



## **Minutes Meeting of the University Executive Board**

**Date:** 21 May 2024

**Present:** Professor S Hartley (SH), in the Chair (items 1-2 and 4),  
Professor A Blom (AB), Professor J Derrick (JD), Professor S Fitzmaurice (SF),  
Professor G Jewell, J Jones (JJ), Professor C O'Bradaigh (CO), R Sykes (RS),  
Watkins (CW), I Wright (IW) (item 1)

**Secretary:** D Swinn (DS)

**In attendance:** J Strachan (JS), T Wray (TW); D Newberry (DN) (item 1); M Nuttall (MN) (item 2); A Carlile and R Moody (item 3)

**Apologies:** Professor K Lamberts (KL), Professor M Vincent (MV)

1. **Closed Minute and Paper**

2. **Closed Minute and Paper**

3. **Closed Minute and Paper**

4. **Closed Minute and Paper**

5. **UEB and senior representation and participation in open day**

5.1 UEB discussed and approved a proposed approach to UEB Members' involvement in University Open Days. It was also noted that FDOs' involvement would also be important.

6. **Report of the Estates and Capital Sub-Group**

6.1 UEB received and approved the report, including in relation to the following:

- Alfred Denny Building Decant & Repairs
- Central Teaching Laboratories

7. **Report of the Information Management & Security Sub-Group**

7.1 UEB received and approved the report. Particular attention was drawn to the need for considered communications around the International Travel Policy and related security issues, which was also relevant to export controls (see also Minute 4, above).

8. **Report of the International Steering Group**

8.1 UEB received and approved the report.

9. **Report of the IT Sub-Group**

9.1 This item was deferred.

10. **Round Table**

- (a) National Pay Negotiations: IW provided an update on the progress of the national pay negotiations and the positions of the respective parties.
- (b) UEB-HoDS Forum: Attention was drawn to the need to redefine the membership of this group to reflect the new schools structure and to consider when those changes should take effect. It was agreed that the change should take place as soon as possible due to the number of upcoming developments and the critical role that new leadership teams would play in delivery.
- (c) Management School: CW reported on a recent EQUIS accreditation visit, the outcome of which would be confirmed in July.
- (d) Credit Rating: JJ reported that the University's updated credit rating would be confirmed in June.
- (e) Freedom of Speech: RS and JS reported that new processes relating to external speakers and events on University premises, as part of the revised Code of Practice on Freedom of Speech and Academic Freedom, had been utilised recently, which had helped to identify a small number of amendments. It was noted that further amendments may be needed when the OfS published its final guidance and any new regulatory requirements.

- (f) Research England Visit: SH reported on the success of a recent institutional visit by the Executive Chair of Research England, who had offered positive feedback about the insights gained into the University, city and region, including the USID.
- (g) Research Flagships: SH noted that UEB would receive a further update in due course by way of follow-up to previous UEB discussion and decisions.