

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE | Minutes of the meeting held Friday 11 December 2020**Ex-officio members present**

Atree Ghosh | VP Union Development | Chair [He/Him]
 Oliver Robinson | SU President [He/Him]
 Shannon McCaul | VP Societies & Media [She/Her]
 Paul McCarthy | VP Sport [He/Him]
 Amy Merchant | VP Welfare [She/Her]
 Bee Morgan | VP Education [She/Her]

Liberation Campaigns Officers present

Jesse Phillips | LGBTQ+ Part-time Officer [They/Them]
 Amy Stanning | Mature & Postgraduate Students' Officer [She/Her]
 Molly Lawson | Students with Disabilities Officer [She/Her]
 Yu Hong Goh | International Students' Officer [She/Her]
 Charli Clement | Womens+ Officer [She/Her]
 Noah Katz | Faculty Taught Rep [They/Them]

In attendance

Chris Cottam | Education & Support Unit Manager and Chair's Aide [He/Him]

Meeting held via Microsoft Teams due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Committee acknowledged the meeting would be recorded for minutes purposes and would be transcribed from the recording by the Executive Administrator.

The Chair formally welcomed members to the meeting, determined that the meeting had reached quorum and in the interests of time asked that typed updates be forwarded to him / the Executive Administrator for inclusion in the minutes.

Agenda Item 1 | Apologies | received from VP Education and VP Sports who would be joining later.

Agenda Item 2 | Minutes of previous meeting | held 27 November were not yet available and would be circulated for approval / amendments in due course.

Agenda Item 3 | Matters arising from the minutes [not elsewhere on the agenda]

Agenda Item 4 | Items for Approval

4.1 Scrutiny Officer Update | presented by the VP Union Development, Atree Ghosh

Approval was being sought to update Section 3 of the Accountability & Transparency Bylaw, by replacing the existing wording with the following:

- 3.1. *Scrutiny Officers exist to aid transparency and accountability, provide constructive feedback, and monitor progress made against policy implementation by the Executive Committee. Scrutiny Officers shall also monitor the progress made by the Full-Time Officers against manifesto pledges and any mandates.*
- 3.2. *If nominations and the appointment process of Scrutiny Officers allow, there shall be a minimum of two scrutiny Officers assigned to each Full-Time Officer who will be responsible for monitoring their progress through regular meetings.*
- 3.3. *There shall be a minimum of one Scrutiny meeting per academic term. During the meetings, the Scrutiny Officers will have an opportunity to question the Full-Time Officer they are scrutinising. These meetings will be recorded and published with accompanying transcripts in an area accessible to members.*
- 3.4. *Once per term, Scrutiny Officers have the choice to either produce a rounded statement, or a short video about the progress of their assigned Full-Time Officer. Statements and videos will be published in an area accessible to members.*
- 3.5. *Once per academic term, at the direction of the Scrutiny Officers, the Full-Time Officers will produce a short report that outlines a list of priorities and committees they attend to be published in an area accessible to member.*

It was highlighted that the proposal had arisen from questions received about the situation regarding Scrutiny Officers and although such officers had been appointed, and training arranged, it was believed the current practice was lengthy, laborious, and engagement was seriously lacking.

A concern was raised regarding potential criticism that the Union would be less accountable and was diminishing the scrutiny mechanism. There was the argument that there was no engagement but the question was, was it likely to occur and had mitigations been prepared.

It was stated that feedback from the Governance & Democracy Review [Executive Committee to receive this in the near future] had been viewed and believed the change did not reduce scrutiny, was about making it more accessible and would boost engagement. It was hoped the system would be strengthened, the presentation format would be more flexible, had been done to increase engagement and in turn accountability, rather than the opposite.

The proposal was taken to a vote and **passed unanimously**.

Agenda Item 5 | Items for Information

ACTION | Chief Executive, Full-time and Liberation Campaigns Officers to forward typewritten updates to the Chair / Executive Administrator, for inclusion in the Minutes, as requested by the Chair at the start of meeting

Agenda Item 6 | Any Other Business | No any other business raised.

