Governance at UTC South Durham



Company Members

University of Sunderland (UoS) – Kirsten Black Hitachi Rail – Nigel King Gestamp Tallent Limited – Gareth Bone Overall Strategic direction of Trust. Appointment of Trustees. Legal compliance.

Board of Trustees

Founding Member Trustees

David Land (Gestamp Tallent - Chair) Prof. Gary Holmes (UoS – Vice Chair) Kirsten Black (UoS) Kirsty Babister (Hitachi Rail Europe) Jonathan Phillips (Gestamp Tallent) Prof. Ian Neal (UoS) Additional Trustees

Steve Brain (Staff Trustee) Sam Rafferty (Parent Trustee) Jane Conroy (Parent Trustee) Tom Dower (Ex-officio Trustee) Vacancy (Education Trustee)

Strategic direction of the UTC. Approval of plans and policies. Monitoring of performance of UTC and leadership.

Sub Committees

Audit & Risk

Prof. Gary Holmes (Chair) David Land Jonathan Phillips Jane Conroy Tom Dower Vanessa Stobart Resources & Finance

David Land (Chair) Prof. Gary Holmes Jonathan Phillips Jane Conroy Tom Dower Vanessa Stobart Quality & Standards

Prof. Ian Neal (Chair)
Kirsty Babister (Hitachi Rail)
Vacancy (Education Trustee)
Sam Rafferty (Parent Trustee)
Steve Brain (Staff Trustee)
Laura McAllister
Steve Bennett
Mike Donnelly

Audit & Risk

Internal controls, risk management and internal scrutiny oversight.

Resources & Finance

Financial oversight and procedures in line with ESFA. Staffing and Appraisal. Estates, Health & Safety

Quality & Standards

Attainment & Progress. Quality of T&L. Curriculum. Attendance and Behaviour. Safeguarding. ITT

UTC Leadership

Senior Leadership Team

Tom Dower (Principal)
Vanessa Stobart (CFO)
Catherine Purvis-Mawson (Deputy Principal)
Steve Bennett (VP Curriculum and Standards)
Laura McAllister (VP Teaching and Learning)

Day to day operation of the UTC. Plan implementation and achievement of targets within the policy framework of the Trustees

Members of UTC South Durham

Name	Date of appointment	Member Organisation	
Kirsten Black	December 23	University of Sunderland	
Gareth Bone	September 2023	Gestamp	
Nigel King	June 2023	Hitachi Rail Europe	

Trustees of UTC South Durham

Name	Date of Appointment / Term of Office	Trustee Role	
David Land	September 2013 (26/09/13 – 20/09/25)	Chair of Board of Trustees, Chair of Resources and Finance Committee. Founding Member appointment.	
Gary Holmes	September 2014 (10/09/14 – 31/08/24)	Vice Chair of Board of Trustees, Resources and Finance Committee. Founding Member appointment.	
lan Neal	November 2016 (17/11/16 – 13/10/27)	Chair of Quality and Standards Committee. Safeguarding Link Trustee. Founding Member appointment.	
Tom Dower	September 2015	Principal, Accounting Officer, Quality & Standards / Resources & Finance Committee. Ex-officio appointment.	
Kirsten Black	December 2023 (15/12/23 – 15/12/27)	Founding Member appointment (University of Sunderland)	
Stephen Brain	October 2019 (4/10/19 – 13/10/27)	Staff appointment	
Kirsty Babister	October 2021 (15/10/21 – 15/10/25)	Founding Member appointment (Hitachi)	
Jonathan Phillips	October 2021 (15/10/21 – 15/10/25)	Founding Member appointment (Gestamp)	
Jane Conroy	March 2021 (21/03/22 – 20/03/26)	Parent Trustee	
Vacancy – Educational Rep.		Board of Trustees appointment	
Sam Rafferty	October 2023 (13/10/23 – 13/10/27)	Parent Trustee	

Former Trustees

Name	Dates	Trustee Role	
Shirley Atkinson	2015 – Sept 2017	Founding Member appointment.	
Andrew Jordan	2015 – Sept 2017	Academy Principal. Additional Trustee	
Rob Trimble	Sept 2017 – Jan 19	Engineering link. Founding Member appointment.	
Peter Gallone	Nov 2016 – Sept 18	Founding Member appointment.	
Haley Whalley	Jan 2017 – Aug 2018	Parent Trustee, Core Faculty link, Resources and Finance Committee	
Mike Read	Sept 2016 – Oct 20	Staff Trustee, Quality and Standards Committee	
Louise Shepherd	Jan 2017 – June 20	Parent Trustee, Disadvantaged Students link, Quality and Standards Committee	
Celia Mullen	June 19 – June 20	Parent Trustee	
Rob Baillie	Feb 2021 – Oct 21	Parent Trustee	
Wayne Reynoldson	Sept 2018 – Oct 21	Plant Manager, Gestamp Tallent	
Nina Harding	July 2017 – June 21	Marketing and Recruitment link, Founding Member appointment.	
Joanna Bailey	Sept 2018 – Feb 22	Academy Principal (Tees Valley Collaborative Trust). Additional Trustee	
Dean Feuillade	April 2021 – May 23	Parent Trustee	
Jon Timmis	October 2019 (4/10/19 – 13/10/27)	Founding Member appointment (University of Sunderland)	

Trustee Committee Terms of Reference

Below is a brief overview and initial guide to the scope and foci of our three main Trustee Committees. They may be reviewed by the committees and changes agreed by the full Trustee Body.

Resources and Finance Committee

Areas of responsibility:

Finances

- Ensure financial oversight and that procedures are followed in line with EFA requirements
- Approve and review 3 year financial plan
- Review and sign off company accounts (to be signed by Chair of Trustees)
- Ensure that accounts are filed and that financial audits are carried out
- Be responsible for planning income generation

Resources

- Ensure conditions of buildings and site
- Monitor Health and Safety and risk assessment procedures
- Lead Risk Management Strategy
- Establish procurement and tendering processes
- Sign off procurement for larger items (over £25k require committee approval, over £5k require additional Trustee approval with Principal)

Staff

- Approve staffing structure and oversight of appointments
- Ensure appraisal policy is in place and followed for all staff
- Carry out annual review of pay progression, including award of TLRs and additional payments
- Review and approve policies. As a minimum this includes: Appraisal and Capability, Staff Pay, Closure,
 Disability Access, First Aid, Health & Safety, Risk Assessment, Safer Recruitment, Finance Manual
- Summary reporting to full Trustees' meetings on the above areas.

Quality and Standards Committee

Areas of responsibility:

Academic, Technical and Vocational Progress

- Set targets for academic, technical and vocational KPIs
- Monitor achievement of academic, technical and vocational attainment and progress
- Ensure that high quality provision is in place so that all groups of students can achieve

Pastoral support

- Set attendance targets and monitor progress and systems.
- Establish high expectations of behaviour
- Ensure high quality of safeguarding, including support for vulnerable students and the Prevent agenda
- Monitor support for students with SEND
- Ensure that anti-bullying policy and procedures are in place
- Ensure that views of parents, students & employers are taken into account

Curriculum, Teaching and Learning

- Ensure that the UTC's SLT set an appropriate academic and non-academic curriculum for a UTC in line with strategic objectives
- Ensure that the curriculum covers statutory requirements
- Make decisions on minor curriculum changes (e.g. approval of courses, which courses run each year, changes to exam boards, balance of time for subject delivery, temporary changes). Significant curriculum changes should be reviewed and taken to the full Board (e.g. changes to specialism, additional full programmes, additional year groups)
- Review and approve Pupil Premium spend
- Monitor quality of Teaching and Learning

- Review and approve teacher training provision and partnerships, schools based programmes, assessment and outcomes.
- Monitor quality and impact of CPD
- Review and approve policies in the above areas. As a minimum this includes: Child Protection, Behaviour, Teaching and Learning, Attendance, EAL, Preventing Bullying, PSHE, Pupil Premium, SEND, SMSC, SRE, Curriculum, Assessment, Teaching and Learning,
- Summary reporting to full Trustees' meetings on the above areas.

Audit and Risk Committee

Areas of responsibility:

The audit process can support trusts by identifying areas that may require improvement. The board of trustees, taking advice from the audit and risk committee, **must** ensure there is appropriate, reasonable and timely response by the trust's management team to findings by external auditors, taking opportunities to strengthen systems of financial management and control.

- Agree a programme of work annually to deliver internal scrutiny that provides coverage across the year
- Review the ratings and responses on the risk register to inform the programme of work, ensuring checks are modified as appropriate each year
- Agree who will perform the work
- Consider reports at each meeting from those carrying out the programme of work
- Consider progress in addressing recommendations
- Consider outputs from other assurance activities by third parties including ESFA financial management and governance reviews, funding audits and investigations
- · Have access to the external auditor as well as those carrying out internal scrutiny, and consider their quality

Internal scrutiny

- Direct the trust's programme of internal scrutiny
- Ensure that risks are being addresses appropriately through internal scrutiny
- Report to the board on the adequacy of the trust's internal control framework, including financial and nonfinancial controls and management of risks

External Audit

- · Review the external auditor's plan each year
- Review the annual report and accounts
- Review the auditor's findings and actions taken by the trust's managers in response to those findings
- Assess the effectiveness and resources of the external auditor to provide a basis for decisions by the trust's members about the auditor's reappointment or dismissal or retendering. Considerations may include:
- The auditor's sector expertise
- Their understanding of the trust and its activities
- Whether the audit process allows issues to be raised on a timely basis at the appropriate level
- The quality of the auditor comments and recommendations in relation to key areas
- The personal authority, knowledge and integrity of the audit partners and their staff to interact effectively with, and robustly challenge, the trust's managers
- The auditors use of technology

The audit and risk committee must produce an annual report of the committee's conclusions to advise the board of trustees and members, including recommendations on the reappointment or dismissal or retendering of the external auditor, and their remuneration.

Appeals

When appeals are made by staff (e.g. discipline, capability, grievance, pay), by parents (e.g. permanent exclusion, complaints) or by others the appropriate policy/procedures will be followed. Usually this will involve a group of any three Trustees who will meet to hear the appeal. They must not have been involved in the original decision and the Chair will decide who is suitable (e.g. it is unlikely to be appropriate for staff Trustees to hear appeals).

Membership

Trustees can be a member of more than one committee, though staff Trustees cannot join the Resources and Finance Committee. It is possible to bring in non-Trustees to join committees if they bring particular expertise which is otherwise lacking.

Key areas not covered by Committees

- Student Recruitment
- Business Engagement

These will be dealt with at full Trustees meetings.



Link Trustees

An important role of Trustees of the UTC is to oversee, support and hold to account the leadership team for the delivery of education for our students. For particular areas of delivery, we have created the role of Link Trustee. This gives Trustees the opportunity to 'get under the skin' of the workings of the UTC so that they can both support and challenge the work of senior leaders; it also means that they can understand their responsibilities for the welfare and education of our students more clearly, and can represent that work with the Board and to external agencies such as Ofsted. The skills audit identified key strengths for some trustees in certain areas and these have been used to identify appropriate links.

It is important that Trustees understand their role; they are not coming in to the UTC to judge the quality of teaching or standards of attainment. Rather their role is as a critical friend; to ask questions and ensure that leaders are thinking clearly about their responsibilities and how to use the limited resources of the UTC to ensure that students thrive.

The aim should be to have two (or more if required) 'visits' each year. It's important that we then have a record of the main points discussed and any actions agreed, written by the Trustee. These can then go out with the papers of the following meeting with a brief discussion if need be.

Area	Link Trustee	Member of SLT
Safeguarding	lan	Tom
Attendance	lan	Laura
Teaching and Learning	Jane	Laura
Technical Specialism	Jonathan	Mike
Professional and Career experiences, Marketing	Kirsty	Catherine
Special Educational Needs (SEND) and LAC	Steve Br	Jak
Disadvantaged students (Pupil Premium)	Kirsty	Steve Bt
Operational finance	Jonathan	Vanesa
Staff Wellbeing/HR	Sam	Catherine, Vanessa