



EMPLOYMENT AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

20 May 2022 - via Microsoft Teams (including videolink)

CONFIRMED SUMMARY MINUTES

Contact Georgina Bailes georgina.bailes@northumbria.ac.uk, Secretary to the Board of Governors, with any queries about these Summary Minutes.

Present: H Fairfoul (Chair), C Apsey, Dr R Blackman-Woods, Professor T Lawson, D Pearson
 Apologies: Dr S Fancey, L Orme
 Observers: S Pelham
 Secretary: G Bailes, R Elliott (Assistant Secretary)
 In attendance: F Belsey [Planning and Budget Proposals 2022/23], A Dunlop, D Monnery, S Newitt, E Peart [EF21/85]

MAIN ITEMS DISCUSSED/DECIDED ON AT THE MEETING

1.	<p><u>Core Financial Performance and Planning</u> <u>Planning and Budget Proposals 2022/23</u> [Presentation] The Committee considered the outcomes of the planning round, the proposed budget for 2022/23 and the longer-term approach. The budget had been formulated to support the University’s strategic priorities around Education and Research and an effective student journey in the context of challenging income and cost pressures. The overall financial position for 2022/23 was strong and supported continuing revenue and capital investment in the University Strategy, but longer-term challenges required early action to maintain this position. The Committee commended the draft budget for further development and noted that it would be reported to the 6 June Committee meeting for endorsement to seek approval from Board of Governors on 27 June 2022.</p> <p><u>Tuition Fees, Scholarships and Discounts 2023/24</u> [EF21/84] The Committee considered the proposed tuition fees, scholarships and discounts for 2023/24. Non-regulated tuition fees charged by the University were reviewed annually against the competitive market and legal requirements; due to the increased pressure felt by the sector following the Government’s Home Undergraduate flat fee announcement and current economic uncertainty, additional research had been undertaken this year, including primary research with panels of 100 prospective students in core recruitment territories. The Committee noted that to help mitigate against the impact of inflation the approved fees would be sense checked at its 12 September 2022 meeting and approved the proposed tuition fees, scholarships and discounts for 2023/24.</p>
2.	<p><u>Policy/Regulation/Projects</u> <u>Extension of Outsourced Key Service Contracts</u> [EF21/85] The Committee considered final proposals to extend the major outsourced contracts for Student Accommodation Management and Facilities Management following its approval of the approach on 15 November 2021. Proposals had now been developed for extensions of two years to each of the contracts under the most advantageous terms, whilst remaining compliant with legal and procurement requirements The Committee approved the extension of the contracts for Student Accommodation Management and Facilities Management.</p> <p><u>Treasury Management: Bank Mandates - May 2022</u> [EF21/86] The Committee endorsed the revised banking mandate arrangements following a change in key personnel within the Finance service for submission to Board of Governors on 27 June 2022.</p>

Richard Elliott, Assistant Secretary to Employment and Finance Committee, May 2021