

## Rules & Regulations for NUS Referendum

### 1. Organisation of Referendum

- 1.1. The NUS Referendum shall be arranged in accordance with the following timetable (of days prior to voting):
  - 1.1.1. 12 days: Publish the proposal and date(s) for the referendum, and date to debate the proposal, and seeking any statements for and against the proposal within 5 days.
  - 1.1.2. 6 days: Cease accepting statements for or against the proposal.
  - 1.1.3. 4 days: Publish the statements for and against the proposal.
- 1.2. All statements will need to be factually correct and will be checked before publishing. Any statements deemed to not be factually correct will not be published, and the proposers of this statement will be notified of the reason why.

### 2. General Arrangements

- 2.1. Prior to the Referendum, it shall be the responsibility of the Student President to organise at least one meeting, open to all students of the University of Aberdeen and to NUS Officers, to debate the proposal.
- 2.2. A minimum of 10% of AoU students shall be required to cast votes in the referendum for the decision to be binding.
- 2.3. For this referendum to carry, there must be a simple majority in favour of the decision.
- 2.4. All statements for and against the proposal shall be submitted via email to the Election Committee.
  - 2.4.1. Statements shall not exceed more than 150 words.
  - 2.4.2. Statements will be published as election statements.
- 2.5. Voting will follow the voting guidelines as set in Byelaw 17 via the electronic voting mechanisms on the AUSA website, unless otherwise specified in this document.

### 3. Conduct of the Referendum

- 3.1. The referendum shall be conducted by means of a ballot open to all AoU students.

- 3.2. Polling shall be held on at least one days for at least 8 hours via the online electoral system.
- 3.3. All student media provided by committees constituted under other Byelaws shall ensure that their coverage of this referendum is unbiased and balanced. The Elections Committee may take action where necessary to ensure compliance with this requirements.

#### **4. Campaigning**

- 4.1. No active campaigning shall be allowed within the Students' Union Building during polling.
- 4.2. Campaigners are not allowed to campaign within any University building.
- 4.3. Campaigners are not allowed to send messages to AUSA or University or NUS held mailings lists or use the University send newsletters. Campaigners are not allowed to use the mailing lists of clubs, societies, student groups, or student council committees.
- 4.4. Campaigners must not prevent free and easy access to University buildings, including the Students' Union Building.
- 4.5. Campaigners must not communicate with voters in any way once they have started to register their vote, or stand over hem whilst they are casting a vote on any electronic device. Campaigns must not use another student's log in details to cast a vote.
- 4.6. The Elections Committee shall determine regulations for publicity, and any printed material needs to be approved by the Elections Committee before publication. Any unapproved materials will be removed by the Elections Committee.
- 4.7. There will be one official Campaign For and one official Campaign Against the proposal. These campaigns shall be led by AoU students.
  - 4.7.1. Campaign groups can be reimbursed up to £50, by providing the relevant receipt.
  - 4.7.2. Any unapproved campaign materials will not be reimbursed.
- 4.8. Campaign materials will need to reflect statements submitted for and against the proposal.

#### **5. Complaints**

- 5.1. All complaints shall be submitted to the Elections Committee via email to [elections@abdn.ac.uk](mailto:elections@abdn.ac.uk).
- 5.2. Complaints submitted after the end of polling will not be considered.
- 5.3. Complaints will be dealt with at the discretion of the Elections Committee.