

Name of Zone

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Submitted to National Conference

Action Approve

Section 1 | Priorities for 2018-19

In this section of the report you will need to write in the projects you are working on and the progress made since they started.

Projects	Progress How has this area of work progressed since it's commencement
The Elections Commission	<p>In my first term as your Vice President Union Development, I spoke of the difficulty facing candidates and Students Union's during the election period. I also spoke about how students from Liberation groups faced disproportionate sanctions and disqualifications - as well as wider accessibility issues.</p> <p>When I was re-elected, i immediately launched the elections commission. The commission was comprised of SU reps, external organisations and the Black students officer and VP Society and Citizenship. The commission aimed to explore the key difficulties and challenges in SU elections and provide guidance and recommendations for all Students Union's.</p> <p>Having met multiple times in the 2nd half of 2018, the elections commission has finalized guidance, training and support for SU's and candidates in ensuring that elections are more accessible for all. There is also specific recommendations for liberation. This will be published in full with a 2 year monitoring period.</p>

Active Students Project	<p>Sports clubs have always been such an integral part of student life, and when I was elected in 2017 I promised to make accessibility and participation with sports clubs an absolute priority.</p> <p>Last year we launched the Sport, Sport, Sport research which looked at breaking down the barriers to participation in sports clubs. This wasn't your average toolkit - its aim is to arm our officers around the country with the arguments and facts they need.</p> <p>This year we have expanded on that research and partnered with Sport England and won £100k of funding to increase participation in sports clubs. We took this funding and opened a bidding process for Students Union's to apply for funding to run projects locally that increase participation on their campuses.</p> <p>One of the key factors of the project was requiring HE institutions to partner with FE Unions. This means that all of our funded projects will hit both HE and FE students. SU's participating including: Arts SU, Bradford college and university, Brunel and uxbridge college, Staffordshire and Gloucestershire and Hartpury college.</p>
Membership Engagement	<p>Quality Students' Union's is one of the leading projects of the NUS Charity for the past few years. It has been developed by our us to assure the quality, standards and overall effectiveness of students' unions around the UK. It also principally aides our SU's in continuous improvements and development.</p> <p>This year, 21 'cohort' unions are midway through completing QSU with an enhanced support offer to guide them through. The cohort are due for verification in the new year (Jan-April). This year's cohort will also inform the updated version of the QSU framework which will be launched in April 2019.</p> <p>The Membership Engagement team have also delivered induction training session for elected officers at all larger unions during the summer period to initiate greater involvement with NUS. The new officer priorities were discussed in those visits and have been tracked centrally to ensure we provide the right sort of support to each officer team, with widely held priorities focusing on improving student-led decision making, Black attainment gap, academic representation, student engagement, mental health and diversifying engagement with sports and societies.</p>

StopFundingHate	<p>The #StopFundingHate campaign was founded to encourage advertisers to divest money from “news” organisations such as the Daily Mail, The Sun and the Express who regularly use hateful and incendiary rhetoric towards muslim, black and migrant communities. The campaign has been incredibly successful and has been supported by NUS UD zone strongly.</p> <p>This year so a landmark success as the Co-Op conference passed with an overwhelming 96% majority to support ethical advertising including #StopFundingHate. This goes alongside campaigns and wins in the mobile phone industries and with other national brands such Pizza Hut.</p> <p>https://www.thenews.coop/127999/sector/retail/co-op-group-agm-address-responsible-advertising/</p> <p>https://stopfundinghate.org.uk/2018/05/19/coop-agm-overwhelmingly-backs-stop-funding-hate-motion-on-ethicaladvertising/</p>
Supporting Student Media and Fundraising	<p>Student opportunities, specifically RAG and student media, provide incredible opportunities for members all around the country. Our support for these groups continues to grow as this year we once again worked in partnership with Amnesty International to deliver the Student Media summit.</p> <p>This is one of our most exciting events where we bring together Student Media from across the UK with leading experts from the sector. The event provides an unparalleled opportunity for often volunteers to network and connect with each other and leaders in their industry. This years event was bigger than ever and received overwhelmingly positively.</p> <p>We also revitalized our student media and student fundraising guide for all SU’s this year, providing a physical resource to support student media; and worked with Nasfa to assist with the national RAG conference.</p>
Supporting Commercial Activity for Students Unions	<p>Trading Support delivered £150,000 of surplus at the end of 2017/18 year as a result of the incredible work of the Trading team and as a result of working in close partnership with members all around the country.</p> <p>We discussed with our members what should be done with this surplus at the recent CEU and members meeting which was held during Convention 2018 in Leeds. As a result, we will have a brand new capital fund created to be available to any purchasing consortium member to bid for funding for innovative and exciting commercial development. This is money again being put back into SU’s for innovation and growth projects.</p> <p>The primary purpose for this fund is to support exciting commercial development activity within the student union to assist growth initiatives.</p> <p>The Trading Support team will work closely with successful bidding students’ unions through commercial engagement with a view to ensuring that the funding pot becomes a sustainable funding stream that grows year-on-year alongside compliant volume growth through the consortium.</p>

Section 2 | Zone Policy

In this section of the report you will need to write in the policy that is within your Zone and any progress made since 1st July 2018.

Policy	Progress What work has been done in this area
Media Response Unit	<p>*WORK DELIVERED BY VP SOCIETY AND CITIZENSHIP*</p> <p>We have worked with the National Union of Journalists (NUJ) and MediaWise, who have contributed advice and codes of ethics to include within the activist briefing, which was launched at Zones 2018.</p> <p>The aims of this project to educate, inform and support student activists around engaging effectively and appropriately with the media/press.</p> <p>As the second phase of the project, we are developing an activist training programme around working with the media, which will be launched to coincide with Lead and Change 2019.</p> <p>I've also worked with a number of student activist that have been targeted by the press to offer them support.</p>

<p>A new strategy for engaging disability specialist students' union</p>	<p>We have been working hard over the last 2 years to improve the accessibility of what we do so that our members with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) are better able to engage in our work. We had a number of successes in this area as reported last year with recognition as a <i>Makaton Friendly</i> organisation, partnerships with new sector bodies and an increase in the number of affiliates from specialist provision. We also wrote to the minister responsible for our SEND colleges to push for increased investment in supporting our SEND learners.</p> <p>Steps we took last the following steps to ensuring our spaces were more accessible:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A set of introductory slides designed to help new delegates with SEND understand the wider context of national conference and what to expect to help settle nerves and reduce anxiety 2. A specific set of joining instructions that are more accessible for delegates with SEND 3. Appropriate signage and signposting around our venues – including Makaton symbols for those who use them 4. Dedicated support offered in advance of National Conference for delegates with SEND to understand the conference motions document. This will help to ensure that delegates are informed on discussions, wider debates and the motions that will matter most to them 5. A dedicated <i>Wellbeing Space</i> which will be a calm and quiet space where delegates will be able to escape the business of conference. This space will be offered as part of the conference's wider safeguarding and access support <p>This year the NUS Charity continued and expanded on this work by launching a working group comprised of members from the board as well as the Disabled Students Officer and NEC 2nd place to explore how we ensure our activity and events are accessible for all.</p>
<p>Welfare and Inclusivity' positions on SU Sports Team Committees</p>	<p>The work around inclusivity in sport and welfare positions has been covered in both the Participation in Sports paper published as well as the active students project with Sport England. We are now looking at including in our concluding guidance on ensuring sports clubs all around the country have these positions on their team committees.</p>

NUS Extra	<p>TOTUM is the brand new platform that provides students the discount card and offers they love alongside a digital app. This new platform is the passport to student life; from a whole new membership experience (sports clubs, societies, volunteering, RAG etc) to tailored discount offers at the touch of a phone, TOTUM has completely changed the game for Students' Union's.</p> <p>While it is in its early stages of developments with incredibly exciting features set to arrive in the new year, it is an opportunity so many of our members around the UK are grasping to connect with members on their campuses. We have allocated TOTUM champions for almost every SU to answer your questions and support you through the transition. We have also done our best to connect with you on the phone or even attending your Freshers/Welcome week events to support you in sales and marketing.</p> <p>It is clear that TOTUM has not met the standards we expected and many Students' Unions have concerns around sales and productivity. That is why we are initiating sessions bringing in SU officers and staff to see how best we can move forward. Most in the movement remain absolutely committed to seeing this product succeed, and that is what we are working towards.</p> <p>For more info visit: https://www.totum.com</p>
Civic Engagement through political action	<p>This year we again ran a highly successful annual Student Media Summit in collaboration with Amnesty International - the premier gathering for students aspiring to careers in media. This year's keynotes were ... The VP society and citizenship launched the Media Response Unit, equipping with the capacity to work through the increasing scrutiny of public press.</p> <p>We supported the Sustainable Development Goals Teach In (#SDGTeachIn), pushing for the SDGs (including ending poverty, ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education, and promoting sustainable economic growth) to be embedded into every single course, at every college and university.</p> <p>Our Disabled Students Officer coordinated Universal Credit training and campaigning workshops all across the UK.</p>