



Board of Governors' Statement of Primary Responsibilities

1. To approve the mission, strategy and key performance indicators of the University and ensure that these meet the interests of stakeholders.
2. To ensure that processes are in place to monitor and evaluate the performance and effectiveness of the University against the strategy, plans and approved key performance indicators, which should be, where possible and appropriate, benchmarked against other comparable institutions.
3. To delegate authority to the Vice-Chancellor, under the Scheme of Delegation approved by the Board for the academic, corporate, financial, estate and human resource management of the University, and to establish and keep the Scheme under regular review, receiving reports to the Board for such management functions as shall be undertaken by and under the authority of the Vice-Chancellor.
4. To ensure the establishment and monitoring of systems of control and accountability, including financial and operational controls, risk assessment, value for money arrangements, whistleblowing and managing conflicts of interest.
5. To establish processes to monitor and evaluate the performance and effectiveness of the governing body itself.
6. 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.
7. To safeguard the reputation of the University.
8. To appoint the Vice-Chancellor as Chief Executive and to put in place suitable arrangements for monitoring their performance.
9. To appoint a Clerk to the Board of Governors as secretary to the governing body and to ensure that, should the person appointed have managerial responsibilities in the University, there is an appropriate separation in the lines of accountability.
10. To be the employing authority for all staff in the University and to receive assurance that an appropriate human resources plan is established.
11. 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.
12. To be the University's legal authority and, as such, to ensure 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 and safety and for equality, diversity and inclusion.
13. To receive assurance that adequate provision has been made for the general welfare of students.

14. To act as trustee for any property, legacy, endowment, bequest or gift in support of the work and welfare of the University.
15. To ensure that the University's constitution is always followed, and that appropriate advice is available to enable this to happen.
16. To promote a culture which supports inclusivity and diversity across the University.
17. To maintain and protect the principles of academic freedom and freedom of speech legislation.
18. To ensure that students and staff have opportunities to engage with the governance of the University.

Approved by the Board of Governors (October 2023)