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LIVERPOOL HOPE UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY COUNCIL EXTRAORDINARY MEETING: 19th January 2023

PRESENT: Revd Canon Peter Winn (in the Chair), Mrs Jane Beever (Vice-Chair), Dr Edwin Djabatey, Ms Jean Ellis, Dr Penny Haughan, Very Revd Dr Sue Jones, Fr Chris McCoy, Ms Erin Meharry, Dr Arthur Naylor, Professor Atulya Nagar, Mr John Norbury, Ms Paula Raper, Mr Ultan Russell, Mrs Maggie Swinson (14 members)

By invitation: Mr Derrick Dykins (Clerk to Council)

1. Apologies for absence were received from Mr Tim Alderman, Ms Ann Marie Costello, Ms Lesley Martin-Wright, Ms Deborah Shackleton and Professor Caroline Wakefield

2. TEF Submission

The meeting was convened to consider the final draft of the University's TEF submission which members had received. Dr Haughan commended the work of Ms Murray, Ms Kelly, Dr Walsh, Prof McGrail and other colleagues who had worked hard to draft the submission. Dr Haughan explained that the submission placed the University in a strong position for a Silver award, but that staff were attempting to demonstrate why the University should retain its Gold status via the narrative.

Dr Haughan said that data had been scrutinised from every direction possible to ensure that nothing was missed. The initial draft was reviewed by Academic Committee shortly before Christmas, and since returning after the close-down the Data Group have been working to ensure the narrative highlights best practice. She had also worked closely with the Students' Union about their submission and, although this was separate to the University's, they were able to state that they had worked in partnership. On *educational gain*, Dr Haughan explained that this was effectively an experiment by OfS and might be done differently in future.

If there were any comments Council would like to be taken into consideration, Dr Haughan said she would be happy to review these with the final submission. Dr Naylor said there were no surprises in the draft which had a clear well-written narrative.

Members **APPROVED** the University's TEF submission.

3. Any Other Business

Dr Haughan updated members on industrial action at the University. She noted that the action by UCU and Unison came at a time when the country was going through a period of turbulent industrial relations. There had been strike action at the University prior to Christmas but any student learning missed was either covered shortly after the strike day, or there are plans to address this later this term. However, further action is planned by both unions. Unison have a mandate as a local branch which runs out at the end of February so will need to re-ballot. UCU has a national mandate and will take 18 days of action in February and March. There is a pay offer from UCEA which is between 4% and 7% depending upon grade, followed through from the 3% given last year. Most will have a 7% increase but there are indications that this will not be accepted. The University is concerned as this will create issues, but has contingencies in

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place to mitigate as much as possible. Dr Haughan noted that pay is being withheld from those on strike but in April there will be a re-ballot which may include an assessment boycott. If this transpires, pay deduction may need to be reviewed.

Dr Haughan reminded members of the upcoming Foundation and Graduation Days and welcomed them to attend.