



Minutes of the meeting of 30 March 2023

COUN23-M1

Attendance

	Christine Hodgson	
Kerri Akiwowo (ab)	Naomi Hudson	David Price
Penny Briscoe (ab)	Harry Hughes	Surinder Sharma (ab)
Marcus Collins	Nick Jennings	John Sinnott
Malcolm Cook		
	Nicky Morgan	Paul Taylor (ab)
Lisanne Gibson (ab)	Emma Nadin	Mike Wedderburn

In attendance: Alex Owen; Dan Parsons; Richard Taylor; Rachel Thomson; Luke Vulpiani

Apologies received from: Kerri Akiwowo, Penny Briscoe, Charlotte Croffie, Lisanne Gibson, Surinder Sharma, Paul Taylor

23/1 Minutes & Matters Arising

1.1 Minutes

COUN22-M4

Council **APPROVED** the minutes of the meeting held on 23 November 2022.

1.2 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

23/2 Chair's Report

The Chair paid tribute to Peter Saraga who had died. Peter was a member of Council, though he had been unable to attend recent meetings owing to illness. Thoughts and condolences had been passed to Peter's family.

SECTION A – Items for Discussion

23/3 Strategy Update and Key Performance Indicators

3.1 Strategy and Enabling Project Updates

COUN23-P1

Council **NOTED** an update on the University Strategy and Enabling Projects, including progress and timelines on the development and implementation of the core plans and resourcing.

The strategy has six aims, each premised on a core plan, which are the main mechanisms for delivering the strategy. Council had previously approved the International core plan and is asked to approve the Education and Student Experience core plan in the next agenda item. The strategy is underpinned by enabling projects, and each core plan by a set of actions, which ensure delivery and progress.

The core plans are at different phases of development (with some in the process of being written) but delivery of the strategy is not waiting for the core plans to be written and a broad range of work is being undertaken. The strategy has already delivered a Private Pathway Partnership which will bring 300-400 more international students a year to study, and Project Compliance has improved compliance, with information security training compliance now at almost 100%.

Financial assumptions have been made in anticipation of the core plans and there is investment resource available to ensure the plans are delivered and that resources prioritised. Council requested to see a summary of the overall plan for investment. At its meeting in June Council will be updated on the medium-term plans for the resourcing of the strategy.

The Strategy will ensure that the University develops its world leading research and international profile, alongside a commitment to EDI. The Research and Innovation core plan will build on the University's strong results in the recent Research Excellence Framework.

It is important that the strategy is owned by all staff; t

The new strategy means that there is a change to the KPIs that are reported to Council and a transitional KPI framework has been formulated to bridge the move to the new strategy. Each of the new strategy's core plans will have a number of KPIs – about four each – which will be

23/4 Finance

4.1 Financial Update

COUN23-P5

Council **RECEIVED** a financial update for 2022/23.

Overall

It is mandatory for the University to report its gender pay gap on an annual basis.

The gender pay gap is the percentage difference in pay between all men and women in the organisation. It is a different concept

Strategic risk is now on the agenda of every oversight committee with the risk being minuted and documented. Each meeting of Audit & Risk Committee will have a deep dive on one area of strategic risk. The CFO is currently reviewing risk to ensure that Council has assurance that strategic and operational risks are being appropriately managed.

Council **APPROVED** on the recommendation from Audit & Risk Committee that KPMG are appointed as external auditors to the university for a further 5 year term. The winning tender was a fixed-fee over the five year period, which ensures costs are known and effectively managed.

23/09 Matters for Report by the Vice-Chancellor

Council **RECEIVED** a verbal report from the Vice-Chancellor.

23/14 *Loughborough University Ambassadors**COUN23-P30**

Council **APPROVED** the creation of the role of University Ambassador and the proposal to appoint the named individuals as ambassadors.

Thursday 21 March 2024, 14:00-16:30, Loughborough University London [amended from the previous date owing to Easter]. Council dinner will be early evening on Thursday not the Wednesday evening as this year.

[Secretary's Note: Council **APPROVED**, on the recommendation of Senate and the advice of the University Honours Committee, the award of Honorary Degrees and University Medals by circulation after the meeting.]

Author – Luke Vulpiani

Date – March 2023