

Minutes marked Commercial in confidence or confidential have been redacted from the web version

UNIVERSITY OF KENT

MEETING OF COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 25 June 2021

Present: The Chair of the Council (Dame Ursula Brennan); the Vice-Chancellor (Professor Karen Cox); the Deputy Chair of the Council (Bob Scruton); Martin Cook; Neil Davies; Aisha Dosanjh; Mark Ellis; Sarah Gibson; Kim Lowe; Gabriel MacGregor; Mark Malcomson; Andrew Newell; Professor Gill Nicholls; Mark Preston; Professor Georgina Randsley de Moura; Professor Richard Reece; Patrick Stillman; Zarafshaan Tahir; Sir David Warren; Professor Iain Wilkinson; Zoe Wood.

In attendance: Chief Financial Officer (Jane Higham); Financial Improvement Director (Peter Pentecost); Director of Governance and Assurance (Secretary to Council) (Dr Sinead Critchley); PA/Secretary for Governance & Assurance (Claire Taylor).

Apologies: Colin Carmichael and Dr Owen Lyne.

The meeting was held online through Microsoft Teams in recognition of the Government requirement to stay at home to mitigate the spread of Covid-19.

5424 CHAIR'S INTRODUCTION INCLUDING DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Declaration of Interests

Neil Davies and Martin Cook declared an interest on Minute No: 5428; Kent 2020-2025 Strategy Review Update - Medway Strategy.

5425 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 14 May 2021 Paper **C2020/093**, were approved, subject to a minor amendment.

5426 MATTERS ARISING

The Action Log: Paper **C2020/094** was noted.

5427 VICE CHANCELLOR AND PRESIDENT'S UPDATE COMMUNICATIONS

The Vice Chancellor gave a verbal update on Covid-19; USS; Office for Students.

5428 KENT 2020-2025 STRATEGY REVIEW UPDATE

The Vice-Chancellor presented paper **C2020/095 Kent 2025 Mid Term Review**.

Council endorsed the strategy, commending the ambition, the focus on people and place, and the commitment to partnerships, and noted that further detail including the development of an implementation plan would be taken forward by EG.

ACTION: EG to complete further work on Strategy paper

The DVC for Academic Strategy, Planning and Performance presented paper **C2020/096 Global Engagement Strategy Green Paper**

Council endorsed the direction of travel and noted the requirement for a mechanism to sustain international recruitment and increase the international profile of the University.

Dr William Collier, Strategic Lead for Medway. presented paper **C2020/097 Medway Strategy**

Council endorsed the Strategy and look forward to receiving more detail in future.

5429 PERFORMANCE REPORTING

The DVC for Academic Strategy, Planning and Performance, joined by the Director of Strategic Planning and Performance, presented paper **C2020/098 Performance Reporting**

Council noted the report.

5430 IHRA DEFINITION OF ANTI-SEMITISM

The DVC for Academic Strategy, Planning and Performance presented papers **C2020/099 International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) definition of Antisemitism, C2020/099 a) Annex I IHRA, C2020/099 b) Annex I JDA** to Council.

Council **approved** adoption of the IHRA definition and use of the JDA as a tool for interpretation.

5431 STUDENT RECRUITMENT FOR 2020/2021

The DVC for Academic Strategy, Planning and Performance, joined by the Director of Marketing, Outreach, Recruitment and Admissions (MORA) and the Director of Strategic Planning and Performance, presented **C2020/100 Latest update on Student Recruitment.**

Council noted the report.

5432 REPORT OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

The Chief Financial officer presented papers **C2020/101 Report from Chief Financial Officer, C2020/102 Budget 2021/22 and Forecasts to 2024/25**

Council **approved** the 2021/2022 Budget and Forecasts to 2024/2025.

5433 REPORT OF THE FINANCE AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Minute commercially sensitive and confidential to Council

5434 CONCORDAT ACTION PLAN AND ANNUAL REPORT

The DVC for Research and Innovation and the Dean of the Graduate and Researcher College presented paper **C2020/104 Annual Report 2021 and Action Plan for Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers.**

5435 COMPLIANCE WITH CMA REGULATION

The DVC for Education and Student Experience joined by the Head of Quality Assurance and Compliance presented paper **C2020/105 Phase 2 Report on Compliance with CMA Regulation.**

5436 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(i) Board evaluation survey

The Chair and the Senior Independent Governor asked Council members to complete the Board Evaluation Survey that would be circulated shortly.

The survey would request feedback on how Council works, and how to improve relationships, delivery and culture.

Action: Director of Governance and Assurance/PA.

The Director of Governance and Assurance was thanked for the work undertaken during 2020/21 to strengthen governance arrangements at the University.

(ii) Chairs concluding remarks

Council members thanked those members who would be departing at the end of their term of office: the former Chair Sir David Warren, the Deputy Chair Robert Scruton, and Zoe Wood; Mark Ellis; and Sarah Gibson; and wished them well. The Chair advised that a farewell event to say thank you in person would be arranged once Covid restrictions were lifted.

It was noted recruitment for new Council members would be conducted during the summer.

5437 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Tuesday 5 October 2021 14:00-17:00

The schedule of meetings of Council in academic session 2021/22 was noted.

ITEMS BELOW THE LINE

Council **approved and/or noted** as appropriate the following papers:

C2020/106 Revised ToR of the Remuneration Committee

C2020/107 Annual Report of the Remuneration Committee

C2020/108 Minutes of Honorary Degrees Committee meeting of 5 March 2021

C2020/109 Report of the Senate meeting of 9 June 2021

C2020/110 Minutes of the Audit Committee meeting of 7 June 2021

C2020/111 Minutes of the Ethics Committee meeting of 21 May 2021

C2020/111 a) Acceptance of Gifts Policy

C2020/111 b) Revised Membership and ToR

Notes

1. Papers

Copies are available on the Council eboard portal (Diligent Boards) or on request from the Secretary. Approved Minutes and many of the papers are published on the University website at <https://kent.ac.uk/governance/council/index.html>.

2. Queries

Any queries should be addressed to Dr Sinead Critchley, Director of Governance and Assurance (Secretary to Council), (email: S.Critchley-2002@kent.ac.uk).

CLT 28.6.21