

Minutes Extraordinary Meeting of the Council and the Council Finance Committee

Date: 19 September 2025

Present: Martin Temple, Pro-Chancellor (in the Chair)

Claire Brownlie (Pro-Chancellor), Rob Memmott (Treasurer),
Professor Koen Lamberts (President & Vice-Chancellor), Ghislaine Allilaire,
Scott Beaumont (items 1-5), Professor Ruth Blakeley (items 1-5),
Rebecca Freeman, Varun Kabra, Professor Janine Kirby,
Frances Morris-Jones, Dr Siobhán North, Professor Conchúr Ó Brádaigh,
Phil Rodrigo, Dr Sally Shinan Zhu, Professor Mark Strong, Rob Sykes,
Dr Phil Tenney,

Secretary: David Swinn

In attendance: Jo Jones, Matthew Borland, REDACTED, Kiara Delgado Derteano (items 6-8),
Anna James (items 6-8), Professor Ruth Blakeley (item 6), Professor Rachael
Rothman (item 6), James Merryclough (item 6)

Apologies: Adrian Stone (Pro-Chancellor), Professor Sue Hartley, Dr John Hogan,
Alison Kay, Professor Mary Vincent, Vicki Jackson

1. Welcome and Introductions

1.1 The Chair welcomed Members and attendees to the meeting, including the following new members for Council Siobhán North and Rebecca Freeman, and for Finance Committee Ruth Blakeley.

1.2 Apologies as recorded above were noted.

2. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

2.1 CLOSED MINUTE

2.2 There were no other conflicts of interest declared.

3. CLOSED MINUTE

4. CLOSED MINUTE

5. CLOSED MINUTE

6. Environmental Sustainability Strategy

- 6.1 Council received a presentation and approved proposed new carbon targets and endorsed the Sustainability Sub-Group to continue work on the Environmental Sustainability Strategy based on these targets. The Environmental Sustainability Strategy and Estate Decarbonisation Plan had been developed in close alignment with the Future Campus Framework. In relation to Scopes 1 and 2, the Estates Decarbonisation Programme has 7 areas of focus. Decarbonising the Transformer will deliver a reduction in carbon emissions by 2030. Four capital expenditure profiles and their impact on carbon emissions were outlined. Scenario 2 had been identified as the preferred approach, and this involved the main capital spend beginning in quarter one of 2027/28. A recommendation for capital spend to decarbonise the Transformer would be subject of a future business case proposal and beyond that capital spend related to decarbonisation would be incorporated within the Future Campus Plan. The proposed targets were agreed for Scope 1 and Scope 2. Achieving the Scope 3 milestones and targets did not require significant capital investment, rather it involved system and behaviour change. The proposed and agreed Scope 3 targets involved breaking down the targets into focus areas to allow for better accountability for action and tracking of progress, including 'checkpoints' for 2030 for specific categories and an overall target of being net zero by 2045. The approach had been benchmarked against five other Russell Group universities' publicly available approach to net zero.
- 6.2 During discussion, it was clarified that the costs associated with decarbonising the Transformer included new infrastructure, net operational costs and all capital expenditure. Council will be asked to approve the Environmental Sustainability Strategy alongside the Future Campus Plan so that the impact of revenue expenditure was clearly understood and built into future plans.

7. Any Other Business

- 7.1 There was no other business.