

RADA

Council Synopsis Report 2022-23

This document summarises the decisions taken and key areas of discussion at RADA Council meetings. Updates are published after each meeting.

24 November 2022

Council Membership and Governance

The Council welcomed new members (appointed by circulation) Judith Buchanan, Judith Blake, Miranda Wayland. The appointment of new student governors Millie Boardman and Katherine Morton was confirmed following their election by the student body.

Members received a report from the Nominations Committee and noted the intention to review the role of Council Member for Safeguarding to ensure that RADA's approach is appropriate for a higher education provider.

Members approved a revised Honorary Fellowship Scheme subject to the addition of a procedure for removing a trustee should their actions make them incompatible with RADA's mission and values.

Finance and General Purposes

A report was received from the Director of Finance and Operations noting confirmation of specialist funding from the Office for Students.

The Chairs of Finance and General Purposes and Audit and Risk Committees recommended an assessment of going concern to the Council.

Audit and Risk

Members discussed recommendations emerging from internal audit and a finding of partial assurance for 2021-22. A management plan was in place to address the remaining actions, focusing on high and medium priority recommendations in the first instance.

The annual report and accounts were approved subject to some textual updates resulting from members' feedback.

Items from Staff and Student Governors

The Council discussed the challenges facing students as a result of rising energy costs and high inflation. The Senior Leadership team had implemented a number of initiatives to support students and agreed to provide a report to the next meeting.

Staff were thankful for a one-off payment to support them with the increased cost of living.

Education, training and student experience

The Prevent Annual Report and Accountability Return were approved for submission to the Office for Students.

Members discussed the Annual Quality Assurance Report from Academic Board and the annual report from the Student Wellbeing Service.

Anti-racism

An Anti-racism Committee had been established and would establish KPIs for the Council.

The Council received the institutional Anti-racism Action Plan, Race Equity Policy and a report from the Accountability Panel. Members proposed that the Anti-racism Committee and Accountability Panel be merged and agreed to meet to discuss membership.

Executive reports

Reports were received from the Principal, the Senior Leadership Team and the Interim Director of Development.

RADA Business

Members received a report updating them on the performance of RADA Business.