

Recovery Plan Monitoring Committee

Minutes

Meeting reference: RPMC 2025-26/06
Date and time: Monday 16 March 2026
Location: Online

Members present: Deirdre Joy, Chair
Chris Whatley, Board Member
Catherine Etri, Principal & Chief Executive
Andi Garrity, Student Board Member
Ronnie Dewar, Trade Union Board Member

In attendance: Jill Elder, Depute Principal
Gail Dunn, Chief Financial Officer
Fiona Cameron, Interim Director of Finance
Kirsty Campbell, Risk & Project Officer
Ian McCartney, Clerk to the Board of Management

Apologies: Richard Fyfe, Staff Board Member

Chair: Deirdre Joy
Minute Taker: Ian McCartney
Quorum: 5

UHI Perth is a registered Scottish charity, number SC021209

We will act with integrity in everything we do

Student Centred + Innovative + Ambitious + Respectful + Inclusive + Collaborative

Minutes

Item		Action
1.	<p>Welcome and Apologies</p> <p>Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted apologies.</p>	
2.	<p>Additions to the Agenda</p> <p>There were no additions to the agenda.</p>	
3.	<p>Declaration of Interest in any Agenda Item</p> <p>There were no declarations of a conflict of interest.</p>	
4.	<p>Minutes of the meeting held 16 February 2026</p> <p>The minutes were AGREED as being an accurate record of the meeting.</p>	
5.	<p>Matters Arising from Previous Minutes</p> <p>All Matters Arising were considered to be included in Agenda items for the meeting.</p>	
6.	<p>Recovery Plan Dashboard</p> <p>Committee received an update on key Recovery Plan issues, which highlighted that HE/FE funding is performing better than forecast.</p> <p>Key ongoing issues included:</p> <p><u>International</u> International activity remains focused on pipeline development for 2026/27</p> <p><u>Short Courses</u> Short courses are in an improved position due to increased income allocation</p> <p><u>ASW</u> ASW remains the key risk area – staff structures are being reviewed to reduce reliance on bank staff, improve operational stability, and enhance bookings and income generation, with actions expected to provide a short- to medium-term improvement</p> <p><u>Staffing</u> Staff costs are slightly ahead of FRP targets but are expected to</p>	

	<p>balance over the life of the Plan.</p> <p>Phase 2 includes targeted recruitment to support business needs</p> <p>Non-staff costs have improved by £90k through licence savings, with recurrent benefits expected in Years 2 and 3</p> <p><u>Estates</u> Work continues in relation to the Nursery & Car Park</p> <p>Electricity usage is showing positive performance against savings targets</p> <p>A potential increase in utility costs, linked to conflict in the Middle East, is anticipated but has not yet materialised – APUC projections have been requested</p> <p><u>CMS</u> The Centre for Mountain Studies has not yet transferred to UHI but continues to attract new contracts and remains financially balanced within the FRP</p> <p><u>Other Financial Considerations</u> There are considerable legal and administrative costs within the current year</p> <p>MicroRAM remains a net payer this year, although at a reduced level compared to previous years</p> <p>Work has commenced on aligning the 2026/27 budget with the FRP; a 3% funding increase equates to approximately £500k</p>	
7.	<p>Financial Forecast – Year to 31 July 2026</p> <p>Chief Financial Officer presented the Half-Year Financial Forecast, recently submitted to Finance & Resources Committee, noting a £43k deficit after inclusion of a £333k contingency provision.</p> <p>CFO noted an expectation that funds will be received from UHI in relation to the 2023/24 clawback; a decision is required on the optimal allocation of these funds.</p> <p>CFO advised that an appeal letter has been submitted to the SFC regarding the withdrawal of additional funding for the Resource Group.</p>	

<p>8.</p>	<p>Tay Cities Deal</p> <p>Interim Principal provided a verbal update on a funding bid to Tay Cities Deal, supported by the Campus Transition Officer, focusing on a 20–25 year vision for the campus around connectivity, education, community and sustainability.</p> <p>The final submission will be issued to the Board in due course but remains highly confidential due to sensitivities relating to external partners referenced within the bid.</p> <p>The Committee also received confirmation of approximately £500k from the SFC in relation to flood damage affecting the Brahan Lecture Theatre and ICT facilities.</p>	
<p>9.</p>	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>No other business was raised.</p>	
<p>10.</p>	<p>Date of Next Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday 20 April 2026 	
<p>11.</p>	<p>Review of Meeting</p> <p>Clerk presented Paper 4, which outlined required amendments to the Committee Terms of Reference following changes in nomenclature to management structures. Clerk noted that Board approval would also be required for these amendments.</p> <p>Committee ENDORSED Paper 4.</p>	

Information recorded in College minutes are subject to release under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOI(S)A). Certain exemptions apply: financial information relating to procurement items still under tender, legal advice from College lawyers, items related to national security.

Notes taken to help record minutes are also subject to Freedom of Information requests, and should be destroyed as soon as minutes are approved.

Status of Minutes – Open Closed

An **open** item is one over which there would be no issues for the College in releasing the information to the public in response to a freedom of information request.

A **closed** item is one that contains information that could be withheld from release to the public because an exemption under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 applies.

The College may also be asked for information contained in minutes about living individuals, under the terms of the Data Protection Act 2018. It is important that fact, rather than opinion, is recorded.

Do the minutes contain items which may be contentious under the terms of the Data Protection Act 2018? **Yes No**