

**LONDON SCHOOL OF HYGIENE AND TROPICAL MEDICINE  
COUNCIL  
MINUTES - 26 SEPTEMBER 2024  
APPROVED BY COUNCIL ON 25 NOVEMBER 2024**

**MEETING OF COUNCIL**

**Date of meeting:** Thursday 26 September 2024, 16:00

**Place of meeting:** Hybrid (G04, LSHTM, Keppel Street, London and ZOOM video conference)

**Attendees:** Don Robert (*Chair*), Liam Smeeth, Hitesh Patel, Mike Turner, Mark Poulton, Lindsay Northover, Diana Layfield (*virtual attendance*), Mohamed Osman, Nazira Amra, Clare Chandler, Nambusi Kyegombe (*virtual attendance*), Naomi Stewart, Matt Lee, and Jocelyn Prudence.

**Partial Attendance:** Umberto D'Alessandro and Moffat Nyirenda for Council agenda item 2.

**Apologies:** Angela Darlington and James Hargreaves.

**Minutes:** Ayisha Govindasamy.

**1. INTRODUCTION**

**1.1. Welcome & Introduction**

**1.2. Declaration of Interests:** None declared.

**1.3. Minutes from the previous meeting:**

Resolved:

1.3.1. The minutes from the Council meetings held on 27 June 2024 and 08 August 2024 were approved.

**1.4. Actions taken by the Chair:**

*Noted:*

1.4.1. It was noted that the Chair had signed a letter of support for the Sustainable Climate Impact Fund (SCIF) on behalf of LSHTM Council.

**2. UNIT GOVERNANCE PROPOSALS - (*Umberto D'Alessandro, The Gambia Unit Director and Moffat Nyirenda, Uganda Unit Director, joined for this item*)**

*Noted:*

**2.1.** LSHTM wanted to ensure the Units were maintained as global centres of excellence for research and education.

**2.2.** There was a need to address governance and assurance issues as highlighted by the external Governance Effectiveness Review and other audits.

**2.3.** Following consideration by Council, the Governance Effectiveness Review Steering Group, and the Nominations & Governance Committee, it was proposed that committees of Council be established for each Unit.

**2.4.** It was acknowledged that a lot of Council business was not relevant to the Units, and that there is currently a heavy reporting burden on the Units.

**2.5.** The proposed Unit Committees would allow Council to receive more tailored and higher quality assurance from each Unit of their governance and reporting arrangements.

**2.6.** It was hoped that the Unit committees could also help build better academic links between LSHTM and the Units, and over time the committees could become redundant as Unit reporting mechanisms improved and become better integrated with LSHTM.

**2.7.** It was anticipated that additional resources of £50k per annum would be needed to set up and run both Unit Committees. Specifically, this would be for travel and

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subsistence costs for the annual in-person committee meeting, and additional resources for the Governance Team to provide secretariat support.

- 2.8.** Concerns were raised over the lack of initial staff representation/membership on the committee. It was noted that there is an intention to incorporate the Unit staff voice but that this needed further consideration once the committees were set up. There was also the potential for the Unit Committees to incorporate regional/in-country co-optee membership after a period of operation.
- 2.9.** The Unit Directors noted that they were supportive of the proposed Unit committees and hoped that they would be supportive and constructive for the Units.

*Resolved:*

- 2.10.** Council approved the creation of the Unit Committees of Council, and the associated Terms of Reference and member composition.

**3. COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP**

*Noted:*

- 3.1.** Andrew Young, Co-opted Independent Member of Finance & Development Committee, had resigned from the committee. Finance & Development Committee would therefore seek to find a replacement.
- 3.2.** Recruitment was underway for the Independent Member of Council vacancy. Over 45 applications had been received and long and short-listing processes were being undertaken by the selection panel.

*Resolved:*

- 3.3.** Council appointed Diana Layfield as:
- Independent Member of Council for a third and final term; and
  - Chair of People, Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Committee.

**4. REPORTS FOR INFORMATION**

*Noted:*

- 4.1.** Council noted the following reports:
- Use of the LSHTM Seal for capital project buildings works.
  - Council and Committee dates for academic year 2024/25.

**5. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 25 November 2024**