



Matters Arising

Outcome requested:	Audit and Risk Committee is asked to note the matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 16 June 2026.
Executive Summary:	N/A
QMUL Strategy: strategic aim reference and sub-strategies	The effective management of the Queen Mary's governance arrangements underpins the ability to achieve the strategic aims.
Internal/External regulatory/statutory reference points:	N/A
Strategic Risks:	N/A
Equality Impact Assessment:	Not required
Subject to prior and onward consideration by:	Considered by the Committee only.
Confidential paper under FOIA/DPA	No
Timing:	Matters arising are reported to the next Committee meeting.
Author:	Nadine Lewycky, Head of Secretariat
Date:	09 September 2026
Senior Management/External Sponsor:	Dr Alix Pryde, Chair of Audit and Risk Committee

Actions from the meeting on 16 June 2026

Minute no.	Action	Person responsible	Progress
2025.051[c]	Key messages and risks to be highlighted in the drafting of the financial statements [ARC25/40] The messaging in the annual report would need to be carefully nuanced to show that, while we were doing well in a financially challenging time, the transformation programme was still needed for financial sustainability. The narrative should cover the risks and challenges, but also the achievements and opportunities for the University. It was agreed to share an early draft with the Committee via email circulation over the summer, to allow iteration ahead of the September meeting.	Chief Financial Officer	A summary of key themes was circulated for comment to ARC members in August. An draft of the text of the annual report was circulated to the Chairs of ARC, FIC and Council on 1 September for early comment.
2025.054[b]	Draft internal audit plan for 2026–27 [ARC25/43] The Committee asked how the TEF 2027 review could be used to support the University's ambitions to achieve a silver rating given the timelines, and the rationale for two reviews. One review would focus on the University's preparations, while another would consider compliance with regulatory requirements. The Committee agreed to revisit the timing and scope of the reviews in the autumn to ensure that they added value.	Committee Secretary	The final draft of the internal audit plan 2026/27 is on the agenda under item 4.
2025.054[c]	Draft internal audit plan for 2026–27 [ARC25/43] The Committee asked whether compliance with free speech duties had been considered in the planning. It had been considered, but the decision was taken not to include it, as there had been significant activity around the revised Code of Practice on Free Speech last year. Audits on freedom of speech at other universities had covered a range of areas, from visitors on campus to links with the Students' Union. The Committee proposed, as an alternative, a deep dive presentation in the next academic year on free	Committee Secretary	A deep dive on Good Campus Relations Group and campus harmony has been added to the schedule for March 2027.

	speech and the work of the Good Campus Relations Group to open a conversation about the safety and wellbeing of staff and students on campus.		
2025.062[b]	Annual schedule of business 2026–27 [ARC25/49] The Committee discussed possible deep dives topics for next year’s meeting. A deep dive on AI had been scheduled for September but there were opportunities for two more deep dives. One of the legal compliance reports would focus on consumer protection. Other proposed topics included academic assurance around quality and standards, and campus harmony and the Good Campus Relations group.	Committee Secretary	A deep dive on the Good Campus Relations Group and campus harmony has been added to the annual schedule of business for March 2027. A deep dive on academic assurance of quality and standards has been scheduled for June 2027. The legal compliance report for March 2027 will focus on consumer protection.