

## JNC Enhanced Report, 2 March 2021

### Attendees

Committee members	Observers
Ms Judith Fish (Chair)	Carol Costello, UUK observer
Phil Harding (UUK)	Russell Picot, UUK observer
Cliff Vidgeon (UUK)	Dr Marion Hersh, UCU observer
Stuart McLean (UUK)	
Anthony Odgers (UUK)	
Dr Justine Mercer (UCU)	
Dr Sam Marsh (UCU)	
Dr Deepa Driver (UCU)	
John Neilson (UUK)	
Dr Woon Wong (UCU)	
Christine Haswell (UCU)	

### Meeting governance

- UCU agreed to provide a timeline of their democratic processes so the committee was aware of how UCU's decision-making milestones related to the scheduled JNC meetings;
- The JNC Chair noted the committees wish to meet with the Trustee Board and invited JNC members to make suggestions to best facilitate a productive meeting between the two groups;
- The group considered the 2021 JNC Annual Plan and Training Plan. UUK suggested that where it has been agreed, the attendance of the Scheme Actuary should be added to the Annual Plan. They also noted the potential benefits of providing a briefing on the Pension Schemes Act and it was agreed that the Secretary would pick this up with attendees after the meeting;
- The group received an update on the [work of the JNC Effectiveness Group](#) and resolved to approve its initial recommendations on JNC actions and behaviours;
- The group resolved to consent to a deed of amendment to the scheme rules. The deed included a number of minor amendments to the scheme rules that are clarificatory in nature, as well as one change that could affect members, allowing access to total commutation for serious-ill health for members that have flexibly retired but are still actively accruing benefits;
- The group discussed the JNC Transparency and Confidentiality Agreement.

### Stakeholder updates

#### UCU

A UCU representative welcomed UCU appointee [Dr David Watts](#) to the Trustee Board.

UCU noted that they continue to correspond with tPR on the 2020 valuation and are also working with UUK to find common ground and decide on any next steps they can take jointly. They noted the imminent publication of [the Trustee Update](#) and other [supporting materials](#) and their commitment to discussing the issues with USS members. They anticipated that they would challenge aspects of the material and the supporting evidence.

A UCU representative confirmed that the UCU mandate on the 2020 valuation will be reviewed and added to at the [2 June Higher Education Sector Conference section of the UCU 2021 Congress](#).

Non-restricted (NR)

## UUK

A UUK representative also noted their preparations for the issuing of the Trustee Update and their plans for an employer consultation on it.

UUK noted their ongoing dialogue with employers and with tPR. They echoed UCU comments on working together to find common ground and next steps.

### Additional matters covered at the meeting

- The group [noted the Financial Management Plan update](#) but did not discuss it;
- The group noted the quarterly regulatory update;
- The group noted an update on the JNC Chair succession planning.