UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN

RESOLUTION NO 303 OF 2021

[PROCEDURE FOR REMOVAL OF MEMBERS OF THE UNIVERSITY COURT]

After consultation with the Senatus Academicus, the University Court, at its meeting on 23 November 2021, passed the following Resolution:

1 Resolution No 288 of 2017 [Procedure for Removal of Members of the University Court] is hereby revoked.

2 Any proposal to invoke the procedure to remove a member of Court (whether arising under the provisions of Ordinance of the University Court No 134 [Removal of Co-opted Members of Court] or from a breach of the terms of the appointment of any member of Court) shall be submitted in the first instance to the Secretary to the University, who shall consult with the Senior Governor of the Court and, if appropriate, make recommendations to the Governance and Nominations Committee.

3 The Governance and Nominations Committee shall determine prima facie whether a case for consideration of the removal of a member by the Court has been established and advise the Court accordingly.

4 In an instance where the Governance and Nominations Committee decides that prima facie a case for consideration of removal by the Court has been established, the Governance and Nominations Committee shall within seven days of the date of its decision notify in writing the member concerned of the complaint against him or her.

5 The matter shall then be considered by the Governance and Nominations Committee. The member concerned shall have the opportunity to submit a written statement to, and the right to be heard at the meeting of the Committee. Such written statement shall cover only the specific matter of the complaint against the member and shall be provided not later than ten calendar days before the meeting of the Committee. The member concerned shall not be present during the Committee’s further deliberation of its decision.

6 The Governance and Nominations Committee will report its decision to the member concerned and to the Court. A recommendation by the Committee to remove the member from office, will be subject to the approval of Court and will require a majority of two-thirds of the members of the Court present and voting. The member concerned will have the opportunity to submit a written statement to, and to be heard at, the Court meeting where the matter is considered but shall not be eligible to exercise his or her voting rights in respect of the issue and shall not be present during the Court’s further deliberation of its decision. Such written statement shall cover only the specific matter of the complaint against the member and shall be provided not later than ten calendar days before the meeting of the Court.

7 Where a decision to remove the member is made by Court, the member concerned may seek a review of that decision. The University Secretary will arrange for the review to be undertaken by a suitably qualified individual who is external to the University and has had no prior involvement in the case.

8 The Resolution shall come into force on the day on which it is passed by the University Court.