

Schedule of Delegation and Decision-Making between Court and Policy and Resources Committee

The high level articulation of Court's role and that of the Policy and Resources Committee agreed by Court is:

“the role of Court is to develop and agree strategy and the Policy and Resources Committee should monitor the delivery of that strategy.”

The Court's Statement of Primary Responsibilities reflects this and sets out in more detail its role and the matters that as the governing body it is ultimately responsible for. In discharging those responsibilities, the Court delegates some of its authority to committees as set out in their respective remits (although Court as the governing body will remain ultimately responsible for any decisions made by sub-committees on its behalf). In this regard, and as agreed by Court in June 2020, the following articulation specifies items of business which will always require approval or discussion by Court. Also set out is the remit of the Policy and Resources Committee which should be considered to be the matters that the Court has delegated authority to it for.

MATTERS RESERVED TO COURT FOR APPROVAL/DISCUSSION

- to approve the University's Strategic plan and receive reports on Key Performance Indicators;
- to approve the annual report and annual financial accounts;
- to receive reports from the Audit Committee and to approve the appointment of internal and external auditors on the Committee's recommendation;
- to approve the University's budget;
- to approve the University's borrowing commitments including re-financing or material variation to existing arrangements; any new borrowing arrangements, and any transaction involving any "sale or lease-back" of material assets;
- to approve the University's Capital Plan;
- to approve proposed expenditure outwith the agreed revenue and capital budget with a value over £5 million and to approve all material asset sales with a value in excess of £1 million;
- to approve any change to prior Court-approved use of the funds raised by the Private Placement/Bond issue;
- to approve annually the University's Risk Appetite and consider reports on Risk Management;
- to approve the establishment of new campuses whether overseas or in the UK;
- to approve major academic re-organisations of the curriculum on the recommendation of the Senate;
- to approve the annual Institution-led Review of Academic Quality;
- to approve significant academic restructuring of the University in consultation with the Senate, in particular changes to the Schools as the formal academic governance and management structure of the University;
- to approve the Outcome Agreement with the Scottish Funding Council;
- to approve the appointment or dismissal of the Principal;
- to approve the appointment or dismissal of the Secretary to the Court;
- to approve, on the recommendation of the Governance and Nominations Committee, the appointment of independent members of Court, changes to the remits and compositions of sub-committees and appointment of the membership of sub-committees;
- to approve the removal of a member of Court from office in accordance with Resolution No 288 Procedure for Removal of Members of Court;
- to approve the Senior Staff Pay policy on the recommendation of the Remuneration Committee for implementation by the Committee at an individual level;
- to approve Ordinances and Resolutions following consultation with Senate and the General Council

NB: This does not preclude Court from discussing or seeking reports on any matter it deems relevant that are not specified here or which are delegated to committees.

Remit of the Policy and Resources Committee/Delegated Business from Court

PURPOSE

To integrate academic, financial, estate and human resource planning and policy making, and advise Court and Senate on long-term strategic objectives. To monitor the performance of the University and advise Court and Senate on performance matters as required.

Responsible for:

Strategic Objectives

- monitoring the implementation of strategies agreed by Court, including reviewing all Business Plans associated with strategic projects
- monitoring the University's Health and Safety performance

Resource Planning

- making recommendations to Court on the University's Annual Budgets and Financial Forecasts
- making recommendations to the Court regarding the University's Capital Plan and its implementation
- to approve proposed expenditure outwith the agreed revenue and capital budget with a value between £1 million to £5 million;
- monitoring the University's financial performance and approving additional expenditure on approved projects within a tolerance threshold of up to the lesser of 10% or £1m
- monitoring performance of the implementation of University's capital projects and receiving reports from the Estates Committee
- overseeing cash management, borrowing policies and compliance with banking covenants and ensuring compliance with the Financial Memorandum
- overseeing the management and performance of the University's investments
- monitoring the performance of the University's spin-out/joint venture companies
- overseeing the creation, dissolution or sale of University subsidiary companies

Policy Making

- approving University staffing and development policies and staff terms and conditions of employment
- approving the strategy for the setting of University tuition fees

Operational Performance

- monitoring the University's performance across finance, HR, student recruitment and admissions, and all other matters necessary for strategy delivery
- overseeing institutional equality and diversity issues

Ends