



At the Court at Buckingham Palace

THE 5th DAY OF FEBRUARY 2025

PRESENT,

THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY
IN COUNCIL

His Majesty has allowed the amendments to the Charter of The Queen's University of Belfast as set out in the Schedule to this Order.

Richard Tilbrook, CVO

SCHEDULE

AMENDMENTS TO THE CHARTER OF THE QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY OF BELFAST

1. In Article 1 ***delete*** "first day of January Two thousand and fifteen" and ***substitute*** "xxxx day of February Two thousand and twenty five".
2. In Article 2:
 - (i) ***delete*** "the Honorary Treasurer, the Pro-Vice-Chancellors, members of the Senate, the Academic Council, members of staff, graduates and honorary graduates, and the registered students of the University, and all others who shall, pursuant to this Our Charter and the Statutes of the University" and ***substitute*** "along with";
 - (ii) ***delete*** "one Body Politic and Corporate" and ***substitute*** "one Body Corporate".
3. ***Delete*** Articles 5 to 23 and ***substitute:***
 - "5. The University shall, subject to the provisions of this Our Charter and the Statutes, have the power to do anything lawful in furtherance of the objects (but not otherwise), including the following powers:

- 5.1. to provide instruction in such branches of learning and through such means as the University may think fit and to make provision for research and the advancement and dissemination of knowledge in such manner and through such means as the University may determine;
- 5.2. to prescribe the conditions under which persons may be admitted by the University to any particular programme therein or to the use of the facilities provided by the University;
- 5.3. to confer degrees, diplomas, certificates and other academic distinctions and awards, in its own name or jointly with another institution, on persons who have pursued a course of study approved by the University and shall have passed examinations or other assessments prescribed by the University;
- 5.4. to confer honorary degrees, honorary titles and other distinctions on persons approved by the University, to be held subject to any provisions determined by the University;
- 5.5. to revoke or deprive persons of any degrees, diplomas, certificates, honorary degrees, honorary titles or other such distinctions conferred upon or granted by the University for good cause, as deemed by the University;
- 5.6. to institute and award fellowships, scholarships, bursaries and prizes and other such aids to study and research;
- 5.7. to prescribe rules of conduct to which the students of the University shall be subject and make arrangements as necessary to secure observance of such rules;
- 5.8. to provide for the printing, recording, broadcasting, publication and distribution of works of scholarship, research reports, teaching material and other works;
- 5.9. to demand, charge and receive fees in respect of any of the University's activities and to accept grants, legacies, endowments and other gifts, to procure and receive donations and contributions to the University and raise funds in such other manner as the University may deem fit;
- 5.10. act as trustees of any property, endowment, legacy, bequest or gift made to the University and to invest, delegate management of investments, manage, maintain, deal with and dispose of the property and assets of the University in such manner as the University may deem fit;
- 5.11. to borrow money, grant securities over, mortgage or charge the property of the University, or grant other such security as the University may deem fit and to give guarantees for the payment of any sums of money or the performance of any contract or obligation by any company, body, society or person if in the interests of the University to do so;

- 5.12. to acquire, construct, provide, lease, maintain, furnish, supervise, manage and licence property of any kind as necessary for the activities of the University, to include but not limited to accommodation for the residence, recreation and study of office holders, staff, students and guests and the University, and make arrangements to insure such property as it deems necessary;
- 5.13. to institute offices, employ staff, prescribe their conditions of service, make all necessary and reasonable provisions for and make payments of salaries, pensions or other sums to or for such persons and their dependents and to remove such persons from office, as required by the University;
- 5.14. to affiliate, co-operate, contract with and collaborate with other institutions, organisations, public bodies or authorities, private companies or associations for the purpose and in pursuit of the promotion of the objects of the University;
- 5.15. to merge with or incorporate into the University, or transfer all or any part of the undertakings of another institution, including its property, rights and liabilities;
- 5.16. within the limits applicable to a charity and as may be deemed consistent with the objects of the University as a place of education, learning and research, make provision for the sale or reward of goods and services, including but not limited to the sale of books, stationery and other learning resources, the exploitation of any asset, facility or resource of the University and the provision of research, design development, testing, advisory and consultancy services, either alone or with other persons or bodies, under such arrangement as the University may deem appropriate including through any trading companies of the University and upon such terms and conditions as the University may determine;
- 5.17. to establish or acquire wholly owned subsidiary companies to assist or act as agent for the University, to acquire or own shares or other securities in other companies or other entities and participate in the affairs and activities of such companies and entities;
- 5.18. to allow the delegation of powers by Senate as shall be provided for in the Statutes and Regulations;
- 5.19. to direct the use of the University seal;
- 5.20. to provide indemnity insurance for the members of Senate as charity trustees, in accordance with and subject to the conditions in Section 93 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 (or any other applicable legislation for the time being in force); and
- 5.21. to do all such other lawful acts which shall further the objects of the University.

6. There shall be a Chancellor of the University who shall be the ceremonial and ambassadorial head of the University.
7. There shall be Pro-Chancellors of the University, the number of which shall be determined from time to time by Senate. One of the Pro-Chancellors, shall preside over the meetings of Senate and shall in the absence of the Chancellor or during a vacancy in the office of Chancellor, exercise and perform, subject to the Statutes, the functions of the Chancellor.
8. There shall be a President and Vice-Chancellor of the University who shall be the Chief Executive and Chief Academic Officer of the University and who shall, in the absence of the Chancellor or during a vacancy in the office of Chancellor, confer Degrees, Diplomas, Certificates and other academic distinctions.
9. There shall be such other holders of office in the University as the Statutes may prescribe and as Senate may from time to time determine.
10. There shall be a Senate of the University (in this Our Charter referred to as “Senate”) which, subject to the provisions of this Our Charter and of the Statutes, shall be the governing body of the University and shall have custody and use of the Common Seal. Senate shall be responsible for the strategic oversight of the University and, subject to the powers of the Academic Council as provided in this Our Charter and the Statutes, shall have overall general control over the conduct of the affairs of the University and shall have all such other powers and duties as may be conferred upon it by the Statutes.
11. There shall be an Academic Council of the University (in this Our Charter referred to as the “Academic Council”) which shall hold powers delegated to them by Senate in relation to the academic affairs of the University.
12. There shall be constituted, subject to the provisions of this Our Charter and of the Statutes, such other bodies as Senate may from time to time consider necessary for the administration of teaching and research and other work, duties and activities of the University.
13. There shall be a Convocation of the University whose constitution, powers, functions and membership shall be prescribed by the Statutes.
14. There shall be an organisation of students of the University whose constitution, powers and functions shall be prescribed by the Statutes.
15. Subject to the provisions of this Our Charter, the Statutes may prescribe or regulate as the case may be:
 - 15.1 The status, appointment and terms in office of all holders of office in the University.
 - 15.2 The constitution, powers, duties and functions (as the case may be) of Senate, and other delegated authorities.

- 15.3 All such other matters as Senate may deem fit with respect to or for the governing of the University, its members and constituent parts or otherwise for the promotion of the objects of this Our Charter.
16. The Statutes set out in the Schedule to this Our Charter shall be the Statutes of the University and shall remain in force until they have been added to, amended or repealed in the manner prescribed in Article 17.
17. Senate may by Special Resolution (as defined in Article 20 of this Our Charter) make Statutes for the University which may add to, amend or repeal the Statutes for the time being in force, provided that such Statutes be not repugnant to the provisions of this Our Charter and provided that the Senate shall consult with the Academic Council where any proposed addition, amendment or revocation affects academic policy. No such Statutes shall have effect until approved by the Lords of Our Most Honourable Privy Council, of which approval of a Certificate under the hand of the Clerk of Our Privy Council shall be conclusive evidence.
18. Subject to the provisions of this Our Charter and of the Statutes, Senate may make Regulations for the purpose of furthering the objects of the University and for the good order and government of the University, provided that Regulations concerning academic matters may be made only on the recommendation of the Academic Council. Senate may, by Special Resolution, add to, amend, or revoke the Regulations of the University, provided that any such additions, amendments or revocations do not conflict with the provisions of this Our Charter or the Statutes.
19. Senate may by Special Resolution, (as defined in Article 19 of this Our Charter) add to, amend or revoke any of the provisions of this Our Charter. Such addition, amendment or revocation shall only have effect when approved by Us, Our Heirs or Successors in Council. Where any proposed addition, amendment or revocation to Our Charter affects academic policy, Senate shall consult with Academic Council.
20. For the purposes of this Our Charter, a “Special Resolution” means a Resolution passed at one meeting of Senate and confirmed at a subsequent meeting held not less than one calendar month nor more than six calendar months after the former meeting, that notice of each meeting shall be given to each member of Senate not less than fourteen days before the meeting to be held and that the Resolution be passed at each meeting by not less than two-thirds of those present and voting.
21. The University shall not make any dividend, gift, division or bonus in money unto or between any of its members except by way of prize, award or special grant.
22. In case of conflict the provisions of this Our Charter shall prevail over the Statutes and Regulations, and the Provisions of the Statutes shall prevail over those of the Regulations.”.
4. ***Renumber*** Article 24 as 23.