



Minutes Meeting of the University Executive Board

Date: 19 September 2023

Present: Professor K Lamberts (KL) in the Chair (items 1-5; and 7)
Professor A Blom (AB), Professor J Derrick (JD), , Professor S Hartley (SH), J Jones (JJ), Professor C O'Bradaigh, R Sykes (RS), Professor G Valentine (GV) (in the Chair for items 6 and 8), Professor M Vincent (MV), Professor C Watkins (CW), I Wright (IW)

Secretary: D Swinn (DS)

In attendance: J Strachan (JS); A Winter (AW) (item 5)

Apologies: Professor S Fitzmaurice (SF)

1. **Closed Minute and Paper**
2. **Review of NSS Performance**
 - 2.1 This item was deferred.
3. **Closed Minute and Paper**
4. **Closed Minute and Paper**
5. **Swimming Pool Closure and requirements to advance planned capital works – position paper**

(AW in attendance for this item)

 - 5.1 UEB considered and approved the inclusion of capital works to provide a solution to the need to offer swimming facilities to students in a suitable location, as part of ongoing capital prioritisation work.
 - 5.2 It was also recognised that many of the University's peers and competitors had or were planning to make significant investments in this area of activity. Sport was also a vital contributor to positive student wellbeing but the University needed to achieve a solution that was practical and deliverable and balanced competing needs whilst achieving value for money.
6. **Closed Minute and Paper**
7. **Report of the UEB Risk Review Group**
 - 7.1 UEB received and approved the Report, including the Group's proposed terms of reference and membership; the proposed Corporate risks for 2023-24; the revised University Policy on

Risk Management and the revised Risk Management Manual. It was noted that revisions to the corporate risks and the presentation of mitigating actions and controls had been revised with reference to feedback from the Council's Audit & Risk Assurance Committee, and Members welcomed the greater specificity of the revised documentation. During discussion, the ongoing importance of aligning Faculty and Department risk registers with the corporate risks was noted.

8. **Round Table**

- (a) Senior Leadership Roles: IW provided an update on plans to relaunch recruitment for GV's successor as P&DVC and interim arrangements, including JD's appointment as Lead FVP and ongoing work to agree interim responsibilities for areas of the P&DVC brief. It was also reported that CW had decided to step down as FVP when his current term of appointment finished in May 2024 and the position would be advertised in due course. On behalf of UEB, GV thanked CW both for his contributions as FVP and also to a number of significant institutional initiatives. It was reported that Council had approved a recommendation that SF's appointment as FVP be extended to August 2025. UEB also noted that responsibility for ITS and EFM would move from the CFO to the COO.
- (b) UK Association with Horizon Europe: SH reported on a planned event to promote applications to Horizon Europe, the application process and institutional support available.
- (c) REF 2028 Consultation: SH reported on the content of the consultation and certain areas where concerns had been identified, pending a formal update to UEB in due course.