



STATEMENT REGARDING ONGOING PROTESTS AT SENATE HOUSE

As part of a long-running dispute over insourcing outsourced Facilities Management staff, the IWGB union has called for a boycott of Senate House. We want to point out a number of facts in response:

- 1 The University supports the principle of in-sourcing services and is already bringing reception, portering, post room and AV services back in-house by the end of May 2019.
- 2 We have taken a staged approach to avoid unintended financial consequences for affected staff, to avoid substantial financial penalties from breaking contracts, and to assure affordability.
- 3 We take our duty of care to all our staff and students extremely seriously.
- 4 The University is currently operating in a financially challenging environment. The cost of moving too quickly would significantly reduce resources for key academic and other activities. We need to protect them.
- 5 This is not a simple process. It involves existing contracts, detailed consultation with all staff involved and assurance about service standards. That takes time. The short timeframe demanded by some is simply undeliverable.
- 6 The University will apply the same review process in turn to the other externally contracted services. We expect this review to be completed by 2020 at the latest.