

ULSTER UNIVERSITY

Paper No CPF/18/25

COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS FORUM

Agenda Item 12

3 October 2018

PRINCIPLES FOR COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS

To receive the Principles for Collaborative Partnerships.

**ACTION**

For information.

## PRINCIPLES FOR COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS

1. All collaborative activity must align with the priorities identified in the University's 5&50 Strategy.
2. All proposals must be risk assessed and must identify management / oversight arrangements proportionate to the level of risk, nature, and complexity of the proposed collaboration. Consideration should always be given as to whether the same benefit could be achieved at lower risk through alternative activity.
3. All proposals for new collaborative partners or programmes must be brought forward by the sponsoring Faculty and include a detailed rationale from the sponsoring Faculty(ies) setting out the specific benefits to the University and must be linked to Faculty strategic priorities and portfolio development.
4. Collaborative partnerships or programmes coming forward for reapproval must demonstrate / quantify how the partnership has benefited and will continue to benefit the University.
5. Priority should be given to new proposals from institutions with whom the University already has effective partnership arrangements.
6. Collaborative proposals must be supported by a fully costed business plan and be financially sustainable over the period of approval in terms of providing a tangible benefit to the University after all direct and indirect costs have been accounted for.
7. The University retains ultimate responsibility for the academic standards of the credit or awards offered in its name and the quality of the associated student learning experience delivered on its behalf in whatever location this takes place.
8. All partnerships must be subject to a legally binding agreement setting out the rights and obligations of each partner as outlined in the Partnership Handbook. This agreement must be regularly monitored and reviewed and its continuation is conditional on partners complying fully with it, and with any required University policies and procedures.
9. Collaborative partnerships must take account of the requirements of chapter B10 and section C of the QAA UK Quality Code for Higher Education and all relevant national quality frameworks and be mindful of the CMA Guidelines for HEIs and where relevant requirements under UKVI.
10. Any new collaborative proposal must not have a net adverse effect on existing provision.
11. The University does not permit serial franchising arrangements.