

University of Greenwich Governing Body: Statement of Primary Responsibilities

1. To set and agree the mission, strategic vision and values of the University with the executive.
2. To approve long-term academic and business plans and key performance indicators, and to ensure that these meet the interests of stakeholders, especially staff, students and alumni.
3. To ensure processes are in place to monitor and evaluate the performance and effectiveness of the University against the strategy, plans and approved key performance indicators, which should be, where possible and appropriate, benchmarked against other comparable institutions.
4. As appropriate and in accordance with the University's Articles of Association, to delegate authority to the Vice Chancellor as chief executive, for the academic, corporate, financial, estate, and human resource management of the University, and to delegate authority to committees reporting to the Governing Body.
5. To establish and keep under regular review the policies, procedures and limits within such delegated functions shall be undertaken by and under the authority of the Vice-Chancellor and committees.
6. To ensure the establishment and monitoring of systems of control and accountability, including financial and operational controls, risk assessment, value for money arrangements and procedures for handling internal grievances and for managing conflicts of interest. To ensure that the University has an active process for the management and control of risk which shall include a requirement for the Governing Body's Audit and Risk Committee to report to it on a regular basis.
7. To receive and test assurance from the Academic Council that academic governance, including the standard of University awards, the student academic experience and student outcomes are adequate and effective.
8. To maintain and protect the principles of academic freedom and freedom of speech legislation.
9. To establish processes to monitor and evaluate the performance and effectiveness of the Governing Body itself.
10. To conduct its business in accordance with best practice in higher education corporate governance and with the principles of public life drawn up by the Committee on Standards in Public Life.
11. To safeguard the good name and values of the University.

12. To take steps to ensure that the Students' Union of the University acts fairly and democratically and is accountable for its finances.
13. To appoint the Vice-Chancellor and to put in place suitable arrangements for monitoring his/her performance.
14. To appoint a secretary to the Governing Body and to ensure that, if the person appointed has managerial responsibilities, there is an appropriate separation in the lines of accountability.
15. To be the employing authority for all staff and to be responsible for establishing a human resources strategy.
16. To be the principal financial and business authority of the University, to ensure that proper books of account are kept, to approve the annual budget and financial statements, and to have overall responsibility for the university's assets, property and estate.
17. To be the University's legal authority and, as such, to ensure that systems are in place for meeting all the institution's legal obligations, including those arising from contracts and other legal commitments made in the University's name. This includes accountability for health, safety and security and for equality, diversity and inclusion, and the requirements of the Office for Students Regulatory Framework.
18. To receive assurance that adequate provision has been made for the general welfare of students, in consultation with the Academic Council.
19. To act as trustee for any property, legacy, endowment, bequest or gift in support of the work and welfare of the University.
20. To make, alter, add to or repeal such Regulations as the Governing Body may deem necessary or expedient for the proper conduct and management of the University.
21. To ensure that the University's Articles of Association and Regulations are followed at all times and that appropriate advice is available to enable this to happen.
22. To promote a culture which supports inclusivity and diversity across the institution.
23. To ensure that all students and staff have opportunities to engage with the governance and management of the University.

Approved by the Governing Body 19 October 2021