Minutes of the meeting of the Major Projects and Investment Committee held on Thursday 6 July 2023, 5:00 PM — 6:30 PM BST 1B16, Technopark

Present

Rashda Rana (Chair)
Jerry Cope
Tim Fransen
Ola Obadara
Jeremy Parr (via teleconference)
David Phoenix
Kate Stanton-Davies (via teleconference)
Vinay Tanna

Apologies

Richard Flatman Devonte James

In attendance

Abdirahim Ibrahim (alternate for Devonte James)
Nicole Louis
James Stevenson
Rychard Scrase-Field (for items 1-6)
Dominique Phipp (Secretary)

Observers

Andreas Raffel (via teleconference)
Aaron Porter (HE consultant, via teleconference)

1. Welcome and apologies

The Chair welcomed the members to the meeting and noted the above apologies.

2. **Declarations of interest**

No member declared an interest in any item on the agenda.

3. Minutes of the previous meetings

- MPIC meeting, 9 March 2023
- Joint MPIC and SBC estates development briefing, 11 April 2023

The committee approved the minutes of the meeting held on 9 March 2023 and their publication with an amendment to the proposed redactions.

The committee approved the notes of the briefing meeting held on 11 April 2023. They would not be published.

4. Matters arising

UK-Ukraine twinning initiative - The committee noted that, since the last meeting, the MA programme with the Ivano-Frankivsk National Technical University of Oil and Gas in Ukraine had been validated. The MA programme would be delivered in Ukraine and therefore students were not expected to visit LSBU, but short visits may be arranged for some students.

Updates to the international approvals process and risk evaluation matrix – The committee noted that the updated register would be circulated outside the meeting.

SBC estates development project legal risk schedule –

(see minute 5.1 below).

An update on fire doors – The committee noted that fire doors across the LSBU and SBC estate have been replaced in line with new fire safety regulations and are all currently compliant. Maintenance of fire doors is now part of rolling estates maintenance plans and capital works.



6. Estates development update

The committee noted an update on estates development projects.

The committee noted that the chapel project was initially a separate initiative but is now integrated into the wider estates master plan and is consistent with LSBU's vision for estate development. There would be no extension of the planning deadline for the chapel site project, but Southwark Council were prepared to await LSBU's detailed estates masterplan.

The committee noted that the principles of the estates master plan would be presented to the Board of Governors at the Group strategy day in September 2023.

The committee requested a copy of the London Road project review internal audit report and the corresponding minutes of its discussion by the Group Audit and Risk Committee on 29 June 2023.

Rychard Scrase Field and Jeremy Parr left the meeting

7. TSAAMS programme update

The COO provided the committee with a progress update on the TSAAMS programme. This phase had been costed at £1.5m, which was approved by the Group Executive and would be allocated from the remaining LEAP funds. A new 'student information system' could be installed by September 2025 if the project was continuous. The expected cost was around over three years.

The committee discussed the options for continuation of the TSAAMS programme. The COO highlighted that a key risk to the programme is loss of recruited resource and corporate memory.

The committee noted that the proposed student information system would not be bespoke, but the same software tried and tested by a significant number of other UK HEIs.

The committee noted that it is difficult to compare the expected costs of the original LEAP programme with the actual costs invested and the costs for proposed further work. A review of the LEAP programme was completed which set out lessons learned and was reported to the committee in 2022.

The committee noted that the Group Executive still needed to balance other spending pressures against the need to invest in the student information system. The committee would be updated accordingly.

Agreed	capital s	pending	plan
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The committee noted the report.

The committee acknowledged that there are a significant number of priorities reaching conclusion in the autumn of 2023. The Vice Chancellor assured the committee that all project expenditure had been budgeted for in 2023/24 and modelled in cashflow forecasts.

The committee noted that the annual five-year forecast submission to the OfS would be discussed by the Board of Governors in the autumn.

9. Potential partnership with Nanjing Vocational University of Industry Technology (NJUIT), China

The committee noted the report.

The committee discussed the potential reputational impact of this proposal. It noted that there is continued government support for UK universities engaging with China.

Date of next meeting

4:00pm on Tuesday, 19th September 2023

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	Chair)
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