

## Union Higher Education Funding Policy

<b>Proposer:</b> Alex Savell – Deputy President (Finance & Services)	<b>Seconder(s):</b> Tom Wheeler – Union President & Pascal Loose – Deputy President (Education)	<b>Other Contributors:</b> -
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**Policies affected/related:** N/A

**Policies superseded:** Higher Education Funding Policy (Lapsed)

### 1. The Union Notes:

- 1.1. In June of last year the previous Higher Education Funding Policy lapsed
- 1.2. Union Council of last academic year elected to commit to an information gathering exercise before committing to a new policy
  - 1.2.1. This should ensure that any policy is reflective of student opinion
- 1.3. The Union Council of this Academic year chose to conduct a survey, led by the Officer Trustees and then bring a policy to a General Meeting of the Union
- 1.4. The survey was conducted between 4 November 2014 and 19 November 2014
  - 1.4.1. A full analysis of the results and methodology used in this can be found in the attached document 'Higher Education Funding Survey Analysis (2014)'

### 2. The Union Believes:

- 2.1. Higher Education Funding is an extremely important issue as it will affect many students in the years to come
- 2.2. Decisions of such magnitude should be decided based on as much evidence as possible within reasonable constraints for collecting said evidence
- 2.3. Forming a thorough policy which reflects student views gives us a strong platform for lobbying parliament and parliamentary candidates in the upcoming general election
  - 2.3.1. Higher Education Funding may be a key issue in this election

### 3. The Union Resolves:

- 3.1. To accept the recommendation and principles of the Higher Education Funding Survey Analysis (Page 17-18)
- 3.2. To assess any proposed funding models against these principles and campaign accordingly
- 3.3. Campaigning to include, but not be limited to:
  - 3.3.1. Lobbying local parliamentary candidates during the General Election Campaign
  - 3.3.2. Lobbying local MPs within the current and new parliament as well as appropriate Government and Cabinet Ministers
  - 3.3.3. Seeking and exploiting media opportunities to highlight the issue and steer the debate
  - 3.3.4. Working with any other like-minded organisations (such as other Universities or Think Tanks) in order to add weight to our various voices.
    - 3.3.4.a. Noting co-operation on specific issues or parts of an issue need not require a completely aligned position on others