

Statement of Primary Responsibilities

1. To approve the mission and strategic vision of the institution, long-term academic and business plans and key performance indicators, and to ensure that these meet the interests of stakeholders.
2. To ensure compliance with the University's Charter, Statutes, Regulations, Scheme of Delegation and other rules, as well as UK and EU legal requirements, where applicable.
3. To delegate authority to the President and Vice-Chancellor, as chief executive, for the academic, corporate, financial, estate and personnel management of the institution. Also, to establish and keep under regular review the policies, procedures and limits within such management functions as shall be undertaken by and under the authority of the head of the institution.
4. To ensure the establishment and monitoring of systems of control and accountability, including financial and operational controls and risk assessment, and procedures for handling internal grievances and for managing conflicts of interest.
5. To ensure processes are in place to monitor and evaluate the performance and effectiveness of the institution against the plans and approved key performance indicators, which should be, where possible and appropriate, benchmarked against other comparable institutions.
6. To establish processes to monitor and evaluate the performance and effectiveness of the Governing Body itself.
7. 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.
8. To safeguard the good name and values of the institution.
9. To appoint the President and Vice-Chancellor as chief executive, and to put in place suitable arrangements for monitoring their performance.
10. To appoint a secretary to the Governing Body and to ensure that, if the person appointed has managerial responsibilities in the institution, there is an appropriate separation in the line of accountability.
11. To be the employing authority for all staff in the institution and to be responsible for establishing a human resources strategy.
12. To be the principal financial and business authority of the institution, 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.
13. To be the institution'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 institution's name.
14. To act as trustee for any property, legacy, endowment, request or gift in support of the work and welfare of the institution.
15. To ensure that arrangements are in place for the proper management of health and safety in respect of students, staff and anyone else affected by the University's operations.
16. To ensure, through the appointment of lay persons (in accordance with the Statutes), that there is a balance of skills and experience, amongst the members of the Governing Body, which is sufficient to enable it to meet its primary responsibilities.