

JNC Enhanced Report, 12 May 2025

Please note: The committee has approved the publication of this report (but it has not been approved by UCU).

Attendees

Committee members	Observers
Lawrence Churchill (Chair)	Vicky Blake, UCU observer
Mike Shore- Nye (UCEA)	Dr Dyfrig Jones, UCU observer
Sharon Moore (UCEA)	Donna Brown, UCU observer
Carol Prokopyszyn (UCEA)	Nigel Alcock, UCEA observer
Anthony Odgers (UCEA)	Dr Sam Marsh, USS observer
Khadir Meer (UCEA)	Alain Kerneis, USS observer
Dr Deepa Driver (UCU)	
Dooley Harte (UCU)	
Dr Marion Hersh (UCU)	
Dr Jackie Grant (UCU)	
Sarah Joss (UCU)	

Meeting governance

The committee reviewed the contents of the JNC report that will be included in the Governance Supplement which accompanies the 2025 USS [Annual Report and Accounts](#).

Update from the Trustee

The Trustee asked the committee to provide its consent to proposed amendments to the scheme rules. Following a detailed discussion, UCEA representatives voted in favour of approving the amendments and UCU representatives voted against. The Chair used his casting vote to approve the rule amendments.

The group discussed the work of the JNC Conditional Indexation Subgroup (CISG), a group set up by the JNC's Stability Working Group for the exploration of Conditional Indexation.

The CISG intend to update USS members on their work via a report published on the uss.co.uk website, and the group discussed the sign off process and timeline for publishing the report, noting that there is further work to complete before the report can be published.

A Trustee representative gave an overview of the planned timeline for the 2026 Valuation. More detailed planning work would be brought to the JNC over the course of the year.

A Trustee representative provided an update to the group on ongoing work to consolidate the USS scheme rules so that amendments made since 2015 are incorporated into one document. The consolidation work will not require any rewording or amendment to the existing rules, and is just intended to make presentational, stylistic and functional changes to help with clarity and interpretation of the rules.

Stakeholder updates

UCU

A UCU representative thanked UCEA and Trustee colleagues for all their help to progress the recent work of the JNC and welcomed [Dr Dyfrig Jones](#) to the JNC, noting he will be taking the role of Lead JNC Negotiator when he becomes UCU Vice President at the [2025 UCU Congress](#).

Non-restricted (NR)

UCEA

A UCEA representative noted the [recent Office for Student report on the financial health of UK HE employers](#) and the recently announced [UK government white paper on changes to the immigration system](#) and the potential impacts on HE providers in England.

They noted their ongoing preparatory work on the planned USS Governance Review.

They thanked Dr Driver for all her work as UCU Lead Negotiator.