

30th October 2018

Universities UK
pensions@universitiesuk.ac.uk

A consultation by Universities UK with USS's participating employers on the Joint Expert panel recommendations ("the consultation")

Response by Fitzwilliam College, University of Cambridge

The Governing Body of Fitzwilliam College, having discussed the consultation at its meeting on 10th October 2018, considers that the best interest of the College is closely tied to the continued ability of the University of Cambridge to sustain the highest standards of teaching and research, which in turn means the ability to attract and retain high quality academic staff. The College therefore supports the response of the University of Cambridge to this consultation.

We endorse the positive approach taken in recent months by the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Cambridge in his determination to find a solution that recognises the need for fair remuneration for staff (salaries and pensions), while being well aware that this must be sustainable for future generations.

The College recognises that the University response is informed by specialist advice which is not directly available to an institution of the size of Fitzwilliam. We are not therefore in a position to respond fully to the questionnaire. However in response to question 3(a) we can say that the increase would be acceptable in the short term, although it would have consequences for our ability to spend in other areas e.g. student support, capital expenditure.

The great majority of the Governing Body of Fitzwilliam College have declared themselves to be conflicted in this matter because of their personal membership of USS. However, they believe that, whilst fully recognising this conflict, it is appropriate and in the best interests of the College to respond to this consultation in this way.

R A Powell
Bursar