UEB Sub-Group – Student Accommodation

Terms of Reference:

1. To review the University’s current strategy for student accommodation in light of student and provider led trends including considering the recommendations of Cushman and Wakefield’s December 2019 University of Sheffield Accommodation Strategy Report.

2. To agree recommendations for short, medium and long term action to match student demand and improve financial sustainability.

3. To define the relevant timelines for delivery, assign responsibility and oversee the implementation of agreed change.

Day to day work will be undertaken by relevant individuals or small operations groups established by the UEB Sub-Group each of which will report to the UEB Sub-Group. Issues to be addressed may include:

4. Review of accommodation options and financial implications (with the support of consultants where required) including considering:
   (a) the approach to bed numbers and accommodation portfolio mix;
   (b) pricing and marketing reflecting student demand;
   (c) the wider student accommodation environment;
   (d) the quality of the accommodation stock;
   (e) potential disposals;
   (f) the University’s contractual arrangements with Catalyst and other private providers.

5. A review of the existing long term contract with Catalyst for accommodation on the Endcliffe and Ranmoor sites identifying the potential risks, opportunities and options for the future relationship with Catalyst including the possible re-negotiation of the Catalyst contract.

6. Consideration of student support and experience through aspects such as the Residences Life Programme, the provision of amenity space and the University’s offer in relation to its competitors.

7. Consideration of the medium to long term estate strategy for the University’s portfolio of student accommodation.

Reports to: University Executive Board.

Membership:

Chair: Vacancy

Members:

Vice-President for Education  Professor Mary Vincent (Interim)
Chief Financial Officer  Joanne Jones
Executive Director of Academic Services  Rob Sykes
Director of Estates & Facilities Management  Keith Lilley
Commercial Director  Sue Grocutt
Director of Accommodation & Commercial Services  Caryn Masters

In attendance (ex-officio):
N/A

Secretary  Matthew Borland (University Secretary’s Office)