

## Role of Council

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### Council is the Senior Governing Body of the University of Sussex

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Council's role is to act in the best interests of the University as a whole, ensuring it strategically delivers its mission to high standards with the necessary financial stability and long-term

- ~~Delivers and ensures the University's strategic direction, in line with the strategic objectives, and the prevailing legislative and regulatory requirements.~~
- Ensuring an effective framework is in place for risk management, control, and governance.
- Meeting the requirements deriving from the Charter and Statutes.
- Monitoring the Institution's and its own effectiveness

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### Powers and accountability of Council

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Council is collectively responsible and accountable for all institutional activity<sup>2</sup> and conduct. Council delegates its powers and responsibilities to individuals and bodies within the institution to ensure the effective operation of the University and delivery of its charitable objectives.

In addition to all legal responsibilities, Council is accountable to the Office for Students and Charity Commission and has responsibilities under HERA, Trustees Act 2000, Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011. It is required to:

- Maximise value for money and ensure that University funds are properly safeguarded;
- Operate within the limits of delegated authorities agreed with the Regulator and those set out in the University's Charter, Statutes and Regulations (i.e. not in an operational management capacity);
- Act in an open and responsible way in all its dealings with students, staff and the public;
- Bear responsibility for compliance and promotion of equality, diversity, and disability legislation, and ensure that the University complies with its statutory and contractual responsibilities.

Council cannot delegate the following powers: appointment of the Vice-Chancellor; the variation, amendment or revocation of the Charter. Members are

required to respect confidentiality in line with Data Protection Act 2018 and university policies.