



**Council Members and
Sub-Committee Chairs:
Audit & Risk, and
Finance Committee**

**City St George's
University of London**

Candidate Pack
Autumn 2026

Introduction

This is an opportunity to contribute through governance to one of the most forward-thinking and innovative Universities in the UK.

City St George's, University of London came into being as a single institution in August 2024, as a result of the merger of City, University of London and St George's, University of London. This has created a powerful new multi-faculty, multi-campus university, and one of the largest higher education providers in London. The strategic alignment of subject mix and ethos has created a powerhouse for students, researchers, and partners. With more than 27,000 students, six schools spanning health, business, law, science, technology, creativity and the social sciences, and deep connections to the NHS, industry and the professions, we have a powerful platform for the future. Our financial strength and planning give us confidence to invest in that future.

The Council, to the University's corporate strategic board, has overall responsibility for the strategy, direction and performance of City St George's, ensuring that the best interests of stakeholders are met, notably students, staff, external partners and alumni.

The University is seeking outstanding individuals to serve as Chair of the Audit & Risk Committee and Chair of the Finance Committee, following the completion of the current postholders' terms of office.

Audit and Risk Committee

Strong candidates will bring significant experience in audit, risk management, governance, finance or regulatory oversight, together with the strategic judgement to evaluate complex risks and assurance arrangements. They will be adept at providing independent and constructive challenge, fostering a culture of accountability and transparency, and ensuring that the University's risk management and control frameworks remain robust and effective.

Finance Committee

Strong candidates will possess senior-level financial leadership experience and a proven ability to oversee financial strategy, budgeting and long-term sustainability within a complex organisation. They will combine commercial acumen with sound governance judgement, enabling them to scrutinise financial performance, assess investment opportunities and support informed decision-making that advances the University's strategic objectives.

The following document provides more detail on:

- **City St George's, University of London**
- **Governance and the role of Council**
- **The roles**
- **How to apply**

The University

City St George's, University of London is the University of business, practice and the professions.

The university is now one of the largest higher education destinations for London students and one of the largest suppliers of the health workforce in the capital. Our students are at the heart of everything that we do, and we are committed to supporting them to pursue their career and personal ambitions.

Our research is engaged at the frontier of practice and has a positive impact on the world around us.

Combining a breadth of disciplines across health, business, law, creativity, communications, science and technology, we are creating a 'health powerhouse' for students, researchers, the NHS and partners in uniting a world-leading specialist health university. Our staff and students have access to an expanded team of brilliant academic and professional services colleagues, combined resources and facilities and increased interdisciplinary opportunities.

The most recent published financial statements (2024-25) place annual income for the institution at £487.8 million, of which £24.4 million was from research grants and contracts.

The combined university operates across seven schools of study:

- School of Policy and Global Affairs;
- School of Communication and Creativity;
- Bayes Business School;
- School of Health and Medical Sciences;
- School of Health and Psychological Sciences;
- School of Science and Technology;
- The City Law School.

Our Vision and Strategy

Our refreshed Vision & Strategy 2035 builds on the achievements of Vision & Strategy 2030 and affirms our commitment to delivering outstanding education, impactful research at the frontier of practice and deep engagement with the communities we serve.

Our top priority is our students' experience. It is critical to City St George's future success and requires our collective effort to achieve. We believe students should have the best possible experience while at City St George's, make positive connections with fellow students and with our staff, and feel they are a valued member of our community.

We will focus attention on excellent teaching and well-delivered, timely and appropriate assessment. We will eliminate broken business processes, improve student communication, increase our responsiveness and provide meaningful feedback. We will listen to our students, showing respect and kindness. We are aligning our Professional Services teams to meet these commitments and developing our senior level strategic capacity to ensure we can support the scale of our ambition.

Responsibilities of Council

Council sets the University's strategic direction; ensures the effective management and control of its affairs, property and finances; and appoints the President, Deputy President & Provost and Vice-Presidents.

Council delegates some of its powers to Council Committees: Senate; Audit & Risk Committee; Strategy & Finance Committee; Remuneration Committee; and Corporate Governance & Nominations Committee. Council delegates to the President its authority and responsibilities in all areas except those specifically retained under the University's Charter, Statutes and Ordinances by Council itself and its Committees. Each year the Council provides a Corporate Governance Statement which forms part of the Financial Statements and describes the committees and their work throughout the year. The Governance process and procedures are supported by the University Secretary and the Governance team.

The Council follows the Committee of University Chairs HE Code of Governance and implements it on the recommended 'apply or explain' basis, adhering to the six core primary elements: accountability; sustainability; reputation; equality, diversity and inclusion; effectiveness; engagement.

The Council comprises a total of up to 22, comprising up to 14 independent, or 'lay' members, up to six of staff members and two student members.

The Roles

Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee (ARC)

The [Audit and Risk Committee](#) delivers independent assurance to the Council regarding the institution's financial reporting, corporate governance, and risk mitigation strategies.

The ARC is chaired by an independent member of the Council. The Chair of the Council is strictly forbidden from sitting on or chairing this committee to protect its executive independence.

Key Responsibilities:

- **Oversight of Frameworks:** Evaluates the adequacy and effectiveness of systems for risk management, internal controls, and data assurance submitted to public or regulatory bodies.
- **Audit Coordination:** Directs the scope of internal audit groups and acts as the main point of liaison with external auditors (such as PwC for City St George's).
- **Value for Money:** Evaluates institutional practices to ensure economy, effectiveness, and efficiency across all operations.
- **Annual Reporting:** The Chair presents a formal [Audit and Risk Committee Annual Report](#) to the Council, giving structural assurance before financial statements are signed.

Chair of the Finance Committee

The [Finance Committee](#) provides structural advice and assurance to the Council regarding City St George's long-term financial sustainability and estate portfolio strategy.

Key Responsibilities:

- **Budget & Strategy Formulation:** Considers and recommends annual income and expenditure goals, cash flow, and capital investment budgets to the Council.
- **Performance Monitoring:** Tracks actual income, spending variances, and projected financial outturns compared against the baseline budget throughout the year.
- **Capital Projects & Infrastructure:** Recommends major capital frameworks and tracks the financial health of ongoing IT or construction developments.
- **Subsidiaries and Unions:** Evaluates the financial risk of companies in which City St George's has shares and oversees the Students' Union budget approvals.
- **Inter-Committee Alignment:** Reviews draft Annual Reports before they are officially submitted to the *Audit and Risk Committee* to maintain unified institutional reporting.

The University is also seeking an Independent Member of Council (audit and/or finance) and the time commitment will be around 1-2 days per month.

Time Commitment

Members of Council shall be appointed for a term of up to three years, renewable to a maximum of nine years in total. The Charter states that the total period of membership will be nine years or three terms of three years in any one capacity.

Ordinary independent members of Council will typically spend at least eight days per year on the role. Council Members who become more engaged and involved might spend proportionately more, up to a day or two per month.

How to Apply

Applications should be in the form of a cover letter and CV and sent to csgcom@minervasearch.com by no later than **30 November 2026**.

The interview date is to be confirmed.