

PREVENT COMMITTEE

Minutes of the 5th Meeting of the Prevent Committee held on 8th November 2017.

Present: Professor M Jones (Chair); Dr D Needham (Dean); Mr Luis Nobre (DCSA);
Mr Derek Scott (Head Porter); M S Edwards (Domestic Bursar and
Secretary).

[Note: PREVENT Committee paragraph numbers will run from this meeting following the
introduction of a standing agenda]

1 Apologies:

None were recorded as all members attended.

2 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3 Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed and signed.

4 Specific Business from the Chair

The Chair welcomed Mr Nobre to his first meeting.

5 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

There were no matters arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

6 Review of PREVENT incidents

a. The Dean noted that a student had reported to him an anti-semitic 'joke' on a third party website and sought clarification on whether such matters should be within the purview of the Committee. After some discussion it was agreed that there was a grey area when issues such as this should be a matter for counselling and disciplinary procedures and when they began to raise concerns about an individual in a PREVENT sense. It was further agreed that the Dean would keep a confidential register of such incidents and actions taken in order to make sure a worrisome pattern of behaviour was not missed.

b. The Secretary raised two matters:

(1) In July 2017 approximately fifteen copies of a glossy booklet entitled *How fossils refute Darwinism* by Adnan Oktar (also known as Haran Yakya) had been posted through the letterboxes of the Newnham Terrace hostels. No College student was involved in

the distribution and the booklets were removed for note by the Committee, no other action being necessary; and

- (2) the University Russian Society had booked the Old Library for a talk by Mr Peter Hitchens, the *Daily Mail* columnist, on the topic of '*Knowing anything at all about Russia is now a disadvantage in fashionable society.*' Given Mr Hitchens's reputation as a controversial speaker, the Secretary had discussed this lecture with the Chair and both had agreed that there were no PREVENT issues raised and such a talk fell squarely under the College's duty to uphold free speech.

7 Review of PREVENT training

In addition to the figures that would be covered in the draft report for 1st August 2016-31st July 2017, the Secretary reported that he was currently providing refresher training to staff. He would provide some 'self-teaching' material to the Dean for use by the tutors.

8 Main agenda item – approval of draft report to HEFCE

- a. The Secretary presented his draft report to HEFCE, which included a new Social Media policy and a Diversity and Inclusion policy.
- b. Subject to some minor amendments the report and the policies were approved. The report will be presented to the Master for signature and the policies published on the College website PREVENT pages.

9 Comments on risk assessments, policies and HEFCE report not already covered

No comments were raised.

10 Any other business

No other matters were raised for discussion.

11 Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 14th February 2018 at 6.00pm in the Old Library.

Signed:

Dated: