

**Minutes currently confidential to Council marked Commercial in confidence or confidential have been redacted from the web version**

**UNIVERSITY OF KENT**

**MEETING OF COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the meeting held on 6 October 2023  
Hybrid meeting: Darwin Boardroom/Via MS Teams**

**Present:** The Chair of Council, Mark Preston; The Deputy Chair of Council and Chair of Finance & Resources Committee, Andrew Newell; The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Karen Cox; Dame Ursula Brennan; Michael Crick; Daniel Cook; Sarah Dance; Dr Mark Downs; Mayuri Lakhani; Kim Lowe; Gabriel MacGregor; Paul Pugh; Ben Bradley, Vice President Postgraduate Experience; Zaid Mahmood, President Kent Union; Dr Will Norman, Academic Staff Representative; Alex Perkins, Non-Academic Staff Representative; Professor Georgina Randsley de Moura, Deputy Vice Chancellor Strategy and Performance (S&P); Professor Richard Reece, Deputy Vice Chancellor Education and Student Experience (ESE); Dr Balihar Sanghera, Academic Staff Representative

**In attendance:** Deputy Vice Chancellor Research and Innovation (Professor Shane Weller); Chief Financial Officer (Jane Higham); Financial Sustainability Director (Peter Pentecost); Director of Finance (Frank Richardson); Director of Governance and Assurance (Secretary to the Council) (Dr Sinéad Critchley) and Assistant Director (Governance) (Sarah Megson).

For Agenda Item 6: Pro-Vice Chancellor Academic Size and Shape (Professor Claire Peppiatt-Wildman); Director of Human Resources and Organisational Development (Martin Atkinson); Director of Division of Computing, Engineering & Mathematical Sciences (Professor Ben Cosh); Director of Division for the Study of Law, Society and Social Justice (Professor Iain Wilkinson); Director of Engagement (Philip Pothen); Director of Strategic Planning & Performance (Anita Jackson); EY-P representatives (Courtney Gainer and Caroline Pover).

**Apologies for absence:** Xian Chan; Dr Sam Parrett; Chris Barron, Non-Academic Staff Representative.

**5647 Chair's Introduction**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting noting the confidentiality of items due to be discussed.

No new declarations of interest were noted.

**5648 Minutes for approval**

**Paper C2023/001**, the minutes of the meetings held on 18 September 2023 were approved.

**5649 Matters Arising**

**Paper C2023/002** Action Log was noted. Action 5581 was brought above the line for discussion later in the meeting under Any Other Business.

**Paper C2023/003** Terms of Reference of the Council Sub Group were noted and the extension of the delegated authority was approved.

**Paper C2023/004** Storage Area Network and action by Chair of Finance & Resources Committee was noted.

#### **5650 Vice Chancellor and President's Communications**

The Vice Chancellor reported on

- the political Party Conferences
- HE Reform Consultation
- Horizon Europe scheme
- TEF results
- Medway Docking Station project

The Deputy Vice Chancellor S&P reported on

- the current recruitment position
- the sector-wide impact as a result of the Home Office delays in visa processing, even those students who had paid for the fast-track service

#### **5651 Kent 2030 Working Session (minute confidential to Council)**

The Vice Chancellor and members of the Executive team presented **Paper C2023-005**, the Kent 2030 Transformation Plan.

Council agreed to approve, noting dissent from the two elected academic staff representatives, the Kent 2030 Transformational Plan.

#### **5652 Any Other Business (minute confidential to Council)**

**Paper C2023/008** Recommendation from Lay Nominations Committee was brought above the line for discussion.

Council agreed to approve the recommendation in **Paper C2023/008** regarding the Interim Chair and membership of the Audit Committee.

#### **5653 Dates of Future Meetings**

- Monday 16 October 2023, 9-10am, via Teams
- Monday 13 November 2023, 9-10am, via Teams
- Tuesday 28 November 2023, 2-5pm, in person
- *Friday 15 December 2023, 2-5pm, via Teams (if required)*
- Thursday 25 January 2024, 10am-4pm, in person
- Friday 22 March 2024, 2-5pm, in person
- Friday 17 May 2024, 2-5pm, in person
- Friday 28 June 2024, 2-5pm, in person

**5654 Below the Line items**

<b>Paper C2023/006</b>	Council Membership and Terms of Reference was approved.
<b>Paper C2023/007</b>	Council Delegation of Authority to the Vice Chancellor and President for 2023/24 was approved.
<b>Paper C2023/009</b>	Teaching Excellence Framework 2023 Published Outcomes was noted.
<b>Paper C2023/010</b>	Council Forward Programme 2023/24 was noted.

**Notes**

**1. Papers**

Copies are available on the Council eboard portal (Diligent Boards) or on request from the Secretary. Approved Minutes and many of the papers are published on the University SharePoint site at <https://livekentac.sharepoint.com/sites/council>.

**2. Queries**

Any queries should be addressed to Dr Sinead Critchley, Director of Governance and Assurance (Secretary to Council), (email: [S.Critchley-2002@kent.ac.uk](mailto:S.Critchley-2002@kent.ac.uk)).