

Minutes

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING 7

16th February 2026

N.B. Where an item number on the agenda is followed by a star (*) this indicates items that can be "taken as read", without discussion. Officers may request items to be un-starred for discussion, as required.

1	<p>WELCOME AND APOLOGIES</p> <p>Apologies received from Eva Gospodinova (Student Officer)</p> <p>Alex Wilson (Chair – Students' Union President) Mj Blyth (VP Education & Welfare) George Watkinson-Biddulph (VP Activities & Commercial) Liv Wrightson (Student Officer) Jacob Bavin (Student Officer) Jess Dunipace (Student Officer) Andy Hodgson (Minutes - Chief Exec) John Webb - (Head of operations for item 8 only)</p>	
2	<p>MINUTES FROM THE LAST MEETING AND ACTIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minutes from the last meeting – to agree as true and accurate (EC6) Minutes agreed as true and accurate • Action points from last meeting, and ongoing actions: Actions listed and assigned via the public Exec Committee Trello: https://trello.com/b/36FwVU8x/executive-committee-2025-2026 The start of each meeting will include running through action updates via Trello • Items needing redacting for website No matters identified 	
3	<p>MATTERS ARISING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feedback: ideas for Exec handover and/or Exec end of year social activity (AW) • Clerk to arrive at next meeting 15minutes after start to allow for filming item to be first – Action AH/TJ • All Exec action to bring a 'random' item to next meeting (for filming activity) - Action ALL 	<p>AH/TJ</p> <p>ALL</p>
4 *	<p>UPDATES FROM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OFFICERS [SUBMITTED IN ADVANCE] Officers to submit their updates via the public Exec Committee Trello.</p>	

	<p>https://trello.com/b/36FwVU8x/executive-committee-2025-2026</p> <p>Updates to be taken as read, but items within updates can be “un-starred” for discussion, upon request, as part of this agenda item on the day of the Exec meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alex Wilson (Students' Union President) • Mj Blyth (Vice President, Education & Welfare) • George Watkinson-Biddulph (VP Activities & Commercial) • Liv Wrightson (Student Officer) • Jacob Bavin (Student Officer) • Jess Dunipace (Student Officer) • Eva Gospodinova (Student Officer) <p>Action AH – add Trello card to each meeting with checklist for each member to confirm GOATing activity between meetings</p>	AH
5	<p>EXEC TEAM - COLLABORATIVE WORKING</p> <p><i>[This is a standing item - An opportunity to discuss all officer activity/engagement and other work; how the Executive Team is working together and collaborating, invitation for feedback].</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1:1 update A general reminder to use the opportunity to book meetings for 1 to 1's - use form previously shared - Exec agreement/accountability (AW): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Social media – officers reminded to ensure that social media updates are regularly created and shared (along with other group/in meeting content) - noted that 6pm or thereabouts is good posting time for engagements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Suggested to add GOATing/practical engagement with students in officer training to cover as many of the learning styles are as practicable. Ensure GOATing opportunities in Freshers (for all officers to experience). <p style="text-align: center;">Action AH/TJ</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Goating – AW asked for feedback on the new GOATing schedule and engagement with insight gathering from membership. This has been received positively and engaged with so far by all officers (GWB this week Wednesday) 	AH/TJ
6	<p>POLICIES, PAPERS, AG PROPOSALS AND 'SU'GGESTIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Online Communications Policy – Approved/To be approved by SLT, for information for Exec (AW) <p>Officer were made aware of this impending policy which will give guidance and governance for everyone who speaks on our behalf in any online context.</p>	

	<p>Question was received about item 3 'core principles', noting we can only encourage inclusivity. Exec welcome to feedback by end of week, prior to policy being enacted.</p>	
<p>7</p>	<p>STUDENT FEEDBACK <i>Callout from officers for feedback via Instagram before Executive Committee meeting</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <p>University Mental Health Charter Programme (UMHCP) (MJB) (standing item) - Exec to provide feedback on any welfare/mental health issues – noted that some students felt that the removal of EC's policy as was, landed in a way that undermines the perception of how seriously the University takes mental health. Noted a campaign from the SU is forthcoming. Action LW – book a meeting to explore this further with Mj and Advice & Wellbeing Manager. An officer was anecdotally aware of an issue in criminology in which students were being 'kicked out' of lectures – this to be explored with relevant StARs (they have been asked to contact Mj). Can the 'come on in' message be shared to students who are late to lectures and may be concerned by entering late. There were some concerns expressed about evidence to prove the need of this action (beyond anecdotal). Action LW/AW to add testing this assumption to GOATing schedule</p> <p>Speak Week – direction (MJB) VPEW gave feedback of the focus of speak week being on focussed sustainability issue, in lieu of previous question set – proposed draft questions shared with officers for any immediate or later feedback (must be received as soon as practicable). Noted that word BAME should be replaced with [current terminology] Noted that word 'enhance' should be replaced with [x] Speak Week is March 23 to 27 and all officers are expected to contribute (either stall or GOATing) - SVC will be sharing a calendar for this activity</p> 	<p>LW</p> <p>LW/AW</p>
<p>8</p>	<p>FOR DISCUSSION [SUBMITTED IN ADVANCE]</p> <p>Union-Wide</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <p>An update was received in regard to statement on Union finances – this will be posted on the website along with social media support and an email to all students. A question was received about if students have a chance to ask questions about the statement – answered that the open forum is schedule after posting along with a feedback form linked from statement itself.</p> <p>Education Zone</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Placement student feedback session planned by VPEW <p>Welfare Zone</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No matters <p>Activities Zone</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Winton weekend (GWB) - Winton weekend went well but the evening event once again was poorly attended – therefore this will not be replicated in future <p>Commercial Zone</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Question and feedback for commercial team member(s) - <i>John Webb – Head of Operations joined the meeting.</i> - A question was asked of John Webb – “who monitors and approves video content for the Union events Instagram” – Answered that this would be comms and/or HoO – there were some concerns about the suitability of the most recent video (which had depicted product wastage) - JW noted that it is possible this is a response to a 'trend'. He further noted that we do need and want student staff members to drive commercial content for authenticity and engagement (and resource). Contract Staff member should be in the process to ensure that we are 'being fun without being offensive'. <p>Exec asked could a disclaimer be added when content is close to the line or important that not actually reflective of Union operations. JW noted he would discuss this with the student running content.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There was some feedback shared from officer GOATing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o It was noted that music had been 'mixed up' within BOP 'policy' o Compliments received on coffee currently being served at Terrace o BOP pricing was discussed in context with the necessity to balance cost vs value - JW confirmed that short term strategy is to have more/as many students led events to drive engagement and authentic need. This is also helpful to drive experience and opportunities for students. JW also discussed the need to drive a 'we are all one team' message that includes student attendees at BOP who have recently been posting misleading posts about how quiet events are. 	
<p>9</p>	<p>CAMPAIGNS BUDGET/EXPENDITURE</p> <p><i>To discuss and agree upcoming plans for officer campaigns budget expenditure.</i></p> <p><i>Live link also on Executive Committee Trello "For Reference" List</i></p> <p>This was noted without substantive discussion.</p>	

	Officers discussed current spend and forthcoming plans for expenditure – this included revive and thrive activity timed with assessments	
10 *	<p>KEY DATES IN THE UNION CALENDAR</p> <p><i>[For information - key dates that all officers should be aware of]</i></p> <p>Chair to highlight any key dates upcoming relevant to officers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Union Calendar link: Student Union Calendar 2025-2026.xlsx 	
11	<p>Exec Committee Photo/Video Filming</p> <p><i>An opportunity to take an Exec Committee photo or film a short video to wrap up the Executive Committee Meeting, to feedback and communicate with members. To be posted on social media following the meeting.</i></p> <p>At this meeting the officers all contributed to a Union promotion TikTok (to help drive engagement/build followers).</p>	
12	<p>A.O.B <i>[Any other business]</i></p> <p><i>Meeting format and consideration:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Filming at start</i> • <i>Clerking after 15mins (above activity)</i> 	

Dates for upcoming Executive Committee Meetings:

- **EC8** - Monday 23rd March 12-2pm, SU Meeting Room (Andy to clerk)
- **EC9** - Friday 17th April 12-2pm, SU Meeting Room (Tiff to clerk)
- **EC10** - Monday 18th May 4-6pm, SU Meeting Room (Tiff to clerk)