1. Knowledge Exchange Concordat Progress Update

The Committee considered a report on progress regarding the Knowledge Exchange Concordat. The following was noted:

(a) The action plan had been developed with the University in mind and was designed to meet the needs of York. It was noted that a number of Transformational Initiatives had been developed which overlapped with areas identified in the KEC action plan; such areas would be monitored to ensure alignment.

(b) The importance of strong and clear communication was noted, particularly in regards to articulating the benefits and definition of KE. This should be reflected in the online resources available for KE. The usefulness of case studies was noted and it was requested that these also be communicated internally.

(c) It was clarified that Salesforce CRM would be rolled out within RI&KE and OPPA initially, however conversation was underway with Departments and Schools. The discovery phase was ongoing to identify any necessary additional modules, and this involved advice from IT and Fluido to understand data reporting needs. It was noted that decisions around a University CRM were part of the wider infrastructure review and that co-ordination was essential in this area. An overview would be presented at the next meeting of the Committee.

(d) The results of the public engagement survey would be analysed by group, as well as at Department/School-level. It was further noted that clarity of definition was needed in terms of ‘public engagement’, integrating this effectively with student and teaching work.

2. Proposals relating to the HEBCIS Audit

The Committee approved proposals arising from the recent HEBCIS audit. The Committee approved the recommendation to continue current practice, with future amendments considered as relevant following the full implementation of a University CRM.

3. Responsibilities of UPEC

The Committee approved a paper outlining the responsibilities of UPEC. The following was noted:

(a) The document had been developed to further articulate the areas of activity for which UPEC should be the primary Committee, drawing from the Terms of Reference. It was noted that the Terms of Reference for the Committee would be reviewed regularly to ensure adequate oversight of all relevant areas.

(b) The Committee requested a review of documentation to ensure consistency in the name of UPEC. It was clarified that certain areas of commercial space were managed through Estates; it was requested that language under (C(vi)) concerning the commercial and non-commercial use of space be refined to refer to ‘commercial space’, to reflect this distinction. It was further requested that
partnerships at all levels be explicitly included, specifically mention of international partnerships under (C). Two international partnerships would be discussed in further detail at the next meeting.

(c) The Committee requested that all four guiding principles of the University Strategy be noted under (E).

(d) Regarding (A(iii)), it was clarified that UPEC would review the institutional KPIs owned by UEB. The Committee noted that the University did not yet have a clear framework for the management and oversight of KPIs. A paper on KPIs for partnerships and enterprise would be presented at a future meeting of UPEC, with space in the agenda allocated for an in-depth discussion. It was important to retain a clear sense of the role of KPIs as a management tool rather than a public-facing method through which activity could be communicated.

The paper was approved subject to the amendments noted above.

4. Other Business

(a) The Committee noted the impressive work ongoing within student societies at the University, and requested a further update on this area at the future meeting.

(b) The Director of OPPA would meet with the Deputy Chair of the Committee and the Associate Director of RI&KE to clarify the involvement of OPPA in UPEC.

(c) The Committee considered a report on the HEBCIS return for 2021/22.

(d) The Guildhall had been awarded ‘Commercial development of the year’ in the Yorkshire Post Excellence in Business awards.

(e) The University had recently joined the Northern Accelerator programme, and the Committee noted the opportunities this would bring to the institution. Further information would be presented at the next meeting.

(f) An action log would be developed to assist in the tracking of progress against actions identified for the Committee.

PROFESSOR KIRAN TREHAN

MS ZOE CLARKE

20/01/2023