

**Key Messages from the Meeting of Council
on 8 July 2024**

Strategic Items

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences	Council received an update from the Pro-Vice-Chancellor Humanities and Social Sciences on current Faculty successes and priorities.
Strategy Performance Report	Council received the biannual report providing a summary of the progress being made by the University against the Vision and Strategy referenced against high-level key performance indicators.

Approvals

Business and Innovation Strategic Plan	Council approved a revised Business and Innovation Strategic Plan intended to support a university-wide focus on business and innovation as an enabler for the successful delivery of the four core University strategies.
Report from Nominations Committee	<p>Council approved the appointment of the following individuals as members of Council, with effect from 1 August 2024:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Will Garton (Director General, Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities) ▪ Lisa Hunter (Head of Strategic Communications, MHP Group) ▪ Colin Riordan (Secretary General, Association of Commonwealth Universities) <p>Council also approved recommendations from Nominations Committee relating to the appointment and re-appointment of individuals as members of University committees.</p>
Senior Appointments	<p>Council approved recommendations from the Vice-Chancellor relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The appointment of an interim Pro-Vice-Chancellor Humanities and Social Sciences ▪ The establishment of a Pro-Vice-Chancellor Culture and Inclusion ▪ The re-appointment of Professor Anya Hurlbert as Dean of Advancement until 31 December 2027.
External Audit	Council approved the appointment of Deloitte as external auditors for the statutory audit year ended 31 July 2025.

Reports

Vice-Chancellor's Business	<p>Council received updates on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Protest Encampment ▪ Fine Art Degree Centenary ▪ Research Excellence Framework ▪ Turing Scheme ▪ Colleague Success
Risk Management	Council confirmed it had received sufficient assurance that risks relating to strategic objectives and enablers were being managed appropriately.
Cybersecurity	Council received an update on the progress of the work undertaken as part of the University-wide Cyber Security Programme.
Freedom of Speech	Council endorsed an updated code of practice for freedom of speech which would be promoted to colleagues and students in the new academic year pending confirmation of a consultation outcome from the Office for Students and implementation of the Higher Education (Freedom of Speech) Act by the new government.
Additional reports considered by Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Finance Committee ▪ Remuneration Committee ▪ Summary Report from Senate: 26 June 2024