

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY BELFAST STUDENTS' UNION

MINUTES

Statutory Meeting of the Students' Union Council
held on 16 November 2022 in Blue Sky Room, Level 1, Queen's Students' Union.

Present:

Abhishek Kumbhar	Students' Union Council - Postgraduate Representative
Adam Wilson	Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences (AHSS) Undergraduate Faculty Representative
Aidan Moran	Student Officer Campaigns and Engagement
Ali Gardezi	Students' Union Council - Postgraduate Representative
Alicia Kerr	Students' Union Council - EPS Representative (Undergraduate)
Anna Herron	Part-Time - Environmental Officer
Arnab Jana	Students' Union Council - Postgraduate Representative
Asha Marie Larson-Baldwin	Students' Union Council - Postgraduate Representative
Avery Johnston	Part-Time - Trans Students' Officer
Bea Holland	Students' Union Council - AHSS Representative (Undergraduate)
Beatrice Titcombe	Students' Union Council - Postgraduate Representative
Beth Elder	Student Officer Education
Bryony Tunney	Students' Union Council - AHSS Representative (Undergraduate)
Ellie McGuigan	Students' Union Council - AHSS Representative (Undergraduate)
Elliot Sellers	Undergraduate School Representative - School of Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering (SMAE)
Emma Murphy	Union President
Eoin Ussher	Students' Union Council - Queen's Accommodation
Gwen Ridout	Postgraduate School Rep - School of Psychology (SBS)
Hany Bahgat	Engineering and Physical Sciences (EPS) Postgraduate Taught Faculty Representative
Hazel McMorrow	Undergraduate School Representative - School of Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences (SMED)
Huda Al Baqali	Students' Union Council - EPS Representative (Undergraduate)
Jamie-Lukas Campbell	Student Officer Postgraduate
Jenny Steele	Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences (AHSS) Postgraduate Taught Faculty Representative
Jess Hindley	Students' Union Council - Postgraduate Representative
Jessica Crisp	Part-Time - Women Students' Officer
Julien Kolta	Part-Time - International Students' Officer
Kieran Minto	Medicine, Health and Life Sciences (MHLS) Postgraduate Taught Faculty Representative
Kieron Portbury	Student Officer Equality & Diversity
Leo Davies	Part-Time - Student Parents' and Carers' Officer
Marta Cipriano	Part-Time - Mature and Part-Time Students' Officer
Matthew Charlwood	Engineering and Physical Sciences (EPS) Postgraduate Research Faculty Representative
Matthew McCallion	Postgraduate School Rep - School of Law (SLAW)
Molly Quinn	Undergraduate School Representative - School of Law (SLAW)
Monica Amir Saad	Medicine, Health and Life Sciences (MHLS) Undergraduate Faculty Representative
Nadine Curtis	Students' Union Council - MHLS Representative (Undergraduate)
Niamh Bone	Students' Union Council - EPS Representative (Undergraduate)
Olubunmi Favour Olawale	Students' Union Council - Postgraduate Representative
Pete / Shijie Wang	Postgraduate School Rep - School of Arts, English and Languages (SAEL)
Petra Stone	Part-Time - LGBT+ Students' Officer
Róisín Costelloe	Students' Union Council - AHSS Representative (Undergraduate)
Ryan Irwin	Engineering and Physical Sciences (EPS) Undergraduate Faculty Representative
Samantha Emily Koitz	Postgraduate School Rep - School of History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics (SHAPP)
Shea McCourt	Undergraduate School Representative - Social Sciences, Education and Social Work (SSESW)
Sophie McManus	Students' Union Council - AHSS Representative (Undergraduate)
Sowmya Balachandran	Students' Union Council - Postgraduate Representative
Tara Lynne O'Neill	Students' Union Council - AHSS Representative (Undergraduate)
Tiarnan Smyth	Students' Union Council - EPS Representative (Undergraduate)
Tiarnan Tracey	Students' Union Council - AHSS Representative (Undergraduate)
Tj Lindsay	Undergraduate School Representative - School of Mathematics & Physics (SMP)
Tobenna Okeke	Postgraduate School Rep - School of Electronics, Electrical Engineering & Computer Science (SEECs)
Vishesh Bhagchandani	Students' Union Council - EPS Representative (Undergraduate)

In Attendance:

DAMIEN CORRIDAN (CLERK OF COUNCIL)
BARRY CRUICKSHANK (REPRESENTATION SUPPORT OFFICER)
LOUISE MCGEOUGH (ACADEMIC REPRESENTATION ASSISTANT)
CIARAN HIGGINS (STUDENTS' UNION DIRECTOR)

The Speaker of Council welcomed all attendees to the Second Statutory Meeting of the 2022-23 session of the Students' Union Council.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received for the following Councillors:

Liam Magill Students' Union Council - Postgraduate Representative

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

2.1 Statutory Meeting of 24 October 2022 (SUC/M/21/5)

It was agreed that the minutes of the Statutory Meeting of 24 October 2022 (SUC/M/22/5) were a true and accurate record of proceedings.

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

3.1 Policy Updates

There were none.

4. COMMUNICATIONS

4.1 Condolences

There were none.

4.2 National Students' Union Updates

Emma, Students' Union President, informed Council the National Union of Students (NUS) has dismissed its president, Shaima Dallali, over anti-Semitism claims. It follows an independent code-of-conduct investigation after allegations were made against her.

The findings of a wider investigation into the NUS are yet to be published. The investigation into Ms Dallali is confidential and no details have been published. Chloe Field, the acting chair of the NUS UK Board, has said she was "proud to fight on behalf of all students".

5. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS/RULE AMENDMENTS

There were none.

6. BUSINESS FOR CONSIDERATION

6.1 Recognition of Clubs & Societies

The following applications for recognition were considered by the Standing Committee when it met on 9 November 2022:

6.1.1 Queen's University Belfast Student Healthcare Audit Society (Society)

6.1.2 Queen's University Belfast Tamil Society (Society)

6.1.3 Queen's University Belfast Women in STEM Society (Society)

Emma, Students' Union President updated Council that all applications had completed required documentation and met the criteria in the Constitution to be considered for recognition.

She further stated that The Committee considered the application individually and met with representative from each group and finally noted that the Standing Committee recommends that Council formally recognise these groups as official Clubs and Societies, categorised as follows:

- Queen's University Belfast Student Healthcare Audit Society (Society)
- Queen's University Belfast Tamil Society (Society)
- Queen's University Belfast Women in STEM Society (Society)

Following a vote, the above Clubs & Societies were ratified.

6.2 Student Officer Plan of Work 2022-23

SUC/P/22/41

The Student Officers provided an overview of a paper detailing the Student Officer Plan of Work 2022-23 (SUC/P/22/41).

In accordance with Rule 4 (1.21) of the Constitution, Council approved the Student Officer Plan of Work 2022-23 (SUC/P/22/41).

7. BUSINESS FOR DISCUSSION

7.1 Cost of Living Crisis – Update and Discussion

Emma, Students' Union President, informed Council about the Cost of Living support package that has been put in place by the University and even though she welcomed the proposals put to the University by the Students' Union, she wanted to stress that work will continue to support students during these difficult times. The Student Officer Team are currently working closely with the University to figure out the best and most efficient way for students to get their payment, which is scheduled for January 2023.

Emma, Students' Union President, updated Council that the Students' Union and the Student Officer team were working closely with national unions on campaigns regarding the Cost of Living Crises and held a town hall meeting on Tuesday 18 October in the Mandela Hall which was very well attended by students and local MLAs.

She further updated Council that she was in constant communication with the University about proposed action and additional support for students and would continue to update on further developments. She updated Council that the Students' Union were piloting some immediate and tangible measures to help support students and was happy to announce that 5,000 Free Breakfasts were distributed in the new SU Building over 6 days in November, in an initiative run in partnership with the University. She was also happy to announce that free tea and coffee was now available all day every day in the SU Lounge.

7.2 University and College Union (UCU) – Industrial Action

Emma, Students' Union President updated Council updated on University and College Union (UCU) – Proposed Industrial Action.

The University and College (UCU) staff trade union - which represents academic and academic-related staff - in higher education across the UK, is in an industrial dispute at a national level with universities.

The issues of dispute are: staff pensions; staff pay levels; workload; use of casual employment contracts; and equality issues in the workplace.

The UCU and national representatives of universities have been in discussions for some time but have not come to an agreement.

UCU members in universities across the UK have exercised their right in law to commence industrial action against the universities.

They have agreed to take two types of industrial action in November 2022:

- Strike Action (Staff were on strike on Thursday 24, Friday 25 & Wednesday 30 of November)
- Action Short of a Strike (This means working strictly to the terms of an employment contract and not doing any additional work.)

It is likely that there will be further, more protracted, industrial action in early 2023 unless the UCU and universities come to an agreement on the issues under dispute.

Emma stated that the Students' Union supported previous industrial action by the UCU on these issues.

The Students' Union held an all-student vote (also called a referendum) on 23-24 November 2021 to give students an opportunity to have their say on the strikes. 84.6% of those who voted were in favour the Students' Union supporting UCU industrial action.

The elected Students' Union Council had also voted to support this industrial action.

The Union President stated that the issues under dispute have a direct impact on the quality of students' education as they affect conditions under which staff can work, their contact time with students, and the time they can invest in preparing for classes and marking assignments.

Emma, Students' Union President also stated that the strikes are part of a broader campaign against marketisation which has led to rising tuition fees, rising hidden costs of education and a greater focus on outcomes and league tables.

Sean O'Connell, the UCU President attended the meeting and spoke to Councillors about the strike, reasoning behind it, and their overall aims. Sean answered questions from Councillors and the overall feedback was positive and in support of the industrial action.

7.3 2022-23 Academic Year – Issues / Concerns

7.3.1 Increased funding for Postgraduate Students (esp. International) [Tobenna Okeke]

Tobenna Okeke, Postgraduate School Rep - School of Electronics, Electrical Engineering & Computer Science (SEECs) presented on concerns regarding the need for increased funding for Postgraduate Students (esp. International).

7.3.2 Delivery Schedule of QUB Lectures [Hany Bahgat]

Hany Bahgat, Engineering and Physical Sciences (EPS) Postgraduate Taught Faculty Representative presented on issues / concerns regarding the delivery schedule of Queen's University Lectures and the support available for students on campus.

7.4 Students' Union Democracy Review – Update

7.4.1 Democracy Review Overview

The Clerk of Council updated Council on the Students' Union Democracy Review, the progress that has been made so far, and some feedback so received. The Clerk of Council explained how vital this feedback would be in shaping future democratic structures of the Union.

The Clerk of Council then led a discussion on the Students' Union Democracy Review getting feedback from members, which was positive and supportive of the review.

7.4.2 Full-Time Student Officer Roles – Feedback

It was noted that the Full-Time Student Officer team were undertaking a review of Full-Time Student Officer roles, based on practical experience of recent years and any recommended amendments would be presented to the next meeting of Council.

7.4.3 Part-Time Student Officer Roles and Student Groups – Feedback

It was noted that the Part-Time Student Officer team were undertaking a review of Part-Time Student Officer roles, based on practical experience of recent years and any recommended amendments would be presented to the next meeting of Council.

7.5 Students' Union (Building) – Update

The Clerk of Council updated Council that The Students' Union Redevelopment Project was complete and opened to the public on Monday 5 September 2022. He further updated that footfall and engagement has exceeded all expectations to date and the building was receiving glowing reviews amongst students and across the sector.

7.6 Students' Union Mental Health Activity

Emma, Students' Union President updated Council that the Student Mental Health & Wellbeing Co-ordinator, is working hard organising various initiatives and events for students to take part in. She has also organised a Staff Train the Trainer – Mind your mate training that multiple staff members are now trained in to deliver.

Emma, Students' Union President updated Council that the OMNI Survey closed on 31 May 2022 and the data is now being processed. A total of 2266 students successfully completed the OMNI survey.

Emma, Students' Union President updated Council that Full Time Student officer Team trialled the Mind your Mate training with the Student Mental Health & Wellbeing Co-ordinator.

Emma, Students' Union President further updated Council during the 6 September University Executive Board meeting a Student Mental Health and Wellbeing paper was submitted by the Students' Union and Queen's Disability and Wellbeing Services with proposals for consideration:

- Increased support for delivery of the Students' Union Mental Health Action Plan.
- Greater delivery of Student Minds – Look After Your Mate Training
- Resources to support greater alignment between student support role in Schools and central University support
- Additional staffing support for the University's Student Disability and Wellbeing Service

The University Executive Board accepted these proposals and agreed to invest to increase mental health support.

This support includes funding for the Students' Union to recruit for the following two staff posts in the Students' Union:

- SU Student Mental Health and Wellbeing Manager

- Social Prescribing Link Worker

The support also included funds to procure software systems to support social prescribing.

7.7 Students' Union Strategic Plan 2020-25 - Update

The Union President updated Council that the Students' Union Strategic Plan Action Plan for 2022-2023 has been completed by the Heads of Service and each department working through their individual plans.

8. BYE-ELECTIONS

There were none.

9. ELECTIONS

There were none.

10. MOTIONS

10.1 **Multilingual Wellbeing Support Information**

This Council resolves that:

- The University should provide key student wellbeing information translated into the languages spoken by the most populous groups of international students at Queen's, as it is vitally important that students have easy access to this information during times of crisis.
- The Students' Union should organise or support a volunteering programme, through which multilingual students can support international students who struggle to speak and understand English.

Proposer: Ibrahim Malik (Student Councillor)

Seconder: Beth Elder (Student Officer Education)

Ibrahim Malik proposed the motion.

Following a show of voting cards, the motion was carried.

10.2 **Queen's Accommodation Charges and Fees**

Council notes:

1. The general cost-of-living crisis, with specific attention to the sharp increase in the cost of energy.
2. That Queen's College Accommodation (including but not limited to BT1, BT2, Elms Village/BT9, Willow Walk) house a significant number of QSU members.
3. The Union's commitment to cost of living campaigns.
4. The Union has successfully lobbied to reduce disciplinary fines by half and remove library charges.
5. That many students staying in Queen's Accommodation are in the first year of their studies and can reasonably be assumed to be living outside of the family home for the first time.

Council Further Notes:

1. That within the Conditions for Occupancy 2022/23 signed by all students staying in Queen's Accommodation there are charges such as, but not limited to, the following:
 - (a) £7.50 for lost Queen's House keys,
 - (b) £2.00 for a lost fob,
 - (c) £5.00 for a lost postal box key,
 - (d) £25.00 'administrative charge' on failed direct debit payments towards residential fees
2. That BT9 Willow Walk residents are promised a credit update on the amount of credit remaining on their utilities allowance halfway through Semester 1 and 2, which has not arrived.

Council Believes that:

1. Students should be afforded the right to ably plan their expenses, and not be subjected to hidden additional costs in their Purpose Built Student Accommodation. This accommodation is advertised as a fixed term contract with no hidden costs.

Council Therefore Mandates:

1. That the Union's Officers engage with Queen's Accommodation to ensure that the reduction or removal of these charges, similar to the removal of library fines and the reduction of cost of disciplinary fines.
2. That the Union engage with Queen's Accommodation on the subject of electricity fees, to ensure that (a) appropriate safeguards are in place to ensure cost of energy is kept as low as possible for students staying in Willow Walk, and (b) that Queen's Accommodation provides the promised credit update.

Proposer: Eoin Ussher (Student Councillor)
 Seconder: Beth Elder (Student Officer Education)

The motion was withdrawn.

10.3 QUB Examination Scheduling

Council recognises that:

- As it stands in the current Academic Calendar, there are 3 weeks allocated for the May examination period.
- Policy 1.01, 'Minimal Time Between Examinations', already exists within the policy file to support mitigating bunched exams.
- The burden of academics is seen as one of the biggest problems for students, as was seen in the 2019 OMNI report where Academic Pressures was clearly identified as a significant contributor to poor mental health. 44% of students struggled with the number of assessments and 70% struggled with burnout.
- The Development Weeks currently run across the final 2 weeks of semester 2. Their purpose is to allow students dedicated time and space in the academic year to take part in extra-curricular activity and gain Degree Plus accreditation.
- In some schools, the first week of semester 2 is used for alternate forms of assessment. This could include reports, essays, and literature reviews.

Council notes that:

- 6 years ago, in 2016/17 – 2017/18, the number of formal examination weeks was cut in half from 6 weeks to 3 weeks (i.e., The 3-week January examination period was removed), but the number of exams was not.
- Most of the January exams were moved to the summer examination period.
- Students are subjected to an unsustainable exam workload in the current examination period, with undue stress and resultant underperformance or increased examination deferrals.
- In the Academic Year 2021/22, development weeks began Monday 23rd of May and ended on the 2nd of June, however of the 35 events ran over this two-week period, 28 occurred during the first week, and only 7 occurred in the second week.
- There are not enough formal examination weeks in the University Calendar to accommodate the number of examinations taken in this period.

Council therefore mandates that:

- The two development weeks at the end of semester 2 are condensed to the second week only, and the first week is used to extend the examination period. The examination period would therefore be 4 weeks long.
- The VP Education and Undergraduate Faculty Reps work in partnership with faculty staff, and lobby DASA (Directorate of Academic and Student Affairs) to implement these changes.

Proposer: Ryan Irwin (EPS Undergraduate Faculty Rep)

Seconder: TJ Lindsay (Undergraduate School Rep – Maths and Physics)

Ryan Irwin proposed the motion.

Following a show of voting cards, the motion was carried

10.4 **Period Inclusion Policy Across All Aspects of University Life**

Students who menstruate are routinely overlooked in regard to how period pain impacts their education but also how the Cost of Living Crisis is distinctly impacting them in how regards to the price of menstrual products.

The University should introduce severe period pain as a standard exceptional circumstance for assessments.

- Currently, there is no clear way for students to apply for exceptional circumstances if they are suffering with debilitating period pain. Does it constitute a short-term illness such as a migraine? Is it a serious illness?
- For those students with diagnosis' of menstrual issues such as Endometriosis or Polycystic Ovaries, they can only apply for exceptional circumstances for pain but this does not cover fatigue or mental strain caused by such illnesses.
- Any support provided by the Student Wellbeing Service or Disability Services is not immediate if an assessment deadline is imminent, and such support cannot be provided to those awaiting a medical diagnosis.
- Exceptional circumstance should be granted for severe pain, fatigue, and mental impacts of severe period pain.

- A formal diagnosis of a menstrual issue should not be required to qualify for exceptional circumstances.

Period products should be freely available across all University buildings and student accommodation to alleviate not just monetary issues, but also for use in emergencies.

- Although the SU already provides free period products in the Union building, there is so much more lobbying that could and should be done to ensure that there is further support in place across the wider University.
- Periods are not necessarily always regular and occurrence cannot always be planned in advance.
- These are not luxury items; they are hygiene items and as necessary as toilet paper. Students should have access to these items in all toilets, to ensure they can go about their period in dignity.

Proposer: Jess Crisp (Women Students' Officer)

Seconder: Frankie McCrea (Undergraduate School Rep – Biological Sciences)

Jess Crisp proposed the motion.

Following a show of voting cards, the motion was carried.

10.5 **Emergency Motion: Supporting University and College Union (UCU) Industrial Action**

Council notes:

- The University and College Union (UCU) have balloted for strike action on two separate legal disputes, one on pensions and one on pay and working conditions.
- In 2022, 85% of UCU members who voted backed strike action in relation to pensions, 74% supported strike action in relation to pay, equality, casualisation and workloads.
- Industrial action has been called for 24, 25 and 30 of November 2022.
- Locally, UCU at Queen's have confirmed their intention to join with
- 150 universities across the UK in the industrial action with 79% of members who voted supporting this decision.
- This follows strike action taken in 2018 which was initiated by proposed reforms to the Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS) pension scheme, and new data released by the USS trustees has revealed that restoring benefit cuts forced through by Universities UK earlier this year would cost less than current contributions and still leave the scheme in surplus.
- These threats are likely to be most damaging to workers at the beginning of their careers, including PhD students, which will have devastating impact in future.

Council believes:

- Staff should receive fair pay, pensions and working conditions.
- Staff's working conditions are inseparable from students' learning conditions.

- Students and staff should stand in solidarity, including the struggle for fair pay, pensions and working conditions.
- Threats to staff pay, pensions and conditions are part of the same ideology of marketization that is to blame for rising tuition fees, rising costs of education and cuts to education.

Council mandates:

- Members of the Executive Management Team to give public support to UCU in their struggle.
- To join the picket line during the 3 days in November and to encourage students to do the same.
- To lobby the University to oppose the proposed reforms in the USS and to improve staff pay and conditions.
- To meet, on a regular basis, with the executive of UCU at Queen's to discuss a joint strategy both in relation to this industrial action and in the future in relation to the wider issue of marketization.
- To see that all possible provisions are made by the Union and the University to ensure that students face minimal adverse academic impact from the strike without compromising the principles of the strike, such as ensuring that students are not assessed on content covered during the three days of strike action as far as possible.

Proposer: Emma Murphy (Students' Union President)

Seconder: Bryony Tunney (Student Councillor)

Emma Murphy proposed the motion.

Following a show of voting cards, the motion was carried.

11. REPORT OF THE MANAGEMENT BOARD AND RECOMMENDATIONS

11.1 Report of the Management Board

Emma, Students' Union President provided a verbal update on key issues considered by Management Board since May, noting that the majority of these issues were detailed in Student Officer reports.

This report was accepted.

12. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AND RECOMMENDATIONS

12.1 Report of the Executive Management Committee

Emma, Students' Union President provided a verbal update on key issues considered by the Executive Management Committee since September, noting that the majority of these issues were detailed in Student Officer reports.

This report was accepted.

12.2 Report of the Union President (July 2022)

SUC/P/22/42

This report was accepted.

- 12.3 Report of the Union President (August 2022) SUC/P/22/43
This report was accepted.
- 12.4 Report of the Union President (September 2022) SUC/P/22/44
This report was accepted.
- 12.5 Report of the Union President (October 2022) SUC/P/22/45
This report was accepted.
- 12.6 Report of the Vice President Campaigns and Engagement (July 2022) SUC/P/22/46
This report was accepted.
- 12.7 Report of the Vice President Campaigns and Engagement (August 2022) SUC/P/22/47
This report was accepted.
- 12.8 Report of the Vice President Campaigns and Engagement (September 2022) SUC/P/22/48
This report was accepted.
- 12.9 Report of the Vice President Campaigns and Engagement (October 2022) SUC/P/22/49
This report was accepted.
- 12.10 Report of the Vice President Education (July 2022) SUC/P/22/50
This report was accepted.
- 12.11 Report of the Vice President Education (August 2022) SUC/P/22/51
This report was accepted.
- 12.12 Report of the Vice President Education (September 2022) SUC/P/22/52
This report was accepted.
- 12.13 Report of the Vice President Education (October 2022) SUC/P/22/53
This report was accepted.
- 12.14 Report of the Vice President Equality & Diversity (July 2022) SUC/P/22/54
This report was accepted.
- 12.15 Report of the Vice President Equality & Diversity (August 2022) SUC/P/22/55
This report was accepted.
- 12.16 Report of the Vice President Equality & Diversity (September 2022) SUC/P/22/56
This report was accepted.
- 12.17 Report of the Vice President Equality & Diversity (October 2022) SUC/P/22/57
This report was accepted.

- 12.18 Report of the Vice President Postgraduate (July 2022) SUC/P/22/58

This report was accepted.

- 12.19 Report of the Vice President Postgraduate (August 2022) SUC/P/22/59

This report was accepted.

- 12.20 Report of the Vice President Postgraduate (September 2022) SUC/P/22/60

This report was accepted.

- 12.21 Report of the Vice President Postgraduate (October 2022) SUC/P/22/61

This report was accepted.

13. REPORTS FROM OTHER UNION COMMITTEES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

There were none.

14. REPORTS FROM UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES

There were none.

15. CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS

To the Union Speaker:

- 15.1 Whether an email sent after business hours the day before a 12-midday deadline is sufficient notice for Councillors to submit motions, questions, or other items for inclusion on the Agenda of the following meeting of the Students' Union Council?

Proposer: Matthew McCallion (Student Councillor)
Seconder: Tiernán Tracey (Student Councillor)

The following written response was provided:

The Constitution stipulates that 10 days' notice be given of all meetings of Council. Notice for this meeting (and all meetings for the year was given by email on Wed 19/10/2022.

Details of all deadlines for the year were published on the Council SharePoint site. Councillors were advised of this by email and also at the Inaugural Meeting of Council on 24 Oct 2022.

The Constitutional requirement to provide notification has been met.

The email sent on the evening before the deadline served as a reminder to Councillors.

16. QUESTIONS (TO ELECTED STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES)

To the Student Officer Equality and Diversity:

- 16.1 To provide an update regarding the Pride Society.

Proposer: Matthew McCallion (Student Councillor)
Seconder: Tiernán Tracey (Student Councillor)

The following written response was provided:

The Pride Society continues to be an active student Society, with a membership of approximately 150. The constitution for the Pride Society can be accessed on the Students' Union website.

Following committee elections, the Society has organised a number of events to-date in the current academic year. Details of recent events are available on the Society's social media pages.

The Student Officer team does not have any formal involvement in the running of any Student Society and any further details on the Society's activities can be obtained directly from the Society.

17. ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

18. DATE OF NEXT STATUTORY MEETING OF THE STUDENTS' UNION COUNCIL

The third Meeting of the Students' Union Council 2022-23 will take place Monday 5 December at 5.00p.m. in Blue Sky Room, Level 1, Queen's Students' Union.