

Confirmed minutes

Governing Body

Held on Thursday 29 April 2021, virtually via Microsoft Office Teams.

Present	Julia Unwin DBE	Chair
	Steve Milner	Deputy Chair
	Mohammed Ali OBE	Governor
	Jamie Andrews	Governor
	Jon Hammond Booth DL	Governor
	Professor Karen Bryan OBE	Governor
	The Rt Revd Dr Tom Butler	Governor
	Dr Rob Edgar	Governor
	The Rt Revd Paul Ferguson	Governor
	Richard France	Governor
Professor Graham Henderson CBE DL	Governor	
Apologies	Cath Clelland MBE	Governor
	Russell Davidson	Governor
	Mark Fordyce	Governor
	The Rt Revd Dr Jonathan Frost	Governor
	Maggie Pavlou	Governor
	Ian Wallace	Governor
In attendance	Laura Hallett	Director Strategy and Projects
	Rob Hickey	Chief Operating Officer
	Professor Rob Mortimer	Pro Vice Chancellor Research and Knowledge Transfer
	Professor Susan Orr	Pro Vice Chancellor Learning and Teaching
	Dr Amanda Wilcox	University Secretary
	Sally-Ann Long	Minuting Secretary
	Emma Vincent	Staff governor-elect

74/20 Welcome and apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone and apologies were noted.

75/20 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

76/20 Strategy Refresh

The Vice Chancellor, Professor Karen Bryan, provided a presentation, and spoke to the final draft of the refreshed Strategy 2026. [Secretary's note: the presentation was subsequently circulated]

The Vice Chancellor outlined the process for the Strategy refresh. The process had begun in November 2020 and, following the appointment of the new Pro Vice Chancellors, had been taken forward by the Executive Board. Consultations had taken place with the senior leadership team, the wider staff body, trade unions, and the Students' Union, as well as two meetings of governors and co-opted members

of Governing Body committees. Executive Board had analysed and synthesised the feedback from the consultations and had considered the literature relating to Gen Z. The draft refreshed Strategy had been discussed at an extra-ordinary meeting of the Academic Board on 4 April 2021. Following discussion, Academic Board had agreed to recommend the draft refreshed Strategy 2026 to Governing Body for approval.

The draft had subsequently been shared with the Chair of Governing Body, and one of the governors who had attended the two sessions with governors and co-opted members of Governing Body committees offered final minor amendments and wording enhancements. The final draft version had then been circulated to governors.

The Vice Chancellor confirmed that there had been no major change of direction since the version provided to governors at the discussion session in March, but outlined how governor and co-optee feedback had been considered and incorporated into the final draft. The final draft was shorter and more focused. The Executive Board believed that the refreshed Strategy provided the right amount of stretch for the University.

The Chair, Julia Unwin, thanked the Vice Chancellor for the presentation.

Governing Body welcomed the refreshed Strategy and noted that comments made during its discussion session earlier in March, had been taken into consideration. It was agreed that the consultation process had been extremely valuable, and the final document reflected an appropriate balance between being informative and concise.

In response to a question about fundraising, the Vice Chancellor confirmed that this would continue to be taken forward in a number of ways, including through the University's work with alumni. The Finance and Capital Development Committee received regular reports on fundraising from the Fundraising and Alumni Development Office.

The Vice Chancellor reported that supporting strategies and KPIs would be reviewed as appropriate. Staff would be encouraged to reflect on their areas of work in the light of the refreshed Strategy.

Governing Body noted that the City of York Council was in the process of developing a ten- year plan for York, and had invited the University to discuss its Strategy alongside their emerging plan.

The Chair concluded the discussion by thanking everyone for their contribution to the process, in particular the Director of Strategy and Projects, Laura Hallett.

Governing Body **approved** the refreshed Strategy 2026.

77/20 Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 15 July 2021