

SENATE BUSINESS COMMITTEE

Minutes of the additional meeting of 18 April and 23 April 2024

Present: Karl Leydecker (Chair), Scott Alan (23/4), Chantal Den Daas (23/4), Nick Forsyth, Richard Hepworth-Young, Rhiannon Ledwell, Diane Skatun, Tracey Slaven, Neil Vargesson, Jo-Anne Young (23/4) and Rachael Bernard (Clerk)

Apologies: Mary Stephen

- 588 The Chair welcomed members and thanked everyone for managing to attend the additional meeting to agree the agenda for the extra Senate meeting on 8 May.
- 589.1 Tracey outlined the thinking behind the first draft agenda circulated for the additional Senate meeting.
- 589.2 The Committee noted that the Senate members who had requested the additional meeting had indicated that the purpose was to provide an opportunity for discussion of the Financial Recovery Plan (FRP) and the possible implications for research and REF2029 as well as its implications for education.
- 590.1 The Committee discussed the inclusion, or otherwise, of the paper Submitted by members relating to the Modern Languages, Translation and Interpretation Unit (MLTI) Consultation Process.
- 590.2 It was argued that the paper should not be included for discussion at Senate, as there was a risk of the submitted paper cutting across the lessons learned exercise that formed a routine part of the institutional change management process and that the paper represented just one view of the process.
- 590.3 Some members argued that Senate members would not be familiar with the change management process. It was suggested that Senate should have the opportunity to provide input to the exercise, and not appear to be being by-passed by excluding the paper.
- 590.4 It was highlighted that, at an earlier meeting with the Principal, it had been agreed that the paper would be provided to Senate. It was noted that exclusion of the paper would create a disconnect with what elected members had been told would happen by the Principal and the published agenda and this would damage trust.

[Clerk's Note: at this point the meeting completed its scheduled time, and it was agreed to reconvene to continue discussions and finalise the agenda.

Between 18 and 23 April, and following discussion with the Principal, a revised draft agenda for Senate was circulated.]

- 591.1 The Committee noted that the revised draft agenda for Senate now included the MLTI paper as a supporting background paper. It was further noted that the Joint Consultative Committee on Redundancy Avoidance (JCCRA) would have met before the additional meeting of Senate and therefore it would be possible to update Senate at the meeting as to the progress being made. It was further noted that the revised draft agenda now included an update item from the Director of People.
- 591.2 It was clarified that discussion of the paper would not be limited because it was not being included as a numbered paper.
- 591.3 In response to a query, it was clarified that a separate item on reputational recovery was not needed on the agenda as it was anticipated that this would be included as part of the 'lessons learned' discussion.
- 592.1 It was confirmed that, while issues associated with the Reimagining the Campuses project were, inevitably, woven throughout the agenda for the meeting on 8 May there would be a specific update included on the agenda for the 5 June meeting.
- 592.2 Following the revisions made to the agenda since the committee had met on 18 April, the Committee approved the new draft agenda for the meeting on 8 May.