

DURHAM SU BOARD OF TRUSTEES

DRAFT MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON 25 SEPTEMBER 2024

Members present: Graeme Osborn (Chair) Dan Lonsdale, Moitreya Ganguli, Helen Cutting, Rob Drury, Emma Clarke, Josh Loan-Clarke, Liam Isaac, Dylan Jones.

In attendance: Gareth Hughes.

Apologies received: Catherine Howells, Calum Cook.

1. Opening of the meeting

NOTED: apologies.

NOTED: Dylan Jones is a member of the Durham Union Society.

2. Durham SU relationship with Durham Union Society

NOTED: actions taken since the last meeting.

APPROVED: continued work with DUS, subject to the position as at September 2023.

The Chief Executive updated the trustees on conversations with the DUS trustees and student leadership. DUS felt that it would be able to show the Durham community that it had completed the work it promised in September 2023, for an original deadline of March 2024, by spring 2025. It acknowledged, however, that it had failed to achieve the outcome it had promised to the Durham community, despite Durham SU's help and encouragement.

The trustees supported the Chief Executive approaching DUS to reiterate Durham SU's support for its culture change work. This would offer the best opportunity to give Assembly the best information on progress, to support its reflection on work with DUS in the future.

The trustees regretted that DUS had not achieved the outcome it promised, as there was a clear interest in a positive anti-racist culture on campus. The trustees were clear, however, that it was DUS' responsibility to achieve what it promised the Durham community.

There was no appetite to authorise the Chief Executive to offer an advertising opportunity to DUS. The agreement made last year had clear terms, which DUS had not met. DUS should not be surprised by the trustees' decision, but the Chief Executive was asked to emphasise the continued desire to offer constructive support for the culture change work.

3. Terms of reference

APPROVED: terms of reference for the General Purposes Committee, and edits to the Delegation Statement.

4. Senior Staff Restructure

NOTED: an update on consultation to restructure the senior staff team.

End of meeting