

Programmes and Partnerships Management Committee

1. Constitution

1.1 The Academic Council has established a Committee known as the Programmes and Partnerships Management Committee (PPMC) which reports to the Partnerships Board (PB) and on some issues to the Student Success Board (SSB).

2. Scope

2.1 PPMC is concerned with the operational aspects of the approval and oversight of academic partnerships¹ and academic programmes.

2.2 Academic partnerships: PPMC is responsible for overseeing the due diligence processes for new UK and TNE partnerships following approval of their business cases by PB and recommends final approval of the partnership to PB.

2.3 Programmes: PPMC is responsible for approving, making major changes, suspending or terminating programmes (including degree apprenticeships), escalating decisions by exception to PB for PB's approval.

2.4 PPMC shall ensure the financial viability of programmes and modules.

2.4. PPMC shall monitor key metrics and risks relating to academic partnerships and programmes and report on them to PB and SSB.

3. Membership

3.1 The membership shall be as follows:

Ex Officio

- Deputy Vice-Chancellor (*Chair*)
- Executive Director of Marketing and External Relations (*Vice-Chair*)
- Chief Operating Officer
- PVC Education
- Head of Quality Assurance
- Director of International Engagement

Other Members

- 1 x Deputy Dean

3.2 The Deputy Dean shall be appointed to the Committee by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor and shall serve a term of two years in rotation with the other Deputy Deans.

4. Attendance at Meetings:

¹ Includes franchised programmes, validated programmes, articulation and progression agreements, and joint and dual awards.

4.1 The Associate Director, Employability and Apprenticeships may attend for matters relevant to them.

4.2 At the discretion of the Chair, other staff who are not members of the Committee may be invited to attend on an ad hoc basis for specific items where their attendance can inform and support the Committee.

5. Delegated Authority

5.1 PPMC is authorised by the Academic Council to:

- Approve, suspend and discontinue academic programmes and modules, including degree apprenticeships;
- Approve amendments to programmes and modules (except where approval has been delegated to FPPMCs in regulations/policies approved by PB);
- Approve student mobility partnerships (e.g. student exchanges);
- Approve derogations to Academic Regulations and policies within the Board's remit;
- Approve register of PSRB accreditations, and oversee accreditation processes, associated risk assessment and resulting actions;
- Approve annual report on accreditation activities and procedure.

In so doing, PPMC shall ensure compliance with academic quality assurance requirements and the University's regulations, policies and procedures.

5.2 PPMC shall refer decisions under 5.1 by exception to PB where PPMC considers PB's approval is necessary, e.g. for ethical, reputational, financial or academic quality reasons, or because PPMC considers that there are significant strategic implications.

6. Other Duties

The other duties of the Committee shall be to:

6.1 With respect to UK and TNE academic partnerships:

- Oversee due diligence processes on new academic partnerships following the approval of the business case for the new partnership by PB;
- Following the conclusion of due diligence, recommend final approval of new academic partnerships to PB for approval;
- Review proposals to expand existing academic partnerships and recommend to PB for approval;
- Consider whether to suspend or discontinue academic partnerships and recommend to PB for approval;
- Oversee the periodic review of academic partnerships and report on the outcome to PB.

6.2 Review regulations, policies and procedures for academic partnerships, programmes and modules and recommend changes to PB, ensuring effective co-ordination over changes with the Student Success Board;

6.3 Consider proposed derogations to regulations and policies within the Board's remit;

6.4 Monitor metrics on academic partnerships and programmes (e.g. a partnerships dashboard) and report periodically to PB and SSB;

6.5 Oversee the maintenance of the PSRB register and annual report on accreditation activities and procedure. Approve the submission of accreditation documentation.

6.6 Oversee the process of applying for (re)accreditation.

6.7 Advise Academic Council as to whether the University is achieving the requirements of Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies;

6.8 Make recommendations to PB to improve the quality of academic partnerships and programmes;

6.9 Monitor risks related to academic partnerships. Maintain the academic partnerships risk matrix and report it at least annually to PB. In between, escalate risks to PB in accordance with protocols agreed by PB;

6.10 Undertake the regular review of the academic portfolio ensuring that programmes are market-informed, academically excellent and financially viable. Make recommendations to PB and SSB;

6.11 Review the efficiency and effectiveness of co-ordination and support for academic partnerships and make recommendations to PB;

6.12 Oversee any external reviews of academic partnerships and report the outcomes to PB;

6.13 Monitor the operation and decisions of the FSSCs in relation to partnerships and programmes and consider their proposals/recommendations; and

6.14 Ensure active consideration of equality, diversity, inclusion and sustainability in the conduct of the Committee's business.

6.15 Have particular regard to the importance of freedom of speech and academic freedom in the committee's business, acting in accordance with the commitments in the University's [Freedom of Speech Code of Practice](#).

7. Standing Orders

7.1 The Committee must adhere to the [Standing Orders for Academic and Executive Committees](#).

7.2 The Committee shall normally meet approximately every 8 weeks.

Approved by the Academic Council on 11 June 2025

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