

The governing body (“the Board of Governors”) is the University’s supreme decision-making body. In accordance with the Articles and Instrument of Government, the Higher Education Code of Governance and the requirements of the Office for Students with particular reference its Public Interest Governance Principles, the principal responsibilities of the Board are as follows:

1. To work in consultation with the executive to set the mission and strategic direction of the University, its long term academic and business plans, performance indicators, and to ensure that these meet the interests of stakeholders.
2. To ensure that appropriate supporting strategies are in place, including in relation to Finance, Estates and Human Resources, to enable the University to achieve its mission.
3. To ensure that the Board of Governors has a clear understanding of the University’s core academic business and that an appropriate Education Strategy, as approved by the Academic Board, is in place.
4. To monitor and evaluate the performance and effectiveness of the institution against plans and to work with the Executive to establish appropriate key performance indicators, which should be, where possible and appropriate, benchmarked against other appropriate institutions.
5. In addition to the authority delegated to the Vice-Chancellor (as chief executive) for the academic, corporate, financial, estate and people management of the institution, to establish and keep under regular review the policies, procedures and limits under the authority of the Vice-Chancellor.
6. To be the principal financial and business authority of the institution, to ensure that sound financial processes and procedures are in place, to approve and monitor the annual budget and financial statements, and to have overall responsibility for the University’s financial sustainability, its assets, property and estate.
7. To be the University’s legal authority as defined under the relevant legislation, and as such, to ensure that systems are in place for meeting all the institution’s legal and regulatory obligations, including those arising from contracts and other legal commitments made in the institution’s name.
8. To make appropriate provision for the support, advice, guidance and welfare of students, in consultation with the Academic Board.
9. 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.
10. To appoint the University’s external and internal auditors.
11. To establish processes to monitor and evaluate the performance and effectiveness of the bodyboard of Governors itself.
12. 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.
13. To safeguard the good name and values of the University.
14. To appoint a Vice-Chancellor of the institution as chief executive, and to put in place suitable arrangements for monitoring his/her performance.

15. To appoint a Clerk to the Board of Governors and to ensure that, if the person appointed has managerial responsibilities in the institution, there is an appropriate separation in the lines of accountability.
 16. To be the employing authority for all staff in the institution and to be responsible for approving and reviewing a human resources strategy.
 17. To act as trustee for any property, legacy, endowment, bequest or gift in support of the work and welfare of the University.
 18. To act as charity trustees in law and ensure the University promotes the advancement of education for the public benefit, its charitable purpose under the Charities Act 2011.
 19. To ensure that the University's constitution is followed at all times and that appropriate advice is available to enable this to happen.
 20. To ensure the accuracy of the information provided by the University to the Office for Students' and its compliance with the requirements of the regulatory framework and conditions of registration.
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Updated by a resolution of the Board of Governors on 22 November 2019.