

**Key Messages from the Meeting of Council  
on 31 March 2025**

**Approvals**

<b>Annual Student Casework Report</b>	Council approved the University's annual student casework report.
<b>Lay Membership of Audit, Risk and Assurance Committee</b>	Council approved the appointment of Tony Taylor (IT and Business Change Director for Greggs plc) as a lay member of Audit, Risk and Assurance Committee.
<b>Counter-Fraud, Anti-Bribery and Anti-Corruption Policy</b>	Council approved the University policy.
<b>Retirement Benefits Plan</b>	Council approved the appointment of Jess Fogarty (Head of Internal Audit) as a University-appointed trustee of the Retirement Benefits Plan.
<b>Leadership of Culture and Inclusion</b>	Following the meeting, Council approved, by circulation, a proposal from the University to advertise for a Dean of Culture and Inclusion for a period of 12 months. The role will replace the current Dean of Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion, and Dean of Research Culture and Strategy posts, the terms of office of which are both due to end in July 2025.

**Reports**

<b>Vice-Chancellor's Business</b>	<p>Council received updates on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Voluntary Severance Scheme</li> <li>▪ Industrial Action</li> <li>▪ Freedom of Speech</li> <li>▪ Trusted Research Evaluation Framework</li> <li>▪ Foreign Influence Registration Scheme</li> <li>▪ Transnational Education</li> </ul>
<b>Risk Management</b>	Council confirmed it had received sufficient assurance that risks relating to strategic objectives and enablers were being managed appropriately.
<b>Finance Committee</b>	Council received the University's Quarterly Financial Report for the quarter ending 31 January 2025 and an update on key strategic projects.
<b>Additional reports considered by Council</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Audit, Risk and Assurance Committee</li> <li>▪ University - Students' Union Partnership Committee</li> <li>▪ Key Messages from Senate, 15 January and 19 February 2025</li> <li>▪ Reported Business</li> </ul>

Simon Meacher  
Head of Executive and Governance Office  
9 April 2025