



City Hall
The Queen's Walk
London SE1 2AA

24 August 2020

Unmesh Desai AM

London Assembly Member for City and East

Professor Amanda Broderick, Vice Chancellor
Anulika Ajufo, Chair of the Board of Governors
University of East London
(sent by email)

Dear Professor Broderick and Ms Ajufo,

RE: Redundancies at the University of East London

I write to you on behalf of a number of my constituents who have been in touch following the news that staff at the University of East London may be facing up to 200 redundancies this summer.

I would ask that, before reaching any final decision, you undertake an extended consultation with staff, who have indicated that they are willing to work with you to find flexible solutions to the crisis facing the university.

Staff are, to my mind quite correctly, concerned that once redundancies happen, there will be long term impacts on the ability of the university to offer access to higher education to all those residents of Newham and from further afield who need it.

I fully understand the difficult circumstances that UEL finds itself in as we live through an unprecedented public health crisis but would urge you to explore all available options before committing to redundancies of this scale. Covid is not a reason to make loyal staff redundant or fail in the university's responsibilities to the community it serves.

Yours sincerely,

Unmesh Desai AM

London Assembly Member for City and East