MINUTES
Board of Governors

APPROVED/**CONFIRMED**

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS HELD AT 9.30AM ON WEDNESDAY, 25TH MARCH 2026 IN THE 5TH FLOOR CORNER ROOM, TOWN HOUSE, PENRHYN ROAD CAMPUS

PRESENT: Tom Smyth (Chair), Roger King, Sean Alleyne, Seetha Kumar, Stephan Burow, Caroline Mawhood, Evelyn Eguridu (until 12:00), Bimal Patel, Hamza Haroon, Steven Spier, Katharine Jackson, Richard Thomas, Ian Jennings, Katy Taylor.

In attendance:
Amir Alani, Provost, Faculties of Engineering, Science and the Environment and of Business and Social Sciences; Kathy Curtis, Provost, Faculty of Health, Science, Social Care and Education and of Kingston School of Art; Louisa Green, Executive Director for Students; Caroline Harries, Chief Operating Officer and Chief Financial Officer (remote attendance, agenda items 7 to 9,); Jo MacDonnell, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Education) (minute 41); Tim Linsey, Head of Technology Enhanced Learning (minute 41); Simon Wortham, Acting Head of Academic Services; Adrian Parry, University Secretary; Yousra Baoud, Governance and Committees Advisor (minutes).

Formal Matters

26. Apologies

26.1 Apologies for absence were received from Behrouz Zafari. The meeting was deemed quorate.

27. Conflicts of Interest

27.1 No conflicts of interest were declared.

28. Minutes of the Board of Governors held on 26th November 2025

28.1 The minutes of the Board of Governors meeting held on 26th November 2025 were **approved** as an accurate record.

29. Matters Arising / Action Grid (Paper 24/25)

29.1 The Board **noted** the action grid and the updates presented. The Chair highlighted that progress against key actions had been maintained, with several items either completed or substantially advanced.

Chair's Business

30. Annual Review – *verbal report*

30.1 The Chair provided an update on Board governance activity and the forthcoming annual review process for governors.

30.2 The Board **noted** the report.

Vice-Chancellor's Business

31. Vice-Chancellor's Report (Paper BG 25/25)

31.1 The Vice-Chancellor's report provided an overview of the University's position and performance, and key sector-wide developments.

31.2 The Board **noted** the report.

32. Presentation – University Alliance and Sector benchmarking 2024-25

32.1 The Chief Operating Officer and Chief Financial Officer provided a presentation that benchmarked the University's financial performance against other members of the University Alliance mission group as well as other universities. This demonstrated the strong financial performance of the University and the serious financial difficulties of some universities.

32.2 The Board welcomed the COO and CFO's updates.

33. Investment presentation for Middle Mill: Kingston University – Middle Mill Context and Background (Paper BG 26/25) and Size and Shape Potential for Kingston University (Paper BG 27/25)

33.1 The Vice-Chancellor and the Chief Operating Officer and Chief Financial Officer delivered a presentation outlining the strategic context, demand analysis, and rationale for the proposed Middle Mill development at Knights Park, along with wider considerations for the future size and shape of the University.

33.2 The Board **noted** the papers.

34. KSU President Update *(Verbal Update by the Kingston Student Union President)*

34.1 The President of Kingston Students' Union (KSU) provided a verbal report, summarising organisational developments, student engagement activity, and key priorities undertaken by KSU over recent months, with a continued focus on enhancing the student experience and supporting student wellbeing.

34.2 The Board **noted** the update.

35. Board and Committee dates 2026-27 (Paper BG 28/25)

35.1 The University Secretary presented the paper, which provided the schedule of Board and Committee dates for 2026/27. Governors were asked to review the dates and inform the University Secretary of any potential difficulties.

35.2 The Board and Committee dates for 2026-27 were **agreed** subject to any further feedback received. **[CG&CU to note]**

Clerk's Reports: Regulation and Governance

36. Higher Education Regulation and Policy Update (Paper BG 29/25)

36.1 The University Secretary introduced the report, which provided an overview of recent developments in higher education regulation and policy, and their potential implications for the University.

36.2 The Board **noted** the report.

37. OfS Tracker (Paper BG 30/25)

37.1 The Board **noted** the report.

Annual Reports and Items to be Noted

38. Development and Fundraising Annual Due Diligence Report (Paper BG 31/25)

38.1 The Board **noted** the paper.

39. Health and Safety Annual Report 2024/25 (BG 32/25)

39.1 The Board **noted** the paper.

40. Any Other Business

40.1 The Board was informed of the requirement to formally approve a University representative to serve on the Kingston Education Trust. Joanna MacDonald, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Education) was proposed for this role, and the Board approved the nomination.

40.2 The University Secretary provided an update on recent engagement with the Office for Students, noting that the University's annual Prevent submission for 2024/25 had been accepted by the OfS, thereby signifying that the University had complied with its statutory Prevent duty.

41. Presentation on AI in learning and Teaching

41.1 The Board received a presentation from the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Education) and the Head of Technology Enhanced Learning on the University's approach to Artificial Intelligence (AI) in learning and teaching.

Dates of forthcoming meetings:

9.30am, Wednesday 13th May 2026 (Horizon Scanning Day)
3.00pm, Wednesday 24th June 2026

Signed: …………………………………………… **Date:** …………………..…..
Tom Smyth (Chair)