



Union Council Motion

Title of motion:

LGBT+ Opt-in Accommodation

What do you want to change?

The University of Sheffield is the first and only university to offer LGBT+ accommodation. As a union we should lobby the University of Hull to provide such a service. We should follow Sheffield's model of offering an opt-in system for this accommodation. This system would work via applying for on campus accommodation you tick the box requesting LGBT+ only accommodation. Based upon the students that ticked this box, they would then be assigned accommodation on the same floor as other students who opted in for LGBT+ only accommodation. There would also be the option of ticking a box specifically for trans+ accommodation.

This means those who opt-in to LGBT+ accommodation are together. As having a designated singular accommodation block could lure in anti-LGBT+ targeted attacks, we'd argue that moving the location on an annual basis would prevent targeting.

Why do you want to change it?

Since last year in our university trans* support group we would discuss the option of having such a system in place. Many students have a demand for such a facility. This would be a beneficial system for closeted people, people who are transitioning to provide a safe environment and generally people of the LGBT+ community who could do with such a support system and safe place away from discrimination. We also sent a survey around created by LGBT+ Students' Representative which documented students desire for this system (see attached survey).

What do you want Hull University Students' Union to do?

We would like Hull University Students' Union to support Social Mobility and Class Representative, LGBT+ Students' Representative and Trans Students' Representative in their campaign for LGBT+ accommodation. We would also like them to document this motion to ensure if it passes it is followed through on and also lobby the president's team to support in enacting this campaign.

Co-Proposers: Cas Nicholas (Social Mobility and Class Representative, Beth Stephenson (LGBT+ Students' Representative), Luciani Angel Roelofs (Trans Students' Representative)

Seconders: Evie Kyte (President of Inclusivity and Diversity), Phoebe Bastiani (President of Students' Union), Grace Burnett (Councillor of Scrutiny, Education

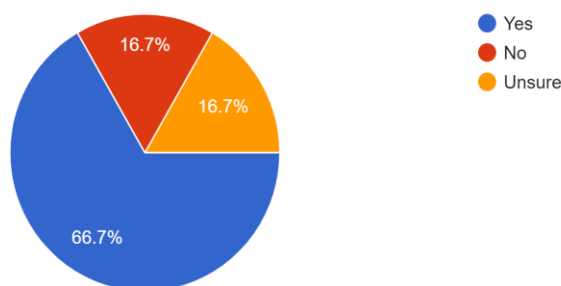
Zone), Emily Birch (Postgraduate Research Students' Officer)

- Trans* is an umbrella term to describe people whose gender is not the same as, or does not sit comfortably with, the sex they were assigned at birth. Trans people may describe themselves using one or more of a wide variety of terms, including (but not limited to) transgender, non-binary, or gender queer. (Stonewall definition)

Survey Results

If you were to use on-campus accommodation, would you like an option to stay in exclusively LGBT+ accommodation?

12 responses



As seen on the chart, most respondents were in support of the concept of LGBTQ+ accommodation.

Another question asked why people felt the way they answered in the question above, the main points are summarised below.

For:

- People have been harassed in on-campus accommodation due to their sexuality or gender, one even said to the point of violence
- In the past, people have been too scared to live in their own accommodation due to roommate harassment
- People worried about homophobic and transphobic harassment and feeling safer around LGBTQ+ peers
- Not having to be closeted for their own safety

Against:

- Should not have to be excluded to be safe
- At risk of segregating LGBTQ+ students



Unsure:

- I don't live in on-campus accommodation.