

Minutes of a Meeting of the Board of Scrutiny

5 March 2025; 9.30am; Vivien Stewart Room, Murray Edwards College

In attendance

Mr R Hopwood (Chair)
Dr S Cowley
Professor W Evans
Dr M Gehring (remotely – to 5)
Dr N Habib
Dr F Mir (remotely – to 5)
Dr M Parker Dixon
Dr J Plummer Braeckman
Dr O Rath Spivack
Dr B Spagnolo

Apologies

Dr R Lloyd (Secretary)
Dr R Doubleday

Ms S Greaves (Administrator)

The Chair reminded members that members should not further any personal or private interest or objective in pursuing lines of enquiry on behalf of the Board. The Chair noted the purpose of the Board of Scrutiny and the proper use of information for the Board's purposes.

It was also important for the credibility and proper functioning of the Board that members took care not to hold out a personal interest as a subject of Board enquiry.

The Chair noted the Board's role in helping promote transparency and accountability in the University. It followed that Board members should be seen to uphold these principles in their own dealings on the Board (e.g. by fully declaring actual or perceived interests and recusing themselves from or not speaking at meetings as necessary).

1. Apologies

Apologies were noted from Drs Lloyd and Doubleday.

2. Declarations of Interest

Declarations of interest were noted.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 13 February 2025

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 February 2025 (Paper A) were received and **approved**.

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

None.

5. Twenty-ninth Report of the Board of Scrutiny: Notice in Response

The Board considered the Council's response to the Twenty-ninth Report of the Board of Scrutiny as published in the *Reporter* ([6769, 2024-25, p.244](#)).

It was noted that it was not the Board's intention to make many recommendations but, in its role as the Board of Scrutiny, it is permitted to consider whichever matters that it wishes to.

In considering its response, the Board discussed:

- the Teaching Review and supervision provision;
- Equality Impact Assessments;
- Admissions and Widening Participation;
- MyHR;
- environmental sustainability commitments;
- staff costs;
- costing of proposals.

Drs Gehring & Mir left the meeting

6. Any Other Business

The Board considered the following matters:

- the management of student welfare;
- the Veterinary School;
- University Offices;
- the time taken to resolve grievances and disputes.

The next meeting will be at 11.30am on Thursday 13 March 2025 at Murray Edwards College.