MINUTE REF M16/097 WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair welcomed to the meeting the members of the UE and those colleagues who were in attendance.

MINUTE REF M16/098 ORKNEY CAMPUS: A VISION FOR THE FUTURE

The UE considered a presentation on the Orkney campus and the opportunities to develop the academic activities associated with the campus.

It was noted that research activities at the Orkney campus were organised around four cross-cutting themes: energy systems; marine renewable energy; science in support of governance; and “blue growth” – developing new forms of economic activity in the seas. These research activities were characterised by their multi-disciplinary nature, alignment with UK and Scottish public policy objectives, and strong links with the Orkney community and local industries. Research activities associated with the campus had a significant impact in terms of research outputs; contribution to the local economy; development of public policy; and commercialisation of research findings. Researchers based at the Orkney campus had also developed a network of international partners with strong links with researchers in Europe, Asia, and the Americas.

[Reserved Section – Ref. FOI(S)A, s.30 and s.33]

With regards to teaching activities, it was noted that a number of masters degree programmes were delivered through the Orkney campus. These programmes were aligned with the research activities associated with the campus. A small number of students on these programmes were campus based, but the majority were independent distance learners. As with the research
activities associated with the campus, these programmes were characterised by their strong links to the Orkney community and to local industries.

[Reserved Section – Ref. FOI(S)A, s.30 and s.33]

The UE agreed that it should before the end of April 2016 receive a further report outlining the next steps to be taken in pursuit of the opportunities to develop the academic activities associated with the Orkney campus.

M16/099 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The UE noted that its next meeting would be held 21 March 2016.

Signed by Chair ...........................................

Date ..........................................................