**University of the Highlands and Islands**

**Partnership Forum – Terms of Reference and Membership**

1. **Constitution**

The Court has established a committee of the governing body known as the Partnership Forum.

1. **Terms of Office**

Members who are members of the Court shall have periods of office coterminous with their appointment to the Court. Members who are *ex officio* shall have periods of office coterminous with their appointment as chair of a relevant academic partners board or their employment at the University of the Highlands and Islands. Two vice-chairs will be appointed by the committee, including the Further Education Regional Lead and one of the academic partner board chairs.

1. **Authority**

The Committee is authorised to determine all matters delegated to it and to consider and advise the university court on all other matters within its terms of reference.

The Committee is authorised to obtain independent professional advice and to secure the attendance of non-members with relevant experience and expertise if it considers this necessary.

1. **Proceedings**

The Committee should normally meet not less than four times per year.

1. **Terms of Reference**

Subject to the provisions of the Articles of Association, the overall responsibility of the Court and the responsibilities of the Principal, the UHI Partnership Forum shall be responsible for the allocation to such of the Academic Partners and such other colleges as may be assigned to the University as a regional strategic body pursuant to the FHE Acts of the University’s resources for the conduct of teaching in fundable further education; shall, on behalf of the Court, hold accountable the governing body or other body responsible for the governance of any such Academic Partner or other college conducting teaching in fundable further education for the organisation and control of fundable further education; and shall be the body by which the chief executive officer of any such Academic Partner or other college shall be held responsible to the Principal for the use of such resources allocated to that Academic Partner or other college.

Subject to the overall provisions of the Articles of Association of the University and the overall responsibilities of the Court and of the Principal, the main role is to bring together Court, through the Chair and FE Regional Lead, and the Chairs of the Academic Partners to ensure that the University provides high quality tertiary education strategically across the Partnership.

The functions include:

1. To advise on the implementation of the University’s strategic plan across the region and report thereon to the University Court regarding priorities and the ways in which the Academic Partners are implementing it.
2. To advise the University Court, through the Finance and General Purposes Committee, on- the allocation of funding to the Academic Partners and the priorities for capital expenditure.
3. To assure that funding and curriculum provision across the University ensures equality of access to education.
4. To assure that strategy and resource allocation are based on future regional and national needs.
5. To review the development of, and advise University Court on, the outcome agreement with the SFC, ensuring that each Academic Partner is accountable for its delivery.
6. To assure that risks associated with the University’s strategic plan are managed in line with the University’s risk management policy.
7. To encourage collaboration, innovation, and sustainable development within the University.
8. To review the performance of effective communication with internal and external stakeholders and representative groups

**6.Quorum**

The quorum for all meetings of the Forum shall be one third of its membership.

**7.Reporting** The minutes (or a report) of meetings of the Partnership Forum will be circulated to all members of the university court and academic partner boards.

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| Last updated: | 15 November 2022 |
| Last Reviewed and agreed by the Committee: | 14 September 2022 |
| Approved by Court: | 22 June 2022 |

# Membership

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| Chair (Chair of University Court) | Alastair MacColl |
| **Members** | |
| Interim Principal and Vice-Chancellor *(ex officio)* | Vicki Nairn |
| Further Education Regional Lead | Angus Campbell (Vice-Chair) |
| Academic Partner Board Chairs | Beverley Clubley (Vice-Chair) (Orkney College, UHI) |
| Rosemary Allford (UHI Argyll) |
| Robbie Rowantree (UHI North Highland) |
| Graham Watson (UHI Perth) Interim Chair |
| David Sandison (UHI Shetland) |
| Diane Murray (SAMS, UHI) |
| Donald MacKenzie (Highland Theological College, UH) Interim Chair |
| Derek Lewis (UHI West Highland) |
| Mark Sheridan (UHI Inverness) |
| Archie Macdonald (UHI Outer Hebrides) |
| Angus Macleod (Sabhal Mor Ostaig) |
| Peter Graham (UHI Moray) |
| HISA President of the Highlands and Islands Student Association (HISA) *(ex officio)* | Heather Innes |
| Staff Governor | Rosemary McCormack |
| **In attendance** | |
| University Secretary | Sheena Stewart |
| Vice-Principal Research & Impact | Prof Neil Simco |
| Vice-Principal Engagement | Vacant |
| Chief People Officer | Lorna Walker |
| Vice-Principal Students | Prof Gary Campbell |
| Director of Corporate Governance | Roger Sendall |