



Minutes for Meeting Book - 230th Meeting of Council, 23rd November 2022

23/11/2022 | 10:00 - 00:00 - (GMT+00:00) Edinburgh

Room 402, Eastern Gateway/Teams

Attendees (26)

Ms Gemma Bailey; Prof David Delpy; Prof Trevor Hoey; Prof Andrew Jones; Ms Josie Mangan; Mr Andrew Murphy; Prof Geoff Rodgers; Prof Hua Zhao; Mr Archan Raval; Mr Suraj Shaw; Dr Vineta Bhalla; Prof Stuart Palmer; Ms Amanda Rowlatt; Ms Lucinda Hunt; Mr Mark Garrett; Ms Tone Rosingholm; Prof Stephen Langdon; Prof Paul Hellewell; Ms Maddie McGowan; Prof Rosa Scoble; Dr Nicola Rogers; Ms Chiluba Musukuma; Dr Kevin Thomas; Prof Claire Turner; Mr Eliot Glover; Mr Jonathan Bainbridge.

Welcome and Apologies

The Chair noted that Council had met twice in this academic term in a short timeframe, along with the sub-committees that supported it. For the next academic year, the Chair would be in favour of reducing it to one meeting of each committee for the term, which would be more efficient and manageable for the staff.

Two members proposed minor drafting amendments to the minutes and will pass them on to the Secretary.

of the university's market position, both nationally and internationally and the listening exercise was targeted on key empowered stakeholders. Both pieces of work represent pieces of the jigsaw in the strategy development.

The Chair summed up the discussion by members. Council was strongly backing the formation of the new strategy enthusiastically but it was suggesting that that it could be undertaken slightly more quickly than was currently scheduled, without rushing it, to maintain momentum over the following ten months.

Council approved the paper.

Financial Matters

The Financial Statements will need to be submitted to the OfS and have been considered and approved by the Finance Committee and Audit Committee. The statements have also been audited by KPMG, who have nothing substantive to report.

The university made pre-adjustments for impairments and pension re-valuation of £6.2m. The USS deficit reflected the 2020 USS valuation and the large deficit that the university had to recognise its share of, whilst adding back the credit for the LPFA scheme.

One of the key requirements in the statements is for the university to be satisfied that it is a going concern, i.e., that it believes that it will be financially solvent for a minimum of 12 months. Members attention was drawn to the report from KPMG audit. Whilst there were a number of areas of risk that had been raised, there was nothing material to highlight from it and the auditors had signed the accounts off.

The committee is taking a strategic look at the risks, focussing upon one each meeting. It has worked closed with data privacy and received updates on cyber, as well as other areas that require particular attention.

The DSP clarified that the website compliance audit related to the university's adherence to the OfS and CMA requirements, rather than the condition of the internal/externally facing website itself.

Council approved the Internal Auditors Annual Report and Annual Report to Council.

Reports from Committees

The Remuneration Committee provided substantial input on the draft of the senior staff configuration policy, which will be reviewed at the next meeting and approved an additional compensation package.

At its last meeting, the Nominations Committee talked about the Chancellor's appointment, reviewed the committee's terms of reference and changes to the Governance Review Task and Finish Group were proposed.

Council noted the reports from the sub-committees.

Terms of Reference for Governance Review Task and Finish Group

The Nominations Committee have approved the terms of reference for the Task and Finish Group to oversee the implementation of the recommendations arising from the governance review conducted by Joh Rushforth.

Council approved the terms of reference.

Teaching Excellence Framework Provider Submission

The Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF) is a submission made to the Office for Students. Five years ago, the university was awarded a silver rating. The OfS have requested that

University Events

Any Other Business

Date of Next Meeting: 15th March 2023