# Council (Formal Meeting after Development Day)

**Thursday, 13th October 2022 4.15pm**

**Macdonald Bath Spa Hotel   |   Council**

## Attendees

#### Present

Pamela Chesters, Chair

Maria Bond

Dr Teslim Bukoye

Kate Ehrig-Page

Timothy Ford

Christine Gibbons

Professor Dorothy Griffiths

Dr Alan Hayes

Tim Hollingsworth

Julia Kildyushova

Donald McLaverty

Sujata McNab

Catherine Mealing-Jones

Calum Mercer

Charlotte Moar

Dr Dai Moon

Alexander Robinson

Dr Andrew Ross

Dr Paul Shepherd

Professor Ian White

**In Attendance**

Professor Phil Allmendinger

Professor Julian Chaudhuri

Keith Zimmerman

**Secretariat**

Emily Commander, Secretary

Caroline Pringle

#### Apologies

David Hardy

## 7476.0 Welcome and Quorum

Purpose - For Information

The Chair formally welcomed members and attendees to the brief Council meeting, which was taking place at the end of Council's October strategy day. She confirmed that a quorum was present.

## 7477.0 Declarations of Interest

Purpose - For Information

There were no declarations of interest.

## 7478.0 Minutes of Previous Meeting - C22/23 - 01

Purpose - For Approval

The minutes of the previous Council meeting held on 13 July 2022 were approved.

## 7479.0 Urgent business and delegated powers - C22/23 - 02

#### Minute by Caroline Pringle

Council noted the summary of the use of urgent business and delegated authority since the last meeting.

## 7480.0 Actions and Matters Arising

#### Minute by Caroline Pringle

Council noted the action log. There were no comments or questions.

## 7481.0 Role of Council - C22/23 - 03

#### Minute by Caroline Pringle

Council noted the terms of reference, membership and work plan for 2022/23. There were no comments or questions.

## 7482.0 Institutional update - C22/23 - 10

#### Minute by Caroline Pringle

Council noted the institutional update. There were no questions or comments.

## 7483.0 Admissions and recruitment

The Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education) gave a verbal update on the latest admissions figures.
Council members asked questions and were answered as follows:
- the University had been able to provide accommodation to almost all first-year students; only 12 had not yet been placed.
- The University had missed all three of its Access and Participation Plan (APP) targets. Council members indicated that it would be good to discuss this in more detail at November's meeting.
- It would be possible to benchmark performance against other universities once the HESA data was released.
- There was a need to take a more strategic view of admissions to ensure that the right resources were in place.
- The University did not yet have the data to evaluate the financial impact of the final UG and PGT numbers, as compared to the targets.

Council noted the update on admissions.

## 7484.0 National Student Survey Results - C22/23 - 04

#### Minute by Caroline Pringle

The Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education) introduced paper C22/23 - 04 which provided a benchmarking analysis of the University's performance in the National Student Survey (NSS) 2022, including a detailed breakdown of subject performance. The only area in which Bath had scored below the benchmark was Assessment and Feedback; there would be direct interventions from the PVC(E) and Deans across 10 subjects in relation to this area.

The following points were raised in discussion:
- Part of the conversation that had taken place at Senate related to the management of student expectations regarding assessment and feedback.
- The NSS consultation proposed removing the overall satisfaction question for English universities. It was recognised that the University traditionally scored well in this area and this change may not be to its advantage. The University had responded to the consultation and was awaiting the outcome.
- The SU governors endorsed the work that was being done to improve assessment and feedback.

Council noted the update.

## 7485.0 Senate - C22/23 - 05

Council noted the summary of the meeting of Senate on 5 October 2022. Council members indicated that they found this method of reporting to be more valuable than simply receiving the minutes.

## 7486.0 Export Control Policy - C22/23 - 09

The Vice-Chancellor introduced the Export Control Policy, which had been recommended to Council by Senate. He indicated that this was a topic that was becoming increasingly important in the sector and there was a need to publish the policy soon so that research staff had clarity about their obligations.

Council approved the Export Control Policy on the recommendation of Senate.

## 7487.0 Redundancy Committee - C22/23 - 06

Purpose - For Approval

The Chair of Redundancy Committee introduced paper C22/23 - 06. The committee had considered a number of cases for redundancy and was recommending these to Council. It noted that there had been a reduction in the use of continuous short-term contracts.
As part of its discussion of its Terms of Reference the committee had again queried whether it was appropriate that redundancies were considered by a governance committee, rather than being dealt with as an executive operational matter, however it had noted that this was a requirement of Statute 25. The committee recommended that Council take this into account as part of the review of the governance framework.

Council approved the cases for redundancy, as set out in paper C22/23 - 06, and endorsed the need to review the University's governance framework.

## 7488.0 Programme of Meetings for 2022/23 - C22/23 - 07

Council noted the programme of meetings for 2022/23 and the draft business for the next meeting in November. The Chair informed Council members that the spring strategy day would be taking place at IAAPS, and that she would be considering the format of development dinners going forwards.

## 7489.0 Information available on Decision Time - C22/23 - 08

Purpose - For Information

Council noted how information would be made available on Decision Time going forwards.

## 7490.0 Any Other Business

There was no other business.