

Some items are Restricted and Confidential

Council Minutes: 8 July 2022
(hybrid meeting)

PRESENT: Rt. Hon. Alistair Burt (Pro-Chancellor) (in the Chair); Professor Andy Schofield (Vice-Chancellor); David Barron (lay member); Rt. Hon. Hazel Blears (lay member); Professor Steve Bradley (Deputy Vice-Chancellor); Hanah Burgess (lay member); Anthony Carey (lay member); Ian Johnson (lay member); Claire Leitch (Senate representative); Alison Mullan (Senate representative); Professor Ella Ritchie (Deputy Pro-Chancellor); India Ellis (Students' Union President); Professor Jo Rycroft-Malone (Senate representative); Victoria Phillips (student member); His Hon. Phillip Sycamore (lay member); Maureen Whilby (lay member); Valerie Young (lay member).

IN ATTENDANCE: Misbah Ashraf (Chief Executive of the Students' Union) (); Alun Braa 625 5nETOrg1 y

1.6 The Chair noted that a quorum of the Council was present for a meeting in accordance with Statute 9.7 and accordingly that the meeting was duly convened.

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

2.1 There were no new declarations of interest.

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING: 20 MAY 2022 PAPER A

3.1 Council approved the minutes of the meeting held on 20 May 2022.

3.2 Council noted the notes circulated from the Council Away Day of 19-20 May 2022.

4. MATTERS ARISING

4.1 Item 6 Students' Union President's Report: Council noted that the Pro-Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor had given further consideration to engagement with the Students' Union for the forthcoming academic year, and it had been discussed in part through the Lay Members Working Group recommendations and conditions.

4.2 Item 13 Safeguarding Training and Induction: Council noted safeguarding training had been embedded into the induction programme for all Council members.

5. VICE-CHANCELLOR'S UPDATE AND QUESTIONS TO THE EXECUTIVE

5.1 Council noted the written report from the Executive circulated on 1 July 2022. The Vice-Chancellor reported on the following.

- (i) The appointment of the Rt. Hon. James Cleverly as the Secretary of State for Education and the Rt. Hon. Greg Clark, as the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities with the Rt. Hon Kwasi Kwarteng remaining as the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy.
- (ii) Universities UK's response to the Government and Office for Students' concerns regarding grade inflation with a pledge to return to pre pandemic levels by 2023.
- (iii) The progress of 2023 pay negotiations, where a significant gap remained between staff unions' demands and employers' perspectives on affordability. Council advised that it wished to be kept abreast of matters relating to industrial relations.
- (iv) His recent trip to Malaysia for the Sunway and Lancaster Universities' degree ceremonies.
- (v) *Restricted and Commercial in Confidence*

- (vi) The publication of the 2022 National Student Survey (NSS) Results where the University's position for student satisfaction had risen from 14th to 11th and it had been ranked 1st for learning resources and 12th for teaching. Council noted that a focus was required on assessment and feedback, and this would be considered as part of the curriculum transformation programme.

Council encouraged further consideration of how the positioning of learning resources as part of our offer to the student experience could be optimised.

- (vii) The intention to facilitate Council's engagement with Universities UK's Representative for International Development Professor Steve Smith, to provide further insight into international collaborations.

5.2 Council noted the report from the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Sir Peter Higgs, on the findings of the 2022 National Student Survey (NSS) results.

6. PRESIDENT, LANCASTER UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' UNION: ORAL REPORT

- 6.1 The President provided an oral report on the new Students' Union Officers' goals and priorities for 2022/23 based on the four key issues they had identified for students:

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10. SANTANDER REVOLVING CREDIT FACILITY UPDATE
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PAPER F

11.

19.* WRITTEN REPORTS OF MEETINGS PAPER 2

19.1 Council noted the following written reports of meetings:

Council Safety, Health and Wellbeing Committee, meeting of 27 May 2022

Estates Committee, meeting of 6 June 2022

Finance and General Purposes Committee, meeting of 17 June 2022

Senate, meeting of 15 June 2022

Student Experience Committee, meeting of 8 June 2022

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

20. FORWARD SCHEDULE OF COUNCIL BUSINESS PAPER M