

Council

10 September 2024

Present: Joe Docherty (Chair), Rebecca Askew, Andrew Baldwin, Jonathan Bewes, Richard Dale, Leslie Ferrar, James Grierson, Oliver Foster, Nic Johnston, Anthony Jones, Denise Lievesley, Dan Lonsdale, Cheryl McEwan, Amir Michael, Cheryl Millington, Karen O'Brien, Nigel Perry, Philip Plyming, Ari Sadanandom, Corinne Saunders, Rob Senior, Mike Shipman, and JJ Thakkar

In Attendance: Neil Scott, Amanda Wilcox and James Walsh (Minutes)

Apologies: Terry Toney

Minutes of a Meeting of Council held in the Waterside Building (Business School)

01. Declarations of Interests

Noted: there were no declarations of interest.

02. Chief Operating Officer - Other Officer Post

Noted:

- a) recognising the scale and complexity of the current and future challenges within the Higher Education sector, the Vice-Chancellor had held several conversations with the executive leadership team about the reintroduction of the position of Chief Operating Officer (COO);
- b) noting that the position of the COO would be commensurate with senior executives identified as Other Officer Posts in the Council Regulation, it would be for Council to approve the re-instating of the post of COO;
- c) lessons would be learnt from the previous occasion when the University operated with the position of the COO, and to understand the rationale behind why the post was removed from the senior executive structure;
- d) a minor amendment was required to the Regulation 2 – The Officer of the University to include the position of COO, with the University Secretary to ensure that changes indicated how someone would resign from the position of COO;
- e) further discussions would be held to finalise the portfolio that the COO would be responsible for and confirmation would be shared with Council for information.

Agreed: to reinstate the position of the Chief Operating Officer and the resulting amendment to Regulation 2.