Dr Tim Mead Registrary The Old Schools



The Cambridge Society

23 May 2002



University Governance Proposals

I am writing to you as Secretary of the University Council with a proposal from the Cambridge Society.

The Executive Committee of the Cambridge Society at its meeting on 26 April 2002 considered the proposals for University Governance set out in the consultation paper (Reporter, 6 February 2002). In pursuit of its role of providing help and support for the University (for which it was established by the University in 1976) the Society offers an important independent and external perspective, and therefore wants to play a part in the new governance arrangements, if they are implemented.

Specifically, the Society proposes that it should provide one of the three external members of the University Council.

In making this proposal the Society has regard to the need, set out in the consultation paper, for external members to provide outside expertise.

The Society would ensure that any external member put forward would meet the criteria which are set out by the University Council, and would offer the experience and expertise specified. (If it proved for any reason impossible to find someone who met the criteria, the Society would of course not put forward an unsuitable candidate.)

As a membership organisation, the Society represents a 'core' of Cambridge people strongly committed to the University, and strongly committed to supporting it at a time of rapid and far-reaching change.

Yours sincerely