Finance and Investment Committee 21/09/2022 Paper FIC22/09



Annual Summary of Bad Debts Written Off 2021/22

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Outcome requested:	Finance and Investment Committee is asked to note the summary of bad debts written off for the financial year ending 31 July 2022.			
Executive Summary:	Under the Scheme of Delegation of Financial Authority the Finance and Investment Committee has delegated to SET the authority for dealing with debt, with an annual summary of bad debts written off to be reported to the Committee.			
	The Scheme authorises individual debt write off as follows:			
	Debts up to the value of £30,000 Chief Financial Officer Debts up to the value of £50,000 SET Debts over the value of £50,000 FIC			
	£225k of debts were approved to be written off by the Chief Financial Officer in the year (2020/21 - £265k), representing 0.045% of income. There were no debts above an individual value of £20,000 written off.			
	The amount written off is included in the figures currently undergoing external audit.			
QMUL Strategy: strategic aim reference and sub-strategies	12. Improved cash generation to enable investment			
Internal/External regulatory/statutory reference points:	Scheme of Delegation of Financial Authority			
Strategic Risks:	Failure to generate adequate additional income to enable investment in order to achieve the 2030 goals.			
Equality Impact Assessment:	Equality issues are considered when dealing with individual debtors, particularly when dealing with student debts.			
Subject to prior and onward consideration by:	N/A			
Confidential paper under FOIA/DPA	No			
Timing:	Relates to 2021/22 financial year			
Author:	Janice Trounson, Deputy Director of Finance, Financial Controls			
Date:	13 September 2022			
Senior Management/External Sponsor	Karen Kröger, Chief Financial Officer			

Annual Summary of Bad debts written off

Debt balances are reviewed annually at year end and a provision is made against specific debts which are at risk of not being collected through credit control efforts. Once collection avenues are exhausted the debt is requested to be written off against the provision.

Debt category	Opening bad debt provision 1.8.21	Debts written off in the year	Other movements in the provision	Closing bad debt provision 31.7.22
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Miscellaneous Student – Tuition &	218	-27	46	237
accommodation	407	-166	777	1,018
Medical Research Non medical	202	-	-169	33
Research	58	-	-28	30
SCS	4	-	0	4
Ilabs	1	-	36	37
QM Malta	55	-31	-16	8
	945	-224	646	1,367

The table below summarises the key metrics for the debts written off during 2021/22:

Debt category	Number of debts written off	Largest debt written off £000	Average debt written off £000
Tuition Fees &	98	12	2
	90	12	2
accommodation			
Miscellaneous	27	4	1
Medical	-	-	-
Research			
Non-medical	-	-	-
QM Malta	14	15	2
ILabs	2	0.3	0.2
Total 2021/22	141		