN	CAUCASIAN	OTHER	NOT KNOWN
			UNDER 30	30-39	40-49	50-59	OVER 60	NOT KNOWN	YES	NO	NOT KNOWN	CAUCASIAN	OTHER	NOT KNOWN		
South West College	18	MALE	0	0	2	3	5	4	0	13	1	13	0	1		
		FEMALE	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	4	0	4	0	0		
		TOTAL	0	0	3	4	6	5	0	17	1	17	0	1		
OVERALL TOTAL	102	MALE	3	5	8	20	20	16	0	71	1	71	0	1		
		FEMALE	1	1	11	5	5	7	0	28	2	29	1	0		
		TOTAL	4	6	19	25	25	23	0	99	3	100	1	1		