

APPENDIX TO MINUTE 336

MEMBERSHIP AND REMIT OF LEGAL SERVICES TENDER PANEL

- (i) Under delegated authority, a Legal Services Tender Panel has been constituted to invite and evaluate tenders for legal services to the University.
- (ii) The Panel members are as follows: -
  - Mr ADJ Amoore (Convener, Audit Committee) *Convener*
  - Mr D Marr, Lay Member of Court
  - Mr S Cannon, University Secretary
  - Mr A Donaldson, Director of Estates
  - Mrs C Inglis, Director of Human Resources
  - Professor SD Logan, Senior Vice-Principal
  - Ms J Hartley (Clerk)
- (iii) A recommendation for appointment will be brought to the University Court at its June meeting.

## APPENDIX TO MINUTE 337

20 April 2005

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

To: All Members of University Court

### TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF THE DENTAL PRACTICE

As members of Court will recall, the future of our Dental Practice has been under consideration for some time following the recommendations of last year's internal audit report.

As an alternative to closure, we have been actively pursuing the possibility of a transfer of the Practice to the management of the NHS, thereby securing its services for the future. However, recent events have forced us to re-think our position since, following a prolonged period of ill-health, our Dentist retired on 31 March 2005. Throughout and since her absence, we have used our best endeavours to engage a Practitioner to allow the work of the Practice to continue. However, as I am sure you are aware, there is an acute shortage of NHS Dentists in the North East and, I am afraid, it has been impossible to secure appropriate cover, either on a locum or a permanent basis. It is, therefore, with regret, and in recognition of the reality that our Dental Practice cannot function without a Dental Practitioner, that we have now approved the voluntary severance applications of the support staff within the Practice, effectively leading to the temporary closure of the Dental Practice from 30 April 2005.

Negotiations with NHS Grampian will continue over the establishment of an NHS Dental Practice located within University premises. It is envisaged that the refurbished student focussed facility in Elphinstone Road may house a new Practice when it re-opens in September 2006. This new facility would be available to staff and students of the University and to the residents of the local community.

In the meantime, arrangements are in hand to inform all patients of this situation and it is possible that this may also lead to some local media coverage ahead of the next meeting of the Court on 24 May 2005.

If you have any comments on this matter or if you would like clarification of any of the above, please do not hesitate to contact me ahead of the next Court meeting.

Yours sincerely

*S Cannon*