



Senate

<b>Paper Title</b>	<b>Executive summary of the Council meeting held on 17 November 2022.</b>
<b>Outcome requested</b>	Senate is asked to <b>note</b> the executive summary of the Council meeting held on 17 November 2022.
<b>Points for Senate members to note and further information</b>	N/A
<b>Questions for Senate to consider</b>	N/A
<b>Regulatory/statutory reference points</b>	N/A
<b>Strategy and risk</b>	N/A
<b>Reporting/consideration route for the paper</b>	Senate 15 December 2022
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<b>Sponsor</b>	Jonathan Morgan, Chief Governance Officer and University Secretary

# COUNCIL

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

*Non-confidential confirmed minutes and papers of Council are available at:*  
<https://arcs.qmul.ac.uk/governance/council/council-meeting-papers/>.  
*Alternatively, contact the Assistant Secretary to Council: Dr Nadine Lewycky,*  
[n.lewycky@qmul.ac.uk](mailto:n.lewycky@qmul.ac.uk)

**Meeting date: 17 November 2022**

### **Main Items Discussed**

#### **1. President and Principal's report**

Council **discussed** a report from the President and Principal. Council discussed the current government policy environment in relation to international students coming to the UK and universities relationships with Chinese institutions.

Council discussed the changes to the forthcoming National Student Survey. Council would receive a paper on the Not Eligible to Progress Key Performance Indicator in March and School-level data at the Faculty deep dive presentations taking place between March and July.

#### **2. Deep dive on strategic partnerships**

Council **received** a deep dive presentation on the university's partnerships in the key strategic areas of health, employment and civic engagement. Our partnerships with NHS trusts throughout London and the south-east of England provided student placements, research partnerships, and clinical input into our teaching. The BSc Accountancy (flying start) programme with PwC launched in September 2022 and attracted students from diverse socio-economic and financial backgrounds. We had been successful in winning the agreement with PwC for their London flying start centre in part due to the diversity of our student population and our role in promoting social mobility. Our Civic University Agreement had five priority areas developed through a listening campaign with London Citizens and further listening activity partnering with the Institute of Community Studies. We were a partner in the National Civic Impact Accelerator funded by Research England, which aimed to transform and scale up the ability of universities and anchor institutions to work in partnership with their communities.

#### **3. Financial Statements 2021–22**

Council **considered** and **approved** the financial statements 2021–22 for submission to the Office for Students, on the recommendation of Finance and Investment Committee and Audit and Risk Committee.

#### **4. External and Internal audit**

Council **considered** the external audit annual report from BDO who were completing their first year as our external auditors. Council **considered** and **approved** the letter of representation to the External Auditor.

Council **considered** the internal audit annual report from KPMG including the Head of Internal Audit Opinion.

#### **5. Assurance reporting**

Council **considered** the Health, Fire and Safety annual report 2021–22. It had been noted that the level of near miss reporting was low and the process had been referred back to the Directorate for review.

Council **considered** and **approved** the Prevent Duty annual monitoring return for reporting to the Office for Students. There had been no Prevent-related referrals during the reporting period. Safeguarding training had been expanded as part of our requirements in relation to degree apprenticeships.

#### **6. Infrastructure business cases**

Council **considered** two business cases to refurbish the Fogg and Garrod buildings. Council **approved** the business cases on the recommendation of Finance and Investment Committee.

#### **7. Remuneration Committee meetings and annual report**

Council **received** executive summaries of the Remuneration Committee meetings held on 7 and 24 October.

Council **considered** and **approved** the Remuneration annual report for 2022. The CUC Higher Education Remuneration Code requires governing bodies of universities to publish a Remuneration Annual Report following a standard template. The document is available on the website at <https://arcs.gmul.ac.uk/media/arcs/governance/council/committees/remuneration-committee/2022-23/Remuneration-Annual-Report-2022.pdf>.

#### **8. Presentation on Council's responsibilities in relation to academic assurance**

Council **received** a presentation on its responsibilities in relation to academic assurance. The presentation included an overview of the Office for Students B and C ongoing conditions of registration and a deep dive on Condition B1: academic experience.