

Minutes of a Meeting of the Board of Scrutiny

5 December 2024; 11.30am; Council Room, Murray Edwards College

In attendance

Mr R Hopwood (Chair)
Dr R Lloyd (Secretary)
Dr S Cowley
Dr R Doubleday
Professor W Evans (from item 6)
Dr M Gehring (to item 5)
Dr N Habib
Dr F Mir (to item 5)
Dr J Plummer Braeckman (to item 8)
Dr O Rath Spivack
Dr B Spagnolo

Apologies

Dr M Parker Dixon

Guest: Mr Anthony Odgers (Chief Financial Officer)

Ms S Greaves (Administrator)

1. Apologies

Apologies were noted from Dr Parker Dixon.

2. Declarations of Interest

Declarations of interest were noted.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 13 November 2024

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 November 2024 (Paper A) were received and **approved**.

4. Matters Arising from the minutes not already on the agenda

None.

5. Guest: Mr Anthony Odgers, Chief Financial Officer

Mr Odgers joined the meeting.

The Board welcomed Mr Anthony Odgers, Chief Financial Officer, and the following topics were discussed:

- Planned financial cuts;
- Effect of the rises in tuition fees and National Insurance;
- Surplus Improvement Fund;
- Operational cashflow;
- Enhanced Financial Transparency (EFT);
- Contributions from Cambridge University Press & Assessment;
- Capital/Investment Fund;
- Cambridge University Endowment Fund;

- Finance Transformation Programme.

Mr Odgers left the meeting.

Drs M Gehring and F Mirs left the meeting; Professor W Evans joined the meeting.

6. Report from the Proctors

The Board thanked Dr Gehring for his helpful reports.

7. Discussion of focus areas for the Board's work

The Board identified additional people they wished to meet this year.

8. Any Other Business

Board of Scrutiny Operations Policy

It was noted that the Board has a small budget to cover the cost of its meetings. It was **agreed** that it is preferable to have a default venue each year. As the Chair is a Fellow of Murray Edwards College, it was **agreed** to hold meetings at Murray Edwards this year..

Dr J Plummer Braeckman left the meeting.

Annual Report

There was some discussion about an additional section in this year's Annual Report.

The next meeting will be at 11.30am on Thursday 19 December 2024. Ms E Rampton, the Registry, will be the guest.