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LIVERPOOL HOPE UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY COUNCIL (REFLECTIVE): Tuesday 29th September 2020

PRESENT: Revd Canon Peter Winn (in the Chair), Mr Charles Mills (Vice-Chair)
Revd Dr Sheryl Anderson, Rt Revd Paul Bayes, Mrs Jane Beever, Ms J Ellis
Revd Canon Chris Fallon, Dr P Haughan, Very Revd Dr S Jones,
Fr Chris McCoy, Dr Arthur Naylor, Revd Canon Professor Kenneth Newport,
Fr Michael O'Dowd, Mr H Pearce, Professor Gerald Pillay, Ms P Raper,
Mr Ultan Russell, Mrs Maggie Swinson, Dr C Wakefield,
HH Judge Graham Wood QC

By invitation: Ms Laura Gittins (Clerk to Council), Mr Derrick Dykins (minute secretary),
Ms S Beecroft (Executive Director of Finance Services & Resources) and
Professor Nagar (Pro Vice-chancellor Research).

1. The Chair **received apologies of absence** from Dr Simon Hulme and Mr John Norbury. He welcomed all new members to the meeting and each member introduced themselves briefly.

2. **The Mission of Liverpool Hope University**

The Chair led a discussion on the Mission of the University using documents which members had reviewed in advance of the meeting: The Renewed Covenant Community, Matthew 10; and a discussion sheet relating to this. Certain members of Council led on each of the seven questions at the end of the discussion sheet. The responses reaffirmed the University's commitment to healing, restoring community and making society whole again. This was tied into the University's mission in pursuing excellence and overcoming complex barriers, and the need for a model of leadership that embodied courage, humanity, hopefulness and joy, particularly in the current context of the pandemic. The Nolan principles of governance were also referenced as aligning with the mission and its core aims of mutual respect, and its pursuit of truth, beauty and goodness. This harks back to the University's corporate plan and the importance of the collegium.

3. **Update: Covid-19**

University Staff presented an update on the protocols and processes the University has put in place to manage the current pandemic. The Vice Chancellor gave a general overview of the current situation, which included a range of measures, and the creation of a number of different teams, to ensure that the University environment is safe for both staff and students.

Dr Haughan explained how the measures had affected the student experience. Students from the last academic year were subject to amended academic regulations which enabled them to graduate or progress without any detriment to their academic standing. Recruitment for new students had been exceptionally good, and induction and orientation had gone smoothly with a very wide range of online sessions. Approximately 1,200 students had been welcomed into the University's Halls of Residence and the

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feedback from parents on the protocols put in place to do so safely was positive. Since their arrival, a number of students have developed symptoms or have tested positive and have been isolating. These students are being looked after by a dedicated team of staff. Dr Haughan noted that feedback from academic staff has suggested that student engagement is very high.

Professor Newport said that regular communication with staff was taking place and individual risk assessments had been conducted by managers to ensure that those shielding, or living with dependants who were shielding, could work safely.

Ms Beecroft said that estates and catering services had been working hard to make the University physical environment safe for staff and students, with signage and protocols for movement around the campus, and for usage of all facilities and rooms. Arrangements for residential students who are required to isolate were in place and already being used. Catering are looking at ways of allowing residential students to order food and provisions from their service online.