

UNIVERSITY OF ROEHAMPTON COUNCIL

Minutes of the 92nd meeting of Council held at 9am on Wednesday 3 January 2024 The meeting was held remotely via MS Teams

Present: Phil Walker (Chair), Mark Allen, Dr Priscilla Chadwick, Janet Cooper, Dr Mari Cruice, Lindsey Doud, Sr Christine Edwards, Prof Jean-Noël Ezingard, Dennis Hone, Amy Hopkins, Revd Dr Tim Macquiban, Ruth Martin, Sunitha Narendran, Michael Pearson, David Sharkey, Kevin Thomas

Secretary: Dr George Turner

Notes: Melanie Duhig

Apologies: Dr Aleata Alstad-Calkins, Jennifer Coupland, Prof Anna Gough-Yates, Revd Canon Dr Jennifer Smith

In attendance: Liam Hurley, Ian Pleace, Tom Rowson, Rachael Stone

Regular Business Matters, Minutes and Reports

1. Welcomes, introductions, apologies

1.1 The Chair welcomed all those present to the meeting.

2. Declarations of Interest

2.1 No declarations of interest were made.

3. Notification of Any Other Business

3.1 There was no other business.

Substantive Items

4. Vice-Chancellor's Report

4.1 Council received the Vice-Chancellor's Report (Paper RUC92/1), and noted the following points in particular:

- That Government discourse continued to mean that that recruitment of international students may become more challenging.
- That the expected January 2024 intake was in line with current budget assumptions.
- That the importance of diversifying the markets from which the University recruited students and more generally was well understood.

5. Minute exempt from publication under s.43 Freedom of Information Act 2000

- 5.1 Minute exempt from publication under s.43 Freedom of Information Act 2000:
- 5.2 Minute exempt from publication under s.43 Freedom of Information Act 2000.
- 5.3 Minute exempt from publication under s.43 Freedom of Information Act 2000.
- 5.4 Minute exempt from publication under s.43 Freedom of Information Act 2000.
- 5.5 Minute exempt from publication under s.43 Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Action: Chief Operating Officer

6. External Audit Report and Letter of Representation

- 6.1 Council received the External Audit Report for the year ended 31 July 2023 (Paper RUC92/3).
- 6.2 It was noted that both the External Audit Report and the Annual Report and Financial Statements (Paper RUC92/4) had received scrutiny from the Audit Committee at an additional meeting on 22 December 2023. A verbal update was given of the proceedings at that meeting including the following:
- 6.3 Minute exempt from publication under s.43 Freedom of Information Act 2000.
- 6.4 Minute exempt from publication under s.43 Freedom of Information Act 2000.
- 6.5 That other issues had been addressed to the satisfaction of the Audit Committee and, that subject to circulation of the updated External Audit Report containing the relevant corrections, the Audit Committee endorsed the Annual Report and Financial Statements.
- 6.6 That the post-audit review should focus on lessons learned and how to improve the process for next year.
- 6.7 Council received and **approved** the Letter of Representation (Paper RUC92/3), noting that in doing so Council would be giving assurance that the University is a going concern. It was noted that at the previous meeting of Council on 11 December 2023 the going concern status had been carefully considered and there had been no material changes since that date.
- 6.8 Thanks were extended to the Interim Director of Finance for his work.

7. Annual Report and Financial Statements

- 7.1 Council received the Annual Report and Financial Statements (Paper RUC 92/4). Attention was drawn to the following points:

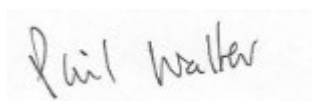
- 7.2 Minute exempt from publication under s.43 Freedom of Information Act 2000.
- 7.3 That the inflationary assumptions in certain actuarial reports had been found to be unacceptable requiring the reports to be updated. This affected the explanatory notes but not the statements.
- 7.4 That the Statement of the Responsibilities of the Members of Council was set out in Appendix 2 of the Annual Report and Financial Statements.
- 7.5 Council **approved** the Annual Report and Financial Statements and recommended that the report and statements be signed by the Chair of Council and the Vice-Chancellor.

Other items for information

8. Any Other Business

- 8.1 There was no other business.

Signed:



.....Date: 18.03.2024
Phil Walker, Chair of Council