Charter of Incorporation

EDWARD VII, *by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and of the British Dominions beyond the Seas, King, Defender of the Faith*

WHEREAS Humble Petitions have been presented to Us by the University College of Sheffield and by the Lord Mayor Aldermen and Citizens of the City of Sheffield praying Us to constitute and found a University within the said City for the Advancement of Knowledge the Diffusion and Extension of Arts Sciences and Learning the Provision of Liberal and Professional and Technical Education and the furtherance of the objects for which the University College of Sheffield was incorporated by our Royal Predecessor Queen Victoria and to grant a Charter with such provisions therein in that behalf as shall seem to Us right and suitable.

And Whereas We have taken the said Petitions into Our Royal consideration and are minded to accede thereto.

Now therefore know ye that We by virtue of Our Royal Prerogative and of Our Special Grace certain knowledge and mere motion by these Presents for Us Our Heirs and Successors will and ordain as follows:

1. This Charter constitutes and founds the University of Sheffield (**"the University"**) as a body corporate.
2. The objects of the University shall be to advance education through teaching and research (**"the Objects"**).
3. The University shall have all the powers of a natural person including but not limited to the following powers, in furtherance of the Objects:
    (a) to award degrees and other academic awards and to withdraw such awards;
    (b) to acquire, own, maintain, manage and dispose of land and other property;
    (c) to solicit, receive and administer fees, charges, grants, subscriptions, donations, endowments, legacies, gifts and loans of any property whatsoever whether land or personal property and any other sources of income;
    (d) to act as trustee for and in relation to endowments, legacies and gifts;
    (e) to invest;
    (f) so far as permitted by charity law, to give guarantees;
    (g) so far as permitted by charity law, to borrow and raise money and give security for loans; and for those purposes the University shall have the authority to enter into any financial instrument which is ancillary and incidental to the exercise of such powers;
    (h) to take such steps as may from time to time be deemed expedient for the purposes of procuring and receiving contributions to the funds of the University and to raise money in such other manner as the University may determine;
    (i) to co-operate and collaborate with other institutions and individuals, award joint degrees or other awards, and affiliate or incorporate into the University any other institution and take over its property, rights, liabilities and staff;
    (j) to enter into engagements and to accept obligations and liabilities in all respects without any restrictions whatsoever and in the same manner as an individual may manage his or her own affairs; *and*
    (k) to do anything else, whether incidental to these powers or not, in order to further the Objects of the University as a place of teaching and research.

4. There shall be a Council of the University which shall be the University's governing body with responsibility for the management of the University and the conduct of all the University's affairs.
5. There shall be a Senate of the University which shall, subject to the Statutes and the control and approval of the Council, oversee the teaching and research of the University and the admission and regulation of Students.
6. There shall be a Chancellor of the University who shall be the titular head of the University and entitled to confer degrees and other academic awards of the University.
7. There shall be a chief executive of the University who shall have the title of Vice-Chancellor or equivalent and who shall be the Chair of the Senate and who shall in the absence of the Chancellor confer Degrees and other academic awards.
8. There shall be not fewer than two Pro-Chancellors of the University. The Chair of the Council shall be a Pro-Chancellor by virtue of holding that office.
9. There shall be a Students' Union of the University and the University shall take steps to ensure that the Students' Union acts fairly and democratically and is accountable for its finances.
10. It is a fundamental requirement of the University to promote equal opportunities and ensure that no unlawful discriminatory test be imposed upon any person in order to entitle them to:
    (a) become a holder of office at or a member of staff, student or graduate of the University; *or*
    (b) receive any advantage or privilege by reason of such position.
11. There shall be a Visitor of the University who shall be appointed by the Privy Council from time to time, on the nomination of the Council, from those who hold or who have held high judicial office.
12. The University shall take steps to encourage engagement in its activities by the holders of degrees and other academic awards of the University ("the Alumni"), including specifically co-operation between the alumni and the Council, to support and advance the Objects.
13. The Council may at any time amend or add to the Charter or the Statutes and any such amendments or additions shall take effect when approved by the Privy Council. The Statutes shall prescribe or regulate, as the case may be, the internal management of the University.
14. The Council may make Regulations and may amend or repeal Regulations.
15. The property and funds of the University shall be used only for promoting the Objects. If the University is dissolved, the assets (if any) remaining after providing for all its liabilities must be applied in one or more of the following ways:
    (a) by transfer to one or more other bodies established for exclusively charitable purposes within, the same as or similar to the Objects;
    (b) directly for the Objects or for charitable purposes which are within or similar to the Objects;
    (c) in such other manner consistent with charitable status as the Privy Council approves in writing in advance.
16. In this Our Charter **"Statutes"** means the Statutes set out in the Schedule and **"Regulations"** means Regulations made under the powers conferred by this Charter.