

SUC/A/25/6

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY BELFAST STUDENTS' UNION

To: Members of the Students' Union Council

Dear Councillor,

Please attend the third Statutory Meeting of the 2025-26 Students' Union Council, to be held on Tuesday 20 January 2026 at 4.00pm in The Cube, Level One, Students' Union.

Yours sincerely,

DAMIEN CORRIDAN

Clerk to the Students' Union Council

AGENDA

FIRST CIRCULATION

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of Previous Meetings
 - 2.1 Minutes of Statutory Meeting of 17 November 2025
3. Business Arising from the Minutes
 - 3.1 A Welcome Inclusive Union Bar – Update
 - 3.2 QSU Partnership with University Colleges – Update
4. Communications
 - 4.1 Condolences
 - 4.2 SU Voice – Update
 - 4.3 Students' Union Elections 2026 – Update
 - 4.4 Student Councillor Support and Priority Issues
5. Constitutional Amendments/Rule Amendments

SUC/M/25/5

Enabling Motion (Constitutional Consistency)

Enabling motion to rename, reorder and renumber Constitutional clauses, and remove invalid references, as appropriate, to reflect the amendments approved by Council.

This motion shall be deemed to have been moved and approved if any Constitutional amendment at this meeting is moved and carried.

Constitutional Amendment Motion:

“This Council empowers the Clerk of Council to rename, reorder and renumber Constitutional clauses, and remove invalid references, as appropriate, to reflect the amendments approved by the Statutory Meeting of the Students’ Union Council, held on 20 January 2026.

Any such composited amendments shall be deemed to be the consolidated amendments approved at the meetings for the purposes of conducting a referendum and for any other required approvals.”

Enabling Motion (Referendum)

Enabling motion to conduct a Referendum on to ratify Constitutional amendments approved at the Statutory Meeting of Council.

This motion shall be deemed to have been moved and approved if any Constitutional amendment at this meeting is moved and carried.

Referendum Motion:

“A Referendum shall take place, via by a secret ballot of all student members on q-su.org, by end of the 2025-26 academic year, at a date and time to be determined by the Returning Officer.

The purpose of this Referendum shall be to ratify those amendments to the Students’ Union Constitution and its Rules that have been approved by the Students’ Union Council during 2025-26 Statutory Meetings of the Students’ Union Council.”

INSERT INTO RULE 8 (CLUBS AND SOCIETIES), SECTION 2 (PROCEDURE FOR RECOGNITION OF A CLUB OR SOCIETY) THE FOLLOWING CLAUSES AND RENUMBER EXISTING CLAUSES ACCORDINGLY:

Any Student Member making an application for recognition of a Club or Society must declare any actual, perceived, or potential conflict of interest, direct or indirect, relating to the application. The Council, or sub-committee of Council, when considering an application for recognition:

- shall consider any declared conflict of interest and any other relevant available information suggesting any actual, perceived, or potential conflict of interest;
- make a determination on the Student Member’s involvement in the recognition process; and
- may invalidate an application from a Student Member if recognition could feasibly result in direct or indirect pecuniary benefit to the Student Member.

Proposer: Róisín Costelloe (Student Officer Activities and Engagement)

Seconder: Jack Lydon (Student Officer Welfare and Community)

6. Business for Consideration

6.1 Clubs and Societies Committee – Recommendations

The Clubs and Societies Committee at its meetings of Tuesday 9 December 2025 and Wednesday 7 January 2026, considered whether the following Clubs and Societies meet all Constitutional requirements necessary to recommend them to be considered for recognition by the Council:

- 6.1.1 QUB Endocrinology Society (Academic Society)
- 6.1.2 QUB Tea Society (General Interest Society)
- 6.1.3 QUB Vascular Surgery Society (Academic Society)

6.1.4 QUB Symphony Orchestra Society (General Interest Society)

6.1.5 QUB Intellectual Property Law Society (Academic Society)

7. Business for Discussion

Councillors are invited to raise any relevant issues for discussion under agenda items 7.1 – 7.3.

- 7.1 Cost of Living Crisis – Update
- 7.2 QUB Academic / Support Services Issues – Update
- 7.3 Students' Union Mental Health Activity – Update
- 7.4 QSU Student Cooperative Housing Project – Briefing
- 7.5 Student Safety Initiatives – Briefing
- 7.6 Student Safety – School of Natural Built Environment Buildings
- 7.7 QUB GIFT City (India) - Briefing
- 7.8 Student Sustainability Reps – Development Plan
- 7.9 Union President Updates

Updates on areas of on-going or emerging focus.

8. Bye-Elections

There are none.

9. Elections

There are none.

10. Motions

The motion proposed in agenda item 10.1 refers to existing Students' Union policy and does not have the effect of establishing new Students' Union policy.

10.1 **A review on the Irish Language Policies (Athbhreithniú ar na polasaithe Gaeilge)**

This Council acknowledges:

- That there are Policies regarding the Irish Language and Bilingual Signage in the Students Union Policy File.

This Council recognises:

- That the Identity and Language Act 2022 (Acht Féiniúlachta agus Teanga 2022), gave the Irish language equal status to the English Language, and that Irish is an official language of the state.

This Council Believes:

- That the Students Union should work towards implementing the policies set out in the file regarding the Irish Language and Bilingual Signage.

This Council Notes:

- That in 2018, policy ‘8.15. *Bilingual Signage on Campus*’ was added to file and the council mandated: “*That the VP Equality and Diversity and Students’ Union President work closely with An Cumann Gaelach to ensure that the bilingual signage is returned across campus at Queen’s University Belfast and Queen’s University Students’ Union.*”
- That in 2020, policy ‘8.22. *Irish Language Rights*’ was added to file and the council mandated: “*QUBSU to develop a campaign along with NUS-USI, USI and other Students’ Unions to prevent cuts to Irish language courses, for the expansion of courses able to be studied jointly with Irish, increase funding to Irish faculties and to support the lobbying and activism of An Cumann Gaelach and the work of an Oifigeach Gaeilge.*”

This Council Mandates:

- That the Students Union will revisit all previous Irish Language Policies on file and work to ensure the implementation of what is set out in the policies.
- That Student Officers continue to support campaigns of An Cumann Gaelach and work together with An Cumann Gaelach to ensure previous Irish Language policies are implemented.

This Council Encourages:

- That the Students’ Union arrange work with the Irish Language Commissioner An Coimisinéir Teanga to continue the promotion of the Irish Language An Ghaeilge in the Students’ Union and within the University.
- That the Students’ Union continues to engage with AMLÉ looking to their forward-looking Irish Language policy for guidance on the support for Irish Language development within Queen’s University Belfast.

Proposer: Maithín Ó hÁgáin (Councillor – Student Societies Representative)

Seconder: Ádhamh Sterio (Irish Language Association Chairperson)

11. Report of the Management Board and Recommendations

There is none.

12. Report of the Executive Management Committee and Recommendations

The following reports shall be noted:

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| 12.1 | Report of the Executive Management Committee (January 2026) | SUC/P/26/1 |
|------|---|------------|

The following papers shall be taken ‘as read’. Councillors shall be invited to ask questions to each officer on matters related to the reports. The Council shall be asked to vote collectively on each report, unless a request is received from a Councillor to exclude a specific report from the collective vote.

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| 12.2 | Report of the Union President (January 2026) | SUC/P/26/2 |
| 12.3 | Report of the Student Officer Activities and Engagement (January 2026) | SUC/P/26/3 |
| 12.4 | Report of the Student Officer Accessible Education (January 2026) | SUC/P/26/4 |
| 12.5 | Report of the Student Officer Postgraduate Education (January 2026) | SUC/P/26/5 |
| 12.6 | Report of the Student Officer Undergraduate Education (January 2026) | SUC/P/26/6 |
| 12.7 | Report of the Student Officer Welfare and Community (January 2026) | SUC/P/26/7 |

13. Reports from other Union Committees and Recommendations

The following reports shall be noted:

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| 13.1 | Report of the PGR Academic Representative Committee (November 2025) | SUC/P/26/8 |
| 13.2 | Report of the PGT Academic Representative Committee (November 2025) | SUC/P/26/9 |
| 13.3 | Report of the UG Academic Representative Committee (November 2025) | SUC/P/26/10 |
| 13.4 | Report of the Clubs and Societies Committee (January 2026) | SUC/P/26/11 |

14. Reports from University Committees

There are none.

15. Constitutional Questions

There are none.

16. Questions (to Elected Student Representatives)

There are none.

17. Any Other Competent Business

18. Date of Annual Business Meeting of the Students' Union Council

Tuesday 10 March 2026 at 4.00 p.m. in The Cube, Level 1, One Elmwood.

Deadline for agenda submission of agenda items: Monday 23 February 2026, 9.00 a.m.

Deadline for submission of Constitutional amendments: Friday 13 February 2026, 9.00 a.m.