

Committee(s):	Date(s):
Board of Governors of the Guildhall School of Music & Drama	3 July 2017
Subject: Assurances: (i) the promotion of equality and diversity and (ii) academic quality and standards	
Report of: Principal	Public
Report authors: Academic Registrar, Head of HR (local), Quality Assurance Officer	For information

Summary

Under The Higher Education Code of Governance the governing body is required, amongst other things:

- (i) to promote equality and diversity throughout the institution, including in relation to its own operation
- (ii) to receive assurance that academic governance is effective. This sits alongside the annual academic assurances required by HEFCE each December.

The promotion of equality and diversity

A revised Equality & Diversity scheme and action plan was developed and approved by the School during 2015/16. Under the *Code of Governance* (6.4) the governing body **must** “satisfy itself that agreed action plans to implement the equality and diversity strategy are progressed throughout the institution.” Presented to the Board is an update on progress in respect of this action plan.

Academic quality and standards

In November 2016, the Board considered the Academic Board’s annual report for 2015/16 and associated action plan. The action plan forms a key part of the evidence informing the annual assurance relating to the continuous improvement of the student academic experience and student outcomes. This interim report shows the progress to date. A final update on the action plan will be referenced in the 2016/17 Academic Board annual report.

Recommendation: the Board is asked to receive these reports for information and consider whether the updates to the action plans provide sufficient evidence for the Board to be assured about its responsibilities.