Annex 2– Learning and Teaching Strategy (draft)

Effective and Sustainable Tertiary Education, Research and Training in Shetland – Full Business Case
Workstream – Curriculum / Mike Devenney November 2018
Output – Learning and Teaching Strategy

Context
Learning and Teaching will be one of the core and key functions of the merged college.

Vision
To provide learning and teaching of the highest quality within an educational environment that is fully inclusive and highly supportive.

Purpose of Learning and Teaching Strategy
It is the primary purpose of this strategy to ensure that everything that can be done to bring about high quality learning and teaching for all of the college's learners is undertaken and that sufficient and sustained effort is made to maximise the success of our learners and their future prospects. What follows are sets of strategic objectives designed to realise this core purpose.

1. Curriculum Design and Assessment
- Deliver a range of educational and training opportunities to meet the needs of individuals, communities and employers throughout Shetland
- Provide a fully accessible and inclusive curriculum providing opportunities for success and progression for all learners, with a sensitive approach being taken to learners with protected characteristics
- Strengthen engagement with, and contribution to, the University of the Highlands and Islands, thereby increasing the range of UHI courses available to learners in Shetland
- Take maximum advantage of the sharing of learning and teaching development and delivery opportunities offered by the UHI partnership

2. Achieving Excellence in Learning and Teaching
- Deliver innovative, effective and engaging teaching which enables and supports effective learning
- Reflective practice will be expected of all individual members of lecturing staff and teams Arrangements will be put in place to ensure annual evaluation of the quality of learning and teaching
- Promotion and sharing of excellence and innovation in learning and teaching practice will be undertaken routinely
- A programme of improvement/development will be implemented to support identified areas of learning and teaching
- Newly appointed lecturing staff will be encouraged to take up the support opportunities provided by the UHI Learning and Teaching Enhancement Mentoring Strand Experienced

lecturing staff will be encouraged to become mentors within the UHI Learning and Teaching Enhancement Mentoring Strand.

3. Achieve High Levels of Learner Success and Progression into Positive Destinations
- Generate a high expectation culture for learners which enables and supports effective learning
- Ambitious targets for learner success and positive destinations will be set annually
- Target setting will include students in specific groups and those with protected characteristics
- Monitoring of targets will be undertaken at regular intervals throughout the academic year

4. Learner Pathways and Opportunities for Progression
- Suitable entry and exit points will be provided in order to meet learner needs and aspirations
- Learner pathways will be developed providing a high level of opportunities for learner progression and fulfilment

5. Developing Skills for Learning, Work and Life
- A range of employability skills will be developed for all learners to support success and progression
- Opportunities for access to work experience will be provided for learners to support achievement and progression
- A range of professional development opportunities will be developed to support local businesses in developing their workforce

6. Hearing and Listening to the Learner Voice
- The views of learners will be ensured in relation to their learning and will be sought at regular intervals throughout the academic year
- The views of learners will be acted upon quickly and positively as required

7. Developing Creative, Enterprising and Digitally Literate Learners

- Access to the widest range of technology enhanced learning opportunities will be provided

8. Support for Learning
- Inclusivity in teaching practice will be supported
- Provision for appropriate, targeted support for learners who require it will be provided
- Learners having access to a range of employability skills to support their success and progress will be ensured
- Learning environments that are both positive and respectful for all learners will be created.