1. PURPOSE OF THE PAPER

This is a paper about proposed changes to the composition of the Senate Business Committee following the removal of colleges from the University structure.

This paper is provided for discussion and approval

2. RECOMMENDED ACTION

The Senate Business Committee is invited to approve a revised composition for the Committee

3. DISCUSSION

One of the outcomes of the Senate Effectiveness Review undertaken in 2015, was to include elected members of Senate on the Senate Business Committee (SBC). Currently these as defined as ‘Seven elected members of Senate (two per College [one male and one female] and one from the Business School) elected for a two year term of office.’ In considering representation on Committees following the removal of the college structure it is suggested that a revised membership should be considered by the committee in question so as to best determine appropriate representation.

The SBC is, therefore, asked to consider the following suggested model for the Committee membership post-colleges.

If the Senate membership is considered along the same boundaries as has been used for the appointment of Senate Assessors to Court, i.e. arts (schools formerly in CASS) and science (schools formerly in COPS and CLSM), the elected membership of Senate, which reflects the make-up of the University, is more heavily weighted towards science (28 arts seats to 51 science seats). If this composition is followed through and applied to the seven seats on the SBC then a possible division is that there are three seats for arts Senators and four seats for science Senators. This would have the effect of maintaining the overall composition of the committee whilst still ensuring representation from across the Senate.

The Committee is invited to discuss this proposed model, or to recommend an alternative, with a view to the revised composition being implemented following Senate on 18 October.

4. FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information is available from Professor Michael Greaves (m.greaves@abdn.ac.uk or 2017) or Dr Rachael Bernard (r.bernard@abdn.ac.uk or 3388)