



COUNCIL

**Minutes of the 249th meeting of Council held on Friday, 14 February 2020
at 2pm-3pm in the Vice-Chancellor's Office, Sussex House, or via telecon**

1. PRESENT

Present:	Dame Denise Holt (Chair) Ms Fran Barnard Mr Mark Devlin Ms Adrienne Fresko (Vice-Chair) Professor Mario Novelli Professor Kate O'Riordan Mr Albertus Schoeman Ms Aleema Shivji Professor Adam Tickell Mr Filip Vasilijevic Dr Gerhard Wolf
Present via telecon:	Mr Andy Bryant Mr Tony Bullman Mr David Curley Mr Martin McCann Professor Steve McGuire Ms Jane Parsons Professor Sir Peter Knight
In attendance:	Professor Stephen Shute (Pro Vice-Chancellor: Planning and Resources) Mr Allan Spencer (Director of Finance) Dr Tim Westlake (Chief Operating Officer and University Secretary) Dr Nancy Huggett (Deputy Head of Governance Services)
Apologies:	Ms Kirstin Baker Professor Saul Becker Professor Stephen Caddick Mr Mark Fisher Ms Katie Ghose

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- 2.1 Standing Declarations exist from Ms Baker and Professor Tickell regarding their involvement with UUK and TPR respectively.

3. MINUTES

- 3.1 The minutes of the meeting held in November and December 2019 will be considered at the next Council meeting in March 2020.

4. MATTERS ARISING

- 4.1 Matters arising will be considered at the next Council meeting in March 2020.

5. CHAIR'S ACTION

- 5.1 There have been no actions taken by the Chair on behalf of Council since the last meeting of Council

6. RESPONSE TO UUK CONSULTATION

- 6.1 The Vice-Chancellor introduced the item (paper C/249/6), providing information about the current dispute and the wider challenges affecting the higher education sector. He advised that UUK was consulting with individual universities about their appetite to make a further offer regarding pensions to the UCU and, for those universities willing to make a further offer, what they believed the substance of the offer should be. He noted universities had been asked to respond to UUK by Monday, 17 February.
- 6.2 Council discussed the potential costs and benefits associated with the available options.
- 6.3 Council **AGREED** to support UUK making a revised offer to UCU in respect of the pensions dispute.
- 6.4 Council discussed what a new formal offer should be and **AGREED** by majority that it supported restating the offer of 0.5%, subject to the conditions set out in the correspondence dated 10 February from UUK to the Vice-Chancellor which was provided to Council with the agenda paper. There was not a majority in favour of any increase in the offer.
- 6.4 It was noted that the response would be communicated to UUK by the Vice-Chancellor on behalf of the Council.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 6.1 No other business was raised.

8. DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS

Tuesday, 24 March 2020
Friday, 3 July 2020

Dr Tim Westlake
Secretary to Council
February 2020

Signed electronically with permission from the Chair, 24 March 2020

A handwritten signature in blue ink on a light blue background. The signature consists of the name "Denise" followed by the initials "HSW". The "D" is a large, cursive loop. The "H" and "S" are connected, and the "W" has a long, horizontal tail stroke.