Executive Summary

2008-2018 Strategic Plan

The University Strategic Plan for 2008-2018 provides a framework for the many strategic and operational decisions that will occur at various levels across this institution and identifies the fundamental strategic aims for the next ten years.

Mission - The mission of the University of St Andrews is to achieve the highest international standards of excellence in scholarship, manifested in the quality of its research and of its graduates.

The high-level aims and aspirations are consolidated into a list of eight key strategic aims:

Research - To build upon its excellent reputation for leadership and competitiveness in all areas of research as measured by international standards so as to create an exciting, innovative and flexible, as well as intellectually and financially sustainable research culture to pursue programmes of world-class research such that leading research staff and research students will be attracted to St Andrews and such that its research will be highly valued by society.

Learning & Teaching - To build upon its excellent reputation for learning and teaching as measured by international competitiveness, so as to create a challenging, imaginative and flexible, as well as intellectually and financially sustainable, learning and teaching culture such that the very best teachers and students will be attracted to St Andrews from a diverse and international background; and so as to enable those students to realise their full potential and make a valued contribution to society.

The Student Experience - To enhance the distinctive kinds of student experience offered in St Andrews and ensure that they are capable of supporting the student learning experience, meeting student residential and social needs, providing effective student support services and promoting personal development and employability.

Staff - To secure the world-class talent required by the University, to ensure that every member of staff is committed to the role they play in the success of the University, and to develop the skills and flexibility required to allow the University’s changing workforce requirements to be met.

Organisational Effectiveness and Efficiency - To maximise organisational effectiveness by operating supportive systems of management and governance.

Infrastructure and Estate - To maintain a sustainable physical and ICT infrastructure that meets student expectations, attracts high quality staff and delivers the University’s academic objectives.

Financial Health - To maintain a sustainable and resilient financial position to support the mission and academic positioning of the University on an ongoing basis.

Institutional Project: 600th Anniversary - To derive maximum advantage from the celebration of the University’s 600th Anniversary in 2013 with respect to profile, initiatives and fundraising.