

By-Law 21 - Disabled Students' Campaign Constitution

Copied from [SU By-Laws](#) on 5/3/21

1. Name

- 1.1. The University of Cambridge Students' Union Disabled Students' Campaign (hereafter abbreviated to the Campaign) shall be the Standing Body recognised by the Cambridge Students' Union (hereafter abbreviated to the Union) representing the Union's members listed in Clause 3, hereafter called Members.

2. Aims and Objectives

- 2.1. The primary objective of the Campaign shall be to represent and act in the interests of its Members in Cambridge University and College structures.
- 2.2. The aims of Campaign shall be:
 - 2.2.1. To promote and protect the welfare of all its Members, including campaigning to counter disablism in all forms, and to repeal policy and legislation which discriminates against or disables students.
 - 2.2.2. To work with the Union and other Union recognised Campaigns to seek to reduce prejudice and discrimination based on forms of oppression, which intersect with disablism.
 - 2.2.3. To organise events, both social or otherwise, to benefit its Members and/or to further the Campaign's objective
- 2.3. Further to the Objective and Aims of the Campaign, the Campaign should not discriminate based upon prejudice or bias on any grounds. Inclusivity should be paramount to the actions of the Campaign for its members.
- 2.4. The Campaign shall be a democratic and representative body.
- 2.5. The Campaign will ensure that any accessibility requirements of its Members, members of the Executive Committee or candidates in elections are met whenever possible.

3. Membership

- 3.1. A member of the Campaign shall be defined as someone who both:
 - 3.1.1. Is a current Student Member of the Union; and;
 - 3.1.2. self-identifies as disabled, or who has themselves experienced disability.
- 3.2. Membership shall entitle members to partake in Elections and Forums, as well as the ability to stand for election to the Campaign's Executive Committee.
- 3.3. The only Members whose rights as a Member shall be limited shall be the Chair and/or any person who acts as the Chairperson of a Meeting.
 - 3.3.1. These limitations shall only exist while that person is acting in the relevant role and only limit rights directly related to the role they are performing such as voting/speaking at Meetings.

4. Constitution, Standing Orders and Policies

- 4.1. Amendments to this Constitution should be passed in accordance with the Articles. Any changes shall only take effect after being passed.
- 4.2. All changes must:
 - 4.2.1. Be legal under the Union's Articles and any other relevant requirements; and;
 - 4.2.2. Not call for any action or inaction that is beyond the control, capabilities or reasonable scope of the Campaign. The Campaign shall have Standing Orders to accompany this constitution which can be revised at forums.
- 4.3. Amendments to the Standing Orders:
 - 4.3.1. Shall be submitted in the form of an Ordinary Motion during a Forum, and shall require the vote of a two-thirds majority of those present.
- 4.4. Standing Orders shall only cover areas not covered by the Constitution.
- 4.5. Amendments to the Campaign Policies shall be submitted in the form of an Ordinary Motion during a Forum, and it shall require a simple majority vote of those present.

5. Executive Committee

- 5.1. Each Executive Committee Member (hereafter referred to as 'Committee Member') shall be bound by the duties declared in the Campaign's Standing Orders.
- 5.2. The Campaign's Executive Committee shall facilitate the running of the Campaign and further its objectives and aims during their term of office in accordance with By Law 5 - Standing Bodies.
- 5.3. The Campaign shall have Functional Roles and Advocacy Roles. Functional Roles must be filled to ensure effective governance of the Campaign.
- 5.4. The Functional Committee Member Roles shall include the roles specified in By-Law 5 - Standing Bodies.
- 5.5. Functional roles and any additional Advocacy Roles are outlined in the Campaign's Standing Orders.
- 5.6. Committee Member roles can be filled by students who are on a year abroad, intermitting or a distance learner, provided that they are able to fulfil their role and confirm a system of accountability and healthy workload with the Campaign Chair and the Union.

6. Term of Office

- 6.1. The term of each Committee Member shall be the end of the Easter Term until the end of the next consecutive Easter Term, unless a resignation is tendered in this period.
- 6.2. In the case of a by-election, the term of office shall begin as soon as the by-election result is announced and finish at the end of the upcoming Easter Term.

7. Resignation

- 7.1. If a Committee Member wishes to resign from their role, they should give written notice by email to the Campaign Chair and the Union.

- 7.2. If the Chair wishes to resign, they must give notice in the same manner to the full committee and the Union.
- 7.3. Following a resignation, no action will be made for 24 hours, in which the resignation can be withdrawn in the same manner it was given.
- 7.4. If a Committee Member ceases to be a member of the Union, they will be deemed to have resigned with immediate effect.

8. Automatic Resignation

- 8.1. A Committee Member is deemed to have automatically resigned with the right to appeal to a Forum if:
 - 8.1.1. They have not, without reasonable apologies, attended two consecutive Committee Meetings or two consecutive Forums in one term.
 - 8.1.2. They have not, without reasonable apologies, attended three Forums since their election or re-election.
- 8.2. If the above occurs, the Chair shall write to the committee member asking for a reasonable explanation. If none is received then the committee member is deemed to have resigned.
- 8.3. Automatic resignation is not used if a Committee Member is on a year abroad, intermitting or a distance learner, provided that they are still considered accountable to members.
- 8.4. Appeals against an automatic resignation will be considered by Forum at its next scheduled meeting.

9. Censure

- 9.1. Any Campaign member can propose a censure of a Committee Member as a Motion or an Extraordinary Motion at a Forum.
- 9.2. A censure should be voted on by a two third majority of a quorate meeting to be passed into effect.

10. Vote of No Confidence

- 10.1. A vote of no confidence can be triggered by:
 - 10.1.1. Two censures passed by Forum.
 - 10.1.2. A challenge to actions of a committee member in their role at two Forums and a two-thirds majority vote by a quorate Forum.
 - 10.1.3. A petition of 30 or more members presented to the Chair and the Union.
- 10.2. A vote of no confidence shall require a two-thirds majority in favour to take effect.
- 10.3. If a Committee Member is given a vote of no confidence, their term of office will cease immediately.
- 10.4. If the Campaign passes a vote of no confidence in the Disabled Students' Officer, the Student Council shall automatically consider a motion to trigger a referendum to remove that Sabbatical Officer.

11. Shared Projects

- 11.1. Any project(s) or group(s) organised by the Campaign with other SU Campaigns shall be funded and supported between themselves and other involved SU Campaigns in their activity.
- 11.2. The Campaign will be accountable for the project(s) or group(s) to their members.

12. Forum

- 12.1. Forum shall be an open meeting to all members of the Campaign.
- 12.2. Forum shall be held a minimum of twice a term.
- 12.3. There shall be one Standing Forum held each Lent Term which will:
 - 12.3.1. Review the Constitution and Standing Orders of the Campaign
 - 12.3.2. Review the Policy of the Campaign
- 12.4. Forums shall be facilitated by the Chair, who is able to deputise if necessary.
- 12.5. For a Forum to be quorate, the number of Members present should be a minimum of 20.
- 12.6. Forums will have the right to scrutinise the work of the Disabled Students' Officer and mandate them to work on policy.

13. Motions

- 13.1. There shall be two types of motion:
 - 13.1.1. Ordinary motions; or;
 - 13.1.2. Extraordinary motions.
- 13.2. The conditions for submitting a Motion are outlined in the Campaign's Standing Orders.
- 13.3. Motions can be amended before being passed by agreement of the proposer in the Forum at which the motion is voted upon.

14. Policy

- 14.1. The Campaign's Policy shall drive the work of the Campaign.
- 14.2. Policy shall be created by a successful motion at a Forum.
- 14.3. Policy may be revoked or amended by a successful motion at a Forum.
- 14.4. Policy shall last for two years, after which the policy will automatically lapse unless renewed.
- 14.5. Policies must further at least one of the aims or objectives as defined in Article 2 and must not counteract or prevent the achievement of any aim or objective.
- 14.6. Policies must not attempt to circumnavigate this constitution or its standing orders by:
 - 14.6.1. Attempting to change the aims and objectives of this Campaign; or;
 - 14.6.2. Attempting to restrict the accessibility or inclusivity of the Campaign's activity.
- 14.7. The Chair shall be responsible for keeping a list of current policies and ensuring the membership are updated on their progress.

15. Elections

- 15.1. Elections shall be run on the Union's elections platform and in accordance with By Law 8 – Elections.
- 15.2. Each member shall have one vote.
- 15.3. All votes shall be cast electronically via the Online Election System.
- 15.4. Further information to the running of elections and by-elections is in the Campaign's associated Standing Orders.

16. Referendums

- 16.1. A policy passed by referendum shall supersede any contradictory policy held by the Campaign.
- 16.2. A referendum can be called by a petition to the Campaign's Executive Committee by a petition signed by 30 or more members.
- 16.3. A referendum hustings should be organised by the Executive Committee prior to a vote.
- 16.4. Quorum for a referendum is 200 Members with a two-thirds majority.
- 16.5. Referendums will be held in accordance with By-Law 9 – Referendums.

17. Complaints Procedure

- 17.1. All members of the Campaign have the right to tender a complaint.
- 17.2. Complaints should be processed through the Union's Complaints Procedure, which is detailed in the Union's By-Laws.
- 17.3. If complaints are submitted to an Executive Committee member of the Campaign, the Executive Committee is responsible for ensuring this is redirected to the Union's Complaints Procedure.
- 17.4. If a complaint is submitted to the Executive Committee relating to a Campaign election, this should be redirected to the Union's Democracy Committee in accordance with By-Law 8 – Elections.