

Dear All,

Further to your letter dated 11th February 2021 sent by Fabian Frenzel, I am responding to your request seeking further clarification on the process and methodology of the screening exercise undertaken to inform the case for change.

In relation to your first area of query, the assessment of papers, in the document I sent on the 1st of February 2021, ULSB Consultation: Further Information, I stated that as part of the basket of indicators we used "Known publications since 2014" and highlighted this included "Content of article". This was therefore not new information.

In conducting the screening process we undertook a thorough and consistent approach. Carrying out the process did not require us to read every paper in full for every member of staff as it was clear in many cases from the title or abstract that the work was not within the definitions of CMS/PE as used in this case. Where it was unclear we looked in more detail to ensure we were carrying out a fair assessment.

In relation to your second area of query around alignment to School Strategic Priorities. The list of subjects you give is not an exclusive list. The Case for Change states that CMS/PE no longer aligns with the priorities of the School, see for example section 3.2 whilst sections 1.5 and 1.6 outline the strategy of the School more broadly. The paragraph you highlight is clear and states that we wish to ascertain whether staff do have primary research interests in the area of CMS/PE and therefore would not be aligned with School strategic priorities.

Finally I note in your letter that you have stressed that you are not waiving your right to individual consultation meetings and that you each look forward to taking this up with us further when those meetings take place. However, as four deadlines have now passed for you to select a suitable time slot we have, as you will already have seen, issued individual invites to designated slots during the w/c 15<sup>th</sup> February 2021. Once again I encourage you to please attend and engage in these individual consultation meetings.

Yours sincerely

Professor Jim Devlin

Dean of ULSB

Cc Dan Ladley

Henrietta O'Connor

Caroline Johnson

Brigid Boucher

Ruth Daly