

## **Statement of Primary Responsibilities of Council**

1. To set and agree the mission, strategic vision and values of the University with the Executive.
2. To agree the long-term academic and business plans and key performance indicators, and to ensure that these meet the interests of stakeholders, especially staff, students and alumni.
3. To ensure that processes are in place to monitor and evaluate the performance and effectiveness of the University against the plans and approved key performance indicators, which should be – where possible and appropriate – benchmarked against other comparable institutions.
4. To delegate authority to the Vice-Chancellor, as chief executive, for the academic, corporate, financial, estate and human resource management of the University: to establish and keep under regular review the policies, procedures and limits within such management functions as shall be undertaken by and under the authority of the Vice-Chancellor.
5. To ensure the establishment and monitoring of systems of control and accountability, including financial and operational controls and risk assessment, value for money arrangements, procedures for handling internal grievances and for managing conflicts of interest.
6. To establish processes to monitor and evaluate the performance and effectiveness of Council itself.
7. To conduct its business in accordance with best practice in HE corporate governance and with the principles of public life drawn up by the Committee on Standards in Public Life.
8. To safeguard the good name and values of the University.
9. To appoint the Vice-Chancellor as chief executive, and to put in place suitable arrangements for monitoring their performance.
10. To appoint a Secretary to the governing body and to ensure that, if the person appointed has managerial responsibilities in the University, there is an appropriate separation in the lines of accountability.
11. To be the employing authority for all staff in the University and to be accountable for ensuring that an appropriate human resources strategy is established.
12. To be the principal financial and business authority of the University, to ensure that proper books of account are kept, to approve the annual budget and financial statements, and to have overall accountability for the University's assets, property and estate.

13. To be the University's legal authority and, as such, to ensure that systems are in place for meeting all the University's legal obligations, including those arising from contracts and other legal commitments made in the University's name. This includes accountability for health, safety, wellbeing and security, and for equality, diversity and inclusion.
14. To receive assurance that adequate provision has been made for the general welfare of students.
15. To act as trustee for any property, legacy, endowment, bequest or gift in support of the work and welfare of the University.
16. To ensure that the University's constitution is always followed, and that appropriate advice is available to enable this to happen.
17. To promote a culture which supports health, safety and wellbeing, and inclusivity and diversity across the institution.
18. To maintain and protect the principles of academic freedom and freedom of speech legislation.
19. To ensure that all students and staff have opportunities to engage with the governance and management of the institution.