

## **THE ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF GOVERNORS**

### **The Corporation**

The principal powers of a further education corporation are to provide further and higher education and supply goods or services in connection with the provision of education. The corporation also has supplementary powers relating to the exercise of its principal powers, for example, the power to acquire and dispose of land and other property, enter into contracts and to borrow and invest money.

### **Responsibilities of the Corporation and the Role of Governor**

The responsibilities of the corporation are set out in the Instrument and Articles of Government. Individual governors contribute their professional and specialist expertise and general management skills to the work of the corporation (and its standing committees and working parties) in a non-executive role.

The primary duties of governors are to:

- Determine the educational character and mission of the institution and to oversee its activities
- Make effective and efficient use of resources, to ensure the solvency of the institution and the corporation and to safeguard their assets
- Approve annual estimates of income and expenditure
- Be responsible for the appointment, grading, suspension, dismissal and determination of the pay and conditions of service of the holders of senior posts and the clerk
- Set a framework for the pay and conditions of service of all other staff

The Articles state that the principal is the chief executive of the institution and is responsible for its organisation, direction and management. Governors have general oversight of the college and its business and take an active role in formulating and monitoring the college's strategic plan, financial forecasts and budgets and capital programmes, all of which provide the essential framework for the internal management of the college. Governors are encouraged to form links with lecturing and support staff to learn more about the college's curriculum and its day-to-day work and to attend college events.

The corporation has established a number of committees, which allow more detailed discussion of issues than is possible at a full meeting of the corporation and governors generally serve on at least one of these.