

## **Public Audit Committee**

### **2013/14 audit of Coatbridge College: Governance of severance arrangements**

#### **Submission from John Doyle**

Dear Mr Martin

Thank you for your email requesting that I should submit evidence to refute the allegations made by Ms Gardener, Auditor General, to your Committee. In her statement she asserts that I, amongst other things, withheld information, acted outwith my remit and colluded with John Gray, Chair of the Board of Management. She also states that she had difficulty obtaining information and thus based her findings on limited evidence.

I am now advised by my legal representative that I may be in breach of my compromise agreement with my previous employer, now New College Lanarkshire (NCL), if I speak to this subject. I would therefore respectfully ask that you seek written assurances from NCL that if called before your Committee I may be able to speak freely.

I would like to take the opportunity to signpost you to where some of the evidence exists that will provide you and the committee with the facts:

- Lanarkshire Federation Voluntary Severance Scheme, November 2012. Regional Lead Mrs L. McTavish Minutes and Action Plan.
- DWF Biggart and Bailey, Solicitors (Coatbridge College's legal representatives), report to Coatbridge College Board of Management on the approach, processes, and documentation on all aspects of the Principal and Senior Management Team's voluntary severance arrangement.
- Minutes of the Remuneration Committee of January and October 2013.
- Minutes of the full Board of Management, with Laurence Howells in attendance, October 2013.
- My contract of employment with Coatbridge College regarding payments in lieu of notice.

I deeply regret that I am unable to furnish the Committee directly with this information but do hope that you will take the time to seek out this information and allow the facts to be known and my good name to be cleared.

Yours sincerely

John Doyle