



Minutes Meeting of the University Executive Board

- Date:** 25 June 2024
- Present:** Professor K Lamberts (KL), in the Chair
Professor R Blakeley (RB), Professor J Derrick (JD), Professor S Fitzmaurice (SF), Professor S Hartley (SH) Professor G Jewell, J Jones (JJ), Professor R Mokaya (RM), R Sykes (RS), Professor M Vincent (MV), I Wright (IW)
- Secretary:** D Swinn (DS)/ E Allan (EA)
- In attendance:** J Strachan (JS), T Wray (TW); A Carlile (AC), T Flaherty (TF) and L McCarthy (LM) (item 1); Dr M Warriar (MW) (item 3); B Abrams (BA) (item 4.2); C Masters (CM) and H Breckney (HB) (item 5); Dr M Butler (MB) and C Vernon (CV) (item 6)
- Apologies:** Professor A Blom (AB), Professor C O'Bradaigh (CO)

1. Student Recruitment

(AC, TF and LM in attendance for this item)

1.1 Student Recruitment Update

- 1.1.1 UEB discussed the update, noting the latest applications for 2024 entry across all student categories and an overview of a range of recruitment and marketing activities, as set out in the related paper.
- 1.1.2 It was reported that the University Open Day held on 22nd June 2024 had been a success, with additional risk mitigations having had a positive impact.. Feedback suggested that visitors had had a highly positive experience, and the success of the approach would inform the University's planning for future Open Days.

1.2 Confirmation & Clearing Faculty Scenario Planning Outcomes

- 1.2.1 UEB received and noted the forecast student intake figures for September 2024 entry as of 8 June 2024, and the outcomes of Faculty scenario planning.
- 1.2.3 Clarification was provided that the proposed measures were intended to simplify rather than lower entry requirements and it was further clarified that the University was not planning to lower its English language requirements, which remained aligned with the

University's peers and were already reflected in the published 2024/25 entry criteria.

- 1.2.5 Following discussion, UEB approved the next steps and changes to the 2025 admissions cycle proposed within the paper.

2. Closed Minute and Paper

3. Research Culture Update

(MW in attendance for this item)

- 3.1 UEB considered and endorsed a proposed research culture action plan subject to additional points, which would be taken forward for implementation. It was recognised that this was a key area of the University's research excellence agenda, aligned with the ethos of the One University Vision and Strategy, and was relevant to the next REF assessment. It was also noted that Council had received a related presentation at its recent Away Day, which was positively received.

4. Information Technology

4.1 Report of the UEB IT Sub-Group

- 4.1.1 This item was deferred.

4.2 Closed Minute and Paper

5. Closed Minute and Paper

6. Closed Minute and Paper

7. 2 July Strategic UEB agenda

- 7.1 UEB received and approved the agenda subject to the removal of one item, the addition of international reputation to an existing session, and changes to the timings of items.

8. Round Table

- (a) UKVI Student Data: RS provided an update. Draft communications had been prepared for DFDOs to follow up appropriately at local level.
- (b) Forthcoming meetings: It was noted that Senate and JUCC would be meeting on 26 June.
- (c) Summer Graduation: TW reported on the work of a sub-group that was developing the University's approach to graduation ceremonies and related events in July, with additional planning, contingencies and security considerations in the context of the ongoing protest on campus. It was noted that UEB-HoDs would receive an update on 26 June.