

Finance and Investment Committee Terms of Reference 2016–17

Finance and Investment Committee is a committee of Council, focusing on oversight of the Executive's planning and management of finance, investments and assets of Queen Mary University of London (QMUL) in their widest sense. Finance and Investment Committee has a particular remit in relation to providing advice and recommendations to Council, or reviewing/monitoring and approving on behalf of Council, in respect of the following:

1. Financial Strategy and Policy

- 1.1 To recommend to Council a Finance Strategy for QMUL in light of the HEFCE funding settlement and in order to meet the objectives of the QMUL Strategy.
- 1.2 To review performance against the Estates Strategy on a bi-annual basis.
- 1.3 To delegate decision-making in respect of estates governance and policy to Estates Strategy Board.
- 1.4 To approve policies on investments in respect of general and specific funds, and other funds of which the Council acts as Trustee, within such powers as are granted by the Charter.
- 1.5 To monitor performance against a Fundraising Strategy to be determined by the Executive and advise Council accordingly.

2. Budget-setting and financial forecasting

- 2.1 To recommend to Council the annual budgets and the financial forecasts produced for submission to HEFCE.
- 2.2 To approve budgetary and financial control procedures.

3. Financial Performance

- 3.1 Through an agreed reporting process from the Executive, to monitor the financial situation of QMUL, both capital and revenue, and to make recommendations concerning action necessary to ensure the financial viability of QMUL in the short and long term.
- 3.2 To review on an annual basis the Financial Statements of QMUL, which have been subject to external audit and prior to testing by Audit and Risk Committee and adoption by Council.
- 3.3 To receive and monitor on behalf of the Council, the financial reports and accounts of the subsidiary and associated companies.
- 3.4 To monitor the financial performance and conduct of the financial affairs of the Students' Union on a periodic basis, taking into account the role played by, and views of the Students' Union Board of Trustees.
- 3.5 To monitor the financial performance of QMUL's overseas operations and partnerships.

3.6 To monitor and, as appropriate, undertake an assessment of the impact of QMUL's contingent liabilities and *their potential* financial impact.

4. Capital Projects

4.1 To advise Council on plans and budgets produced by the Executive for large capital projects in line with the requirements of HEFCE's Capital Investment Framework (CIF) and to monitor progress against those plans and budgets.

5. Assets

5.1 To consider proposals affecting major assets, in particular the estate, and to decide or recommend to the Council as appropriate.

5.2 To receive summary reports of gifts and bequests, research grants and contracts.

6. Value for Money (VfM)

6.1 To approve and monitor progress against the Value for Money Strategy and targets.

7. Investment and Treasury Management

7.1 To approve the appointment of bankers and the provisions of the bank mandate.

7.2 To approve a strategy for borrowing, investment of funds and raising of monies, in line with any provisions of the Charter, Ordinances and Financial Regulations.

7.3 To appoint, and terminate the appointment of, investment managers and advisers and review their performance on a periodic basis against agreed targets and benchmarks.

8. Committee evaluation

8.1 To review the Committee's effectiveness and the suitability of its terms of reference annually.

Membership of Finance and Investment Committee

- Treasurer (ex-officio) who will be the Chairman of the Committee
- Three further external members of Council
- The President and Principal (ex-officio)
- Up to three co-opted members who are external to QMUL and have relevant expertise

In attendance (as required)

- Academic Registrar and Council Secretary
- Chief Operating Officer
- Chief Strategy Officer
- Director of Finance
- Director of Estates and Facilities
- Investment Managers

Mode of Operation

1. Finance and Investment Committee meets at least four times per year.

2. The Committee reports to the next meeting of Council following each of its meetings in the form of an executive summary of its minutes. Specific proposals requiring Council consideration and approval are identified in the terms of reference.