

UET meeting

Tue 25 January 2022, 10:00 - 12:00

Attendees

UET members

John Vinney (Chair), Tim McIntyre-Bhatty, Jim Andrews, David Reeve

In attendance

Jane Forster, Sarah Hutchings (Present at: 2), Christina Pizot (Minute taking)

Meeting minutes

1. Minutes and Matters arising from the previous meeting held on 18 January 2022

Approval
Chair

Minutes

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved with no further redactions or comments.

Matters arising

DR updated UET on the apprenticeship situation. DR added that PwC's review would start on week commencing 7 February 2022.

 Minutes_UET meeting_180122.pdf

2. Finance discussion

David Reeve

Present: Sarah Hutchings

2.1. Cash flow update

Discussion
Sarah Hutchings

SH joined the meeting to review our cashflow position for this week. Main movements from last week were:

- the cash balance has been increased
- some of the OfS and NHS grants have been received earlier than expected
- the Estates capital expenditure forecast has been re-phased following the latest EDC meeting which has resulted in an increase in spend for 2021/22.

SH advised that there were no known risks coming from RDS on projects as per the follow-up meeting with Deborah Wakely and Julie Northam last week.

DR advised UET that we had received confirmation in terms of our covenant position. Once we had received the finalised paperwork, this would be submitted to FRC and Board committees.

2.2. Bid approvals

Approval
David Reeve

-RED ID: 12811 – “How declining navigation abilities affect everyday lives of community dwelling older adults”, ESRC – Jan Wiener

DR noted that this bid had a good recovery rate. Negative low cashflow in 2 months but overall cash positive.

-RED ID: 12906 – “Privacy-in-Action”, EPSRC – Jane Henriksen-Bulmer

DR noted that this bid had a good contribution rate and on target. This was cash positive in terms of net gain.

-RED ID: 12921 – “Digital Twins for Disruption Resilient Manufacturing”, EPSRC – Paul de Vrieze

DR noted that the FEC rate was adequate and had a strong net gain.

DR would support all three bids from a finance point of view.

On that basis, UET approved all three bids going forward.

 Narrative for UET meeting 25.1.22.docx

2.3. Budget process

UET reviewed the budget process/planning which would be discussed at the ULT meeting tomorrow.

SH advised that as per the options discussed and outlined at last week's meeting around transformation savings, vacancy factor and ZBB, the outcomes had been updated and the revised paper had been sent to UET for review. In addition to this, the 'OfS 5 year plan' would also be considered alongside a verbal update on the Transformation savings programme.

3. Standing item: OfS and Government Reporting

Discussion

Chair

- Reportable events update

No new updates.

- Regulatory reporting tracker

JFo commented that it had been a busy week for OfS and updated UET on the recent consultations including:

-the consultation on data and indicators which was a very technical paper

-the Teaching excellence framework (TEF) which had a new set of guidelines - the submission deadline was November of this year

4. Future Meetings and Items


Note

Chair


- ULT agenda - 26 January 2022

-UET reviewed the discussion item paper. JFo noted that Andrew Bird would facilitate the discussion.

- ULT agenda - 9 February 2022

 ULT agenda - 9 Feb 2022.pdf

 ULT agenda - 26 January 2022.pdf

 discussion for Jan meeting - academic future.pdf

5. AOB

Chair

- JFo discussed the recent announcement from Minister Michelle Donelan on '*Universities pledge to end use of non-disclosure agreements*'. The external led campaign was very broad and the definition of the NDA not very clear. JA would consider this with Karen Parker, Deborah Wakely and Mandi Barron to clarify BU's position
- DR updated UET on a recent item which was raised at the last JCNC meeting with regards to the sustainability policies of one of our banks, and the outcome response which would be sent out to TU colleagues
- JA updated UET on the MRI scanner in terms of the VAT situation
- TMB advised UET that we had retained our '*HR Excellence in Research Award*' at the 8 year review point. This was a combination of work between RDS and HR.
- JA gave UET an update on Chapelgate further to a meeting with the club yesterday