

Union Council Agenda

Monday 30th March 2020
Canvas, Online

6pm – Union Council

1. Adoption of agenda
2. Apologies for absence (for acceptance)
3. Pronoun policy
4. Co-opting of new Part-Time Officers (if relevant)

5. President Team Accountability
6. New General Business
 - 6.1. M.1920 – 21 Motion to change Hull University Union's brand to Hull Students' Union (PAPER A)

 - 6.2. M.1920 – 22 Motion to change the Governance Zone to Union Development Zone (PAPER B)

 - 6.3. M.1920 – 23 Motion to create a standing order for accountability of members of Zones, Union Council and the Union Executive Committee (PAPER C)

 - 6.4. M.1920 – 24 Motion to revoke standing orders related to RAG, HullFire Newspaper, JAM radio, Torch TV, and LINKS (PAPER D)

 - 6.5. M.1920 – 25 Motion to revoke Breastfeeding Policy (PAPER E)
7. Any Other Business (AOB)

Next meeting – Monday 20th April 6.30pm, on Canvas



Union Council Motion M.1920 - 21

Title of motion:

Should Hull University Union change its brand to become Hull Students' Union?

What do you want to change?

Hull University Union (HUU) change its brand to become Hull Students' Union.

Why do you want to change it?

Back in March 2019 when I ran for President of the Students' Union, the main focus of my manifesto was to put students at the heart of the Union. After talking with our CEO, we would like to see students being put back into the name and brand of the organisation – we were thinking Hull Students' Union. A lot of people do not always see us as a Students' Union and often confuse us with the University. This is also more in line with other Students' Unions such as YUSU (York University Students' Union) and NUSU (Newcastle University Students' Union). This proposal may seem like a small change but could make a big difference in how people perceive us and ensuring that we truly are student-focused!

We would see this as being a natural transition with items like lanyards and signposting needing to be replaced soon anyway, digital presence being easily changed when needed and uniforms also being updated as we get new staff.

This would not be a legal change, but a brand change. We would retain the strapline of Hull University Union and the charity number at the bottom of all documents.

What do you want HUU to do?

Hull University Union to change its brand to Hull Students' Union

Proposer: Isobel Hall, President of the Students' Union

Seconder: Abi Morris, President of Inclusivity and Diversity;
Erin Pettit, President of Sports;



CURRENT LOGO



HULL
STUDENTS'
UNION





HULL UNIVERSITY
STUDENTS'
UNION



HULL
UNIVERSITY
STUDENTS'
UNION



UNIVERSITY OF

HULL

STUDENTS'

UNION



UNIVERSITY OF HULL
STUDENTS'
UNION



Union Council Motion – M.1920 - 22

Title of motion:

Should the Governance Zone change its name and expand its remit to become a Union Development Zone?

What do you want to change?

- Change the name of Governance Zone to Union Development Zone
- Change Standing Order 1002 as attached

Why do you want to change it?

- Currently, the Governance Zone Standing Order is not relevant to what the zone discusses in meetings
- The function of the zone is rather limited and could be expanded so that students have more of a say about what happens at the Union
- 2.c should not be the job of students and the role of checking grammar and ensuring they meet the objects of the charity etc is the job of Trustees
- We should think of the Governance Zone as more of a Students' Union zone whose job it is to do Union Development, i.e. develop governance, develop Union campaigns, develop projects etc.
- Union development seems more fitting and encompassing of the work the zone should be doing. This also means that members get to be involved in more important decision making at the Union
- The zone should also include 3 members elected from Council who are not Zone Chairs but have an interest in sitting on the zone.

What do you want Hull University Union to do?:

- Change the name of Governance Zone to Union Development Zone
- Update the Bye-Laws accordingly
- Change Standing Order 1002 as attached

Proposer: Isobel Hall, President of the Students' Union

Seconder: Abi Morris, President of Inclusivity and Diversity;

We can give you advice on the idea, how to write a motion and tips on how to present it at Union Council. If you would like any help or guidance please contact huu-council@hull.ac.uk. If you would like any spelling and grammar checked, please ensure your motion is submitted two clear days before the motion deadline.



Union Council Motion – M.1920 - 23

Title of motion:

Should Union Council create a standing order for accountability of members of Zones, Union Council and the Union Executive Committee?

What do you want to change?

- Create a new standing order for accountability of members of Zones, Union Council and the Union Executive Committee.

Why do you want to change it?

- Currently, we have limited policy about the roles and remit of Councillors of Scrutiny and how we hold members of Zones, Union Council and the Union Executive Committee to account.
- The creation of this standing order rectifies this issue.

What do you want Hull University Union to do?:

- Create a new standing order for accountability of members of Zones, Union Council and the Union Executive Committee.

Proposer: Isobel Hall, President of the Students' Union

Seconded: Huey Arslan, Society Mentor

We can give you advice on the idea, how to write a motion and tips on how to present it at Union Council. If you would like any help or guidance please contact huu-council@hull.ac.uk. If you would like any spelling and grammar checked, please ensure your motion is submitted two clear days before the motion deadline.

Union Council Motion – M.1920 -23a

SO XXXX

STANDING ORDER ACCOUNTABILITY OF MEMBERS OF ZONES, UNION COUNCIL AND UNION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. Interpretation

These Standing Orders shall be read in conjunction with the Articles, Bye Laws and the relevant Standing Orders of Hull University Union (hereafter collectively referred to as the Regulations) and shall be interpreted accordingly. In these Standing Orders:

2. Councillors for Scrutiny

(a) Status of Officer

i The Councillor of Scrutiny shall be responsible for ensuring that all members of their Zone are following their objectives, ensuring that all areas of their zone is within budget and assist in tasks and projects their Zone is undertaking. The Councillor of Scrutiny is responsible to their relevant zone President.

(b) Election

i The Councillor of Scrutiny will be elected in accordance with SO 8001. The Councillor of Scrutiny role is open to all students at the University of Hull.

(c) Duties

i Attend:

- 1 Training events
- 2 Zone meetings
- 3 Union Council


ii

(d) Internal

The Councillor of Scrutiny shall be responsible for the following:

- i A voting member of their Zone
- ii A voting member of Union Council
- iii Any other committees, groups or responsibilities deemed necessary for the position.

3. Holding Members of Zones and Union Council to Account



Members of Zones should attend every Zone meeting and members of Union Council should attend every Union Council meeting. If they cannot attend, apologies should be sent. Failure to send apologies for lack of attendance for any 2 meetings in a row, they should attend will result in a motion of caution being passed against them. Members who fail to attend more than 2 meetings without apologies will face a vote of no confidence to be heard at their Zone. These should be brought by the Councillor for Scrutiny for that Zone.

4. Holding Union Executive Committee to Account

Members of the Union Executive Committee shall produce accountability reports which shall be presented at their Zone meeting and Union Council.

The principle aim of this is to scrutinise the performance of the Union Executive Committee member in relation to their effective implementation of agreed campaigns, the coordination of the work of UEC, representation to the University and outside bodies and the delivery of the agreed strategy for that members area of responsibility.

Accountability reports should be sent out with Zone papers and be discussed as a separate agenda item. When accountability reports are being discussed, the Union Executive Committee member must leave the room. Upon returning, Councillors for Scrutiny will ask questions on behalf of members of the Zone on their report.

Accountability reports should also be sent out with the Union Council papers and part of the agenda should allow time for Union Council members to ask questions on the reports.



Union Council Motion – M.1920 - 24

Title of motion:

Should the Activities Zone revoke Standings Orders listed below and move them to become internal policies?

2006 Hullfire Newspaper
2007 Jam Radio
2008 RAG
2009 Torch TV
2010 LINKS

What do you want to change?

The Standing Orders listed below are revoked and moved to be internal policies.

2006 Hullfire Newspaper
2007 Jam Radio
2008 RAG
2009 Torch TV
2010 LINKS

Why do you want to change it?

Currently Media, RAG and LINKS are part of the Union's legal constitution. This means that if that student group want to change how they run, they have to do so through Union Council. They are the only student groups that do not have their own autonomy about how they are governed. This also makes the Union's legal documents unnecessarily long and responsible for how these groups operate. If any other group wishes to change how they run or operate, they do so via their membership when is appropriate. This is not an option for these groups.

By removing these standing orders and making them internal policies it ensures that the Union's governance is concise and these student groups get autonomy over how they operate.

What do you want HUU to do?

Revoke the Standing Orders listed below and move to make them internal policies.

2006 Hullfire Newspaper
2007 Jam Radio
2008 RAG
2009 Torch TV
2010 LINKS



Proposer: Isobel Hall, President of the Students' Union

Seconder: Jacob Thorne, Chair of RAG

Proposed changes to Standing Orders about RAG, LINKS and Media Groups – M.1920 -24a

What are we proposing:

We are proposing that the Standing Orders for LINKS, RAG and the Media Societies become be removed and that those groups become, and be supported like, societies. This would mean those current Standing Orders would be the foundation constitutions for those societies. Things such as the defamation policy and other essential policies would become internal policies of HUU.

What is a Standing Order:

Standing Orders are additions to our Bye-Laws. Our Bye-Laws are a set of rules that determine how we run as a political organisation for our students. The Bye-Laws can only be changed by a majority decision by Union Council. This is the same for Standing Orders.

Why do we want to change it:

Firstly and, to put it simply, our Bye-Laws are too big. For years different student leaders have added to it which now makes it a document that is over 130 pages long including the Standing Orders. These are the rules of our political movement and it's completely inaccessible for most students.

Secondly, because RAG, LINKS and the media groups are Standing Order groups and not societies it means that any changes they want to make to how they organise have to be approved by Union Council and not by there own members. Student groups should be able to self determine their organisations as much as possible and not be at the mercy of the Council for approval.

What will change if this passes:

In terms of how this will impact members of these groups, there should be **no change** to how these groups are run and how they are currently supported by HUU. The money that is set out to support these groups will be protected as policy by the Students Union at Union Executive Committee (The meeting where Officers make policy decisions).

These groups should have more power to self-organise and determine their own structures with support from HUU.

What do we lose:

The main thing these groups would lose is their seats at Union Council and their subsequent vote. Currently, LINKS and RAG have a vote each at Union council with the Media groups sharing one (!).

If these proposals pass then those three votes would be given to Activities Zone for three members of that zone to be elected to. In theory, that means members of these groups could still have seats on Council if they decide to run for it.

This change is designed to ensure better participation in Union Council with a wider spread of representation from student groups.

Why are we bothering:

Whilst this seems like a lot of work for not much change, it is part of a wider effort the Union is making to make things simpler and easier for students to get involved with the Union. We have recently passed a new version of our Bye-Laws and will be soon launching a new strategy.

For this all to work however we first need to get our processes in order so that next years Officers can focus on making change.

Why are these groups Standing Orders in the first place:

We have no idea. Seriously.

None.

Other groups like this are normally treated as societies by other Unions. Which is the model we are adopting.

I have more questions or an issue:

Good! Please talk to Isobel (HUU President) with any issues or questions you may have. We want to make sure everyone feels like they have had their say before Union Council.

Stephen Dowson

Dows

Interim Membership Services Manager HUU



Union Council Motion – M.1920 - 25

Title of motion:

Should we revoke the Breastfeeding policy?

What do you want to change?

Remove the breastfeeding policy.

Why do you want to change it?

- The current policy is no longer relevant due to the capital building works not taking place.
- The law ensures that we must provide a space for breastfeeding if asked so we do not need a policy to make this happen.

What do you want Hull University Union to do?:

Revoke the current breastfeeding policy

Proposer: Abi Morris (President of Inclusivity and Diversity)

Seconder: Erin Pettit (President of Sports) Isobel Hall (President of the Students' Union)

Breastfeeding Policy

Statement:

Hull University Union (HUU) supports all breastfeeding and expressing individuals and believes that all space should be safe for them. HUU also wants to provide a private space for those that would like to breastfeed and express privately.

Purpose:

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that adequate space is provided within HUU's facilities for those individuals that are breastfeeding or expressing to do so in comfort and safety. As a result of this policy a private space will be created for this purpose.

Implementation:

The policy will be implemented in the following ways:

- While the building is undergoing redevelopments a space will be highlighted for activities of breastfeeding and expressing.
- Within the building redevelopment a space will be created for this purpose.
- HUU will work towards becoming a breastfeeding friendly accredited organisation by fulfilling all necessary criteria for the benefit of both staff and students.
- HUU will continue to press the university to provide greater breastfeeding provision on campus.

Monitor and Review:

This policy will be reviewed every two years by the Welfare and Community Officer to ensure that facilities are provided to a high standard for HUU's members and staff.