**Role description for Vice Chair of the Board**

**The Board of Governors**

The Board of Governors is the University’s governing body. The Board as a whole is collectively responsible for promoting the success of the University by leading and supervising its affairs. The Board:

* oversees all activities of the University and ensures it complies with the law;
* determines the strategic direction of the University;
* has responsibility for approving the educational character, mission and strategic vision of the University, together with its long-term academic and business plans.
* fosters an educational environment that enables students to succeed; and
* sets the values and standards of the University and ensures that its obligations to its stakeholders are understood and met;
* has overall responsibility for its academic provision, students, assets, property and estate, employees and health and safety; and
* takes all final decisions on matters of fundamental concern to the University.

**Main duties and responsibilities of the Vice Chair**

1. To assist the Chair in ensuring that the Board exercises control over the strategic direction of the University and that the performance of LSBU is critically assessed against the objectives which the Board has approved.
2. To establish constructive working relationships with fellow governors and the University Executive, recognising that day-to-day management is the responsibility of the Executive.
3. To deputise for the Chair where appropriate.
4. To act as a sounding board for the Chair.
5. To play a proactive role in times of significant disagreement within the Board, or between the Chair and Vice Chancellor.
6. To act as Pro Chancellor, including to assist the Chancellor in presiding at degree ceremonies and to promote the good reputation of the University.

**Conduct**

1. To act in accordance with the accepted standards of behaviour in public life and observe the highest standards of corporate governance, which includes ensuring and demonstrating integrity and objectivity in the transaction of business and following a policy of openness and transparency.
2. To exercise the Board’s responsibilities in the interests of LSBU as a whole, rather than as a representative of any constituency and to accept collective responsibility for decisions made by the Board.
3. To act fairly and impartially at all times in the interests of LSBU as a whole, using independent judgement and maintaining confidentiality as appropriate.

**External Role**

1. To act as ambassador for LSBU externally.

*Approved by the [ ]*