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**TO: ALL MEMBERS OF COURT**

A meeting of the University Court constituted under the University of the West of Scotland Order of Council 2019 will be held on **Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2022 at 11am in Room P123/125, Coats Building, Paisley Campus.**

**Donna McMillan**  
**Secretary to Court**

**AGENDA**

	<b>Welcome</b>		
	<b>Apologies for Absence</b>		
	<b>Declaration of Interest</b>		
1.	<b>Minutes</b>		Document attached
1.1	Minutes of meeting held on 25 <sup>th</sup> April 2022		
2.	<b>Matters Arising</b>		
3.	<b>Determination of Any Other Business</b>		
4.	<b>Chair's Business</b>		Oral Report
5.	<b>Students' Union</b>		
5.1	Union Annual Report	Discussion	Paper 5.1
5.2	Union Financial Report 2021-2022	Information	Paper 5.2
5.3	Union Budget 2022-2023	Information	Paper 5.3
6.	<b>Senate</b>		
6.1	Report from meeting of Senate held on 1 <sup>st</sup> June 2022	Information	Paper 6.1
7.	<b>Committee Reports</b>		
7.1	Report from meeting of Resources & People Committee held on 24 <sup>th</sup> May 2022	Information	Paper 7.1
7.2	Report from meeting of Audit & Risk Committee held on 25 <sup>th</sup> May 2022	Information	Paper 7.2
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EDI Committee Annual Report</li> <li>• Strategic Risk Register</li> </ul>		
8.	<b>UWS Performance Report - June 2022</b>	Discussion	Paper 8
9.	<b>Finance and Strategy</b>		
	<i>Presentation from Mr M Ross, Vice Principal, Planning &amp; Recruitment and Mr A MacIver Interim Director of Finance &amp; Infrastructure</i>		
9.1	UWS Annual Plan and Budget - 2022-2023	Approval	Paper 9.1
9.2	SFC Final Funding - 2022/2023	Information	Paper 9.2
9.3	Outcome Agreement	Information	Paper 9.3
10.	<b>REF Performance - 2021</b>	Information	Paper 10

11.	<b>Remuneration Framework</b>	Approval	Paper 11
12.	<b>Annual Legal Compliance Report</b>	Information	Paper 12
13.	<b>Principal &amp; Vice-Chancellor's Highlight Report</b>	Information	Paper 13
14.	<b>Any Other Business</b>		

Date of Next Meeting : Monday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2022 at 2pm

### **Graduation Ceremonies – Summer 2022**

**All ceremonies will be held in Paisley Abbey**

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2022 - 4:30 pm

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2022 - 10:30 am; 2:00 pm and 4:30 pm

*The award of honorary doctor will be conferred on Mr J McGlynn, Entrepreneur at the 2:00 pm ceremony*

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2022 - 10:30 am; 2:00 pm and 4:30 pm

*The award of honorary doctor will be conferred on Dr W Hatton, WaiBeyond and former Chair of Court at the 2:00 pm ceremony*

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2022 - 10:30 am; 2:00 pm and 4:30 pm

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2022 - 10:30 am; 2:00 pm and 4:30 pm

*The award of honorary doctor will be conferred on Dr S Kuenssberg CBE, Healthcare and Services to Children and Young People at the 2:00 pm ceremony*

**Paisley, 29<sup>th</sup> June 2022 being the 69<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Court of the University of the West of Scotland**

Present: Mrs K Allum(Chair)  
Professor J Brewer  
Ms E Gomersall  
Mr A Gubbay (via Microsoft Teams)  
Mr L Humberstone  
Professor C MacDonald  
Mr A Mallick (via Microsoft Teams)  
Dr L Meredith  
Ms A McKechin  
Dr I McLellan  
Mr A Miller  
Mr J Mone  
Ms L Muazu  
Mr K Murdoch (via Microsoft Teams)  
Mr A Munro  
Mr K Quinlan (via Microsoft Teams)  
Ms T O'Donnell (via Microsoft Teams)  
Mr H Stolkin (via Microsoft Teams)

In attendance: Ms R Grant  
Ms S Elufioye  
Ms D McMillan  
Mr A Killick  
Mr A Maclver  
Mr M Ross  
Professor J Powles  
Professor M Radosavljevic  
Mrs A Loudon

Apologies for absence were received from Mr A Burns, Ms A Buchanan, Dr C O'Donnell and Mr C Morgan and for late arrival from Mr K Quinlan.

No declarations of interest were notified.

1. **Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2022 were approved as a correct record.

2. **Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising other than those contained elsewhere in the agenda.

3. **Determination of Any Other Business**

No additional items of business had been notified.

4. **Chair's Business**

The Chair reminded members of the importance of Court's engagement with the University's graduation ceremonies which were the culmination of our students' success and a celebration of inspiration and achievement. It was agreed that the

dates for future ceremonies should be advised to members of Court as soon as these were confirmed.

Court noted that plans were being developed for the annual Public Stakeholder Event which would be held on 30<sup>th</sup> August and would include a showcase element. A Development Day for members of Court would be held on 31<sup>st</sup> August.

## 5. **Students Union**

### 5.1 **Union Annual Report**

The President of the Students' Union spoke to report which provided a comprehensive overview of the Union's activities during the last academic year and progress towards meeting KPIs which were currently ahead of targets in most areas.

Court welcomed the range of activities and initiatives in place to support UWS students, particularly around activity with Societies and improvements to the student representation population and engagement. The increase in the number of cases where support and advice was being provided by the Union for academic misconduct was noted.

The President of the Students' Union formally thanked the outgoing Sabbatical Officers for their support to the work of the Students' Union during the year.

### 5.2 **Union Finance Report - 2021/2022**

The President of the Student's Union drew members' attention to the report which provided an overview of the Student's Union's financial position. Court was pleased to note the increase in commercial activity which showed that students were using and enjoying the new/upgraded spaces, and the positive impact this had on the year-end results.

### 5.3 **Union Budget Report - AY 2022/2023**

Court noted and approved the Students' Union proposed budget for the 2022/2023 academic year, noting that the budget would be closely monitored and that the Union would continue to work in partnership with the University as the year progressed.

It was noted that the budget had been developed on the basis that the Union at the Ayr Campus would not be opened during the year. In this connection, the Interim Principal & Vice-Chancellor advised that innovation funding had been allocated by the University to support the utilisation of the Ayr Campus Union as an integrated space for collaborative working including as a venue for showcases for creative media and performance students. Court welcomed this development as a further example of the continuing positive partnership working between the University and the Students' Union, noting that a Student Partnership Agreement had been signed for the coming year.

## 6. **Senate**

### 6.1 **Report from meeting of Senate held on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2022**

The Interim Principal & Vice-Chancellor spoke to the report from the meeting of Senate held on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2022.

She drew members' attention to progress on the Student Experience Programme, including rapid developments of the post graduate taught portfolio, the development and implementation of Academic, Professional and Personal Development modules (APPD), the development of the Model for Support Student Success and the arrangements for the creation of the Student Engagement and Advising Team. In response to a question, the Interim Principal confirmed that the APPD module, which was integrated into years 1-3 of the academic programme, was credit bearing.

Members again congratulated the University and the Students' Union on the awards of Higher Education Institution of the Year and Students' Union of the Year respectively which were reflective of the continuing positive partnership and relationship between the Union and UWS staff at all levels to support and encourage students.

The remainder of the report was noted for information.

## 7. **Committee Reports**

### 7.1 **Report from Meeting of Resources & People Committee held on 24<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

The Chair of Court drew members' attention to the report from the meeting of the Resources & People Committee held on 24<sup>th</sup> May 2022.

Court was pleased to note that the proposed co-location of the UWS Campus within Dumfries and Galloway College had been approved by the College Board, and the project was progressing on time. It was agreed that it would be useful for Court to be updated on progress as part of the agenda for the August Development Day with further updates to Resources & People Committee and Court at their next meetings.

The Interim Executive Director of Finance & Infrastructure confirmed that discussions were ongoing into the sale of the Thornly Park, Paisley site. Following recent incidents at the site, it had been agreed to proceed with demolition of the remaining premises. The cost of this would be borne by the University but would be recouped.

In response to a question, the Interim Executive Director of finance & Infrastructure confirmed that the work undertaken to the windows at the Lanarkshire Campus to mitigate any risk of failure was operating effectively. Discussions to pursue reparation for these failures were ongoing.

Court was interested to note the range of activity and key projects set out in the Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Committee Annual Report, noting that an Athena Swan submission was being developed.

The Interim Principal & Vice-Chancellor highlighted the number of charter marks and pledges currently in place and the regular requests received by the University to sign pledges and affiliations. A consultation and mapping exercise to identify existing school and departmental pledges and affiliations was now underway for review by the Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Committee to ensure a holistic approach.

The remainder of the report was noted for information.

## 7.2 Report from Meeting of Audit & Risk Committee held on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2022

The Chair of the Audit & Risk Committee spoke to the report from the meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> May. Court was reassured to note that the University's financial position remained positive and the forecast outturn position continued to improve. Having considered a paper which set out the rationale, the Committee had approved the recommendation for the early termination of the revolving credit facility with Santander Bank.

The attention of the Court was drawn to the Strategic Risk Register with UWS suffering major information/cyber security breach remaining the highest scoring risk. Court was reassured to note the range of actions and initiatives put in place across the University, including mandatory training for staff, to mitigate the risk and acknowledged that the nature of the risk of cyber-attack meant that this would inherently remain at the highest risk rating.

In response to a question, the University Secretary confirmed that the risk and impact of the war in Ukraine was kept under review by the Risk Group.

The remainder of the report was noted for information.

## 8. UWS Performance Framework - Annual Review

Court noted and endorsed the proposed changes to the performance framework which included re-aligning the research awards targets and the percentage international milestones together with a proposed timeline for reporting each KPI to Court which would streamline future reporting and avoid duplication.

## 9. Finance and Strategy

### 9.1 Draft Annual Plan and Budget - 2022/2023

The Vice Principal (Planning & Recruitment) and Interim Executive Director of Finance & Infrastructure made a presentation to Court on the draft annual plan and budget for 2022/2023.

Court acknowledged that the University continued to operate in an exceptionally challenging environment and the annual plan reflected the continuing narrative on performance and outlined the focus projects for 2022/2023 to ensure that the University continued to progress.

With regard to the draft budget, Court noted that this reflected a degree of prudence and was built on clear assumptions that could be closely monitored to ensure their continued validity and allow management to act quickly should the need arise.

After robust discussion and noting that the draft budget had been considered in detail and endorsed by the Audit & Risk Committee, Court approved the 2022/2023 Annual Plan and Budget.

The remainder of the report was noted for information.

## 9.2 SFC Final Funding - 2022/2023

Court noted for information the report which provided an overview of the Scottish Funding Council's final funding announcement for 2022-2023

## 9.3 Outcome Agreement

Court noted and endorsed the amendments made to the UWS Outcome Agreement.

## 10. REF2021 Performance

The Vice Principal (Research, Innovation and Engagement) drew members' attention to the report which set out the detail of the University's performance in REF 2021 together with comparative performance across UK Institutions.

Court commended those involved in the submission, noting that this was the largest ever submission of any modern university in Scotland and agreed that this provided an excellent baseline to take forward to the next assessment of UK higher education research performance.

## 11. Remuneration Committee Framework

Court noted and endorsed the Remuneration Committee Framework for 2022/2023, noting that a review of the Framework would be undertaken once the committee had tested the approach at its forthcoming meeting.

## 12. Annual Legislative Compliance Report

Court noted for information the report which provided assurance that legal matters were being properly addressed.

## 13. Principal & Vice-Chancellor's Highlight Report

Court noted for information the report which provided an update on university business since the last meeting of Court.

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed.