Minutes of the meeting of the Group Audit and Risk Committee held at 3.00 pm on Monday, 7 September 2020 via MS Teams

Present

Duncan Brown (Chair) John Cole Mark Lemmon Rob Orr

Apologies

Richard Flatman

In attendance

Pat Bailey Alison Chojna (item 7 only) Kerry Johnson Deborah Johnston Nicole Louis Marcelle Moncrieffe-Johnson David Phoenix Mathew Ring (BDO; item 7 only) Ed Spacey (items 1-6 only) James Stevenson Graeme Wolfe (item 7 only) Gemma Wright (BDO)

1. Welcome and apologies

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting.

The above apologies were noted.

2. **Declarations of interest**

No interests were declared on any item on the agenda.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting

The committee approved the minutes of the meeting of 12 August 2020 and their publication.

4. Business recovery project update September 2020

The committee discussed the update on the coronavirus business recovery project and plans for the re-opening of the LSBU campus, initially in week commencing 14 September 2020 to welcome new undergraduates.

The committee noted the measures taken to mitigate the risk of an outbreak on campus, including the requirement for staff and students to wear face coverings, and the implementation of the Safezone track and trace app, which was ready to go live. It was noted that the installation of the Safezone app was not mandatory, but that staff and students who were on-site were 'expected' to download the app.

The committee discussed in detail the LSBU coronavirus alert levels and associated triggers. Committee members queried whether the trigger levels and cumulative events had been set at an appropriate level. The Executive gave assurance that the framework had been developed through discussions with experts about the concept of thresholds. They noted that the way triggers had been set and articulated was still under review and would remain under constant review. Immediate action would continue to be taken below threshold limits when cases were reported and Public Health England would be consulted throughout.

The committee were assured by the reports and requested that a further update is brought to the meeting of 6 October 2020.

The committee noted the plans for face-to-face research and data collection during the pandemic.

5. Student advice and behaviours

The committee noted the safety precautions and expected behaviours that had been communicated to students via multiple channels ahead of the return to campus.

The committee noted that student conduct in relation to coronavirus precautions was governed by the existing student disciplinary procedure. It was noted that breaches of the safety procedures would be handled informally in the first instance, with the potential for referral to the student disciplinary team.

The committee noted that the communications strategy would be closely monitored by the Executive and adjustments made if required.

The committee requested that an update on semester one be brought to a future meeting.

6. Academic delivery update

The committee noted the summary of preparations for blended delivery of semester one 2020/21, to ensure delivery of existing courses in a way which maintained academic quality. It was noted that for approximately half of all courses, some level of on-campus teaching was essential. Other than for a limited number of exceptions all courses had been designed to have some on-campus activity

The committee noted that close monitoring would take place and schools would continue to share best practice in order to maintain high levels of engagement.

7. Internal audit: cyber security

With Alison Chojna, Mathew Ring (BDO) and Graeme Wolfe.

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Date of next meeting 4.00 pm, on Tuesday, 6 October 2020

Confirmed as a true record

(Chair)