

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF AUDIT COMMITTEE ON MONDAY 20 NOVEMBER 2023 AT 17:30HRS VIA TEAMS

Present

Philip de Klerk	Independent Governor & Audit Chair
Don Iro	Independent Governor
Philip Ouma	Co-opted Committee Member

In attendance

Prof Syamantak Bhattacharya	Provost
Kerrie Clark	Financial Controller
Jim Irving	Chief Student Officer & University Secretary
Eran Kochlany	Chief Financial Officer
David I'Anson	Audit Partner, BDO
Ben Connor	Internal Auditor, PwC
Bridget Woolven	Clerk to the Governors
Gareth Roberts	Interim Head of Digital (Min 23/50)

23/40 Welcome & Apologies

- i. The Chair welcomed Philip Ouma to his first meeting.
- ii. Apologies had been received from Noreen Biddle Shah.
- iii. The Committee was quorate throughout.

23/41 Conflict of Interests - None.

23/42 Minutes of the Audit Committee meeting on 26 June 2023

Confidential

Approved.

23/43 Matters Arising

**Paper 23/AC/17
Confidential Unreserved**

23/44 Report on pre-meeting discussion and private meeting with Auditors

Confidential Unreserved

PART 1:

23/45 Standing Orders and Terms of Reference

**Paper 23/AC/18
Open**

**Presented by: Jim Irving,
Chief Student Officer & University Secretary**

- i. Both were noted.

23/46 External Auditors' Draft Completion Report

**Paper 23/AC/19
Confidential Unreserved**

Presented by: David I'Anson, BDO

23/47 Draft Annual Financial Statements (AFS) 22/23 Presented by: Eran Kochlany, Chief Financial Officer	Paper 23/AC/20 Confidential Unreserved
23/48 Audit Committee's draft report to Board of Governors Presented by: Bridget Woolven, Clerk to the Committee	Paper 23/AC/21 Confidential Unreserved
23/49 Risk Management Group (RMG) Report & Risk Register Presented by: Eran Kochlany	Paper 23/AC/22 Confidential Unreserved
23/50 Risk Update: recruitment of UK 18 year olds Presented by: Jim Irving	Oral Report Confidential Unreserved
<i>(Gareth Roberts joined the meeting.)</i>	
23/51 Internal Audit Reports Presented by: Ben Connor, PwC	Paper 23/AC/23 Confidential Unreserved
<i>(Gareth Roberts left the meeting.)</i>	
23/52 Internal Audit Annual Report 2022/23 Presented by: Ben Connor, PwC	Paper 23/AC/23(i) Confidential Unreserved
23/53 Internal Audit Plan 2023/24 Presented by: Ben Connor, PwC	Paper 23/AC/23(ii) Confidential Unreserved
23/54 Internal Audit – ESFA progress report Presented by: Syamantak	Oral Report Confidential Unreserved
23/55 TRAC Update Presented by: Kerrie Clark, Financial Controller	Paper 22/AC/23 Confidential Unreserved
PART 2:	
23/56 Non-audit services commissioned in 2022/23 from the University's External Auditors	Paper 23/AC/25 Confidential Unreserved
Noted.	
23/57 Value for Money (VfM) Annual Report 2021/22	Paper 23/AC/26 Confidential Unreserved
Approved.	
23/58 University Data Annual Returns Report 2022/23	Paper 23/AC/27 Confidential Unreserved
Noted.	
23/59 Bribery Act: Annual Report 2022/23	Paper 23/AC/28 Confidential Unreserved
Noted.	

23/60 Modern Slavery Act Statement **Paper 23/AC/29**
Open

Agreed to recommend the Statement to the Board on 6 December.

23/61 OfS Accounts Direction to HEIs **Paper 23/AC/30**

Noted.

23/62 Complaints received under the Public Information Disclosure Act and the University's Fraud Policy **Confidential**

23/63 Office for Students (OfS) Reportable Incidents **Confidential**

23/64 Meeting Dates – 2023/2024:

Monday 25 March 2024 – Teams meeting

Monday 3 June 2023 – In person meeting. Silver Birch Suite, Spark Building.

The meetings will commence at 17:30 hrs, preceded by pre-meeting discussion by Governors at 17:00hrs.

The meeting ended at 19:30 hrs.