

Expectations of AUSA affiliated Student Activities' Committees in relation to Scottish Government restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Due to the current situation in Scotland in relation to the COVID-19 global pandemic, the Scottish Government has acted and put guidelines and restrictions in place to help stop the spread of the virus and help keep residents safe.

This causes a challenge to AUSA affiliated Student Activities (Societies, Sports' clubs and Student Groups included) as they try to navigate these guidelines and provide a platform for their activity to engage members and provide experiences members have come to expect.

To help the Committees of AUSA Student Activities navigate the guidelines in place, and keep up to date with expectations as they change, AUSA has put together a '[COVID Hub](#)'. It contains the AUSA position for AUSA Student Activities based on the government guidelines. AUSA hopes that by creating this, it should make it easy for Student Activities to understand and feel confident they are making the right choices to keep their members safe and following the government guidelines.

However, for any Student Activity that does not follow these guidelines, AUSA recognises there needs to be a clear procedure in place. For any allegations of breaking government guidelines by a Student Activity (members or the Committee on behalf of the club) in the COVID hub linked above, or otherwise, the following process will be followed:

1. Complaint will be received by AUSA of a Student Activity breaking AUSA policy of behaviour as clear on the COVID Hub linked above or other Scottish Government guideline.
2. Complaint will be delegated to a Sabbatical Officer or appropriate member of AUSA Staff.
3. Complaint will be investigated by the person decided in (2). A report will be written to outline the policy that has allegedly been broken and how. This investigation will include speaking to the President and relevant committee members of the AUSA Student Activity or Activities involved.
4. Recommendations will be made by the AUSA representative investigating, as to an appropriate resolution based on the severity and/or the amount of risk taken by the Student Activity. The risk will be measured to include but not be limited to physical, mental or reputational harm caused by the actions of the AUSA Student Activity to AUSA members, AUSA or the public.
5. A decision will then be made by a panel comprised of two or more appropriate AUSA Sabbatical Officers and/or AUSA Staff.

AUSA may decide on one or more of the following penalties according to the severity of the policy or guideline broken:

- A verbal warning
- A monetary fine to the Student Activity
- Suspension of benefits of affiliation such as University room bookings, car hire, facility hire or similar
- Suspension of ability to apply for AUSA Grants or funding
- Removal from fixtures or leagues

- Suspension of affiliation of the Student Activity
- Diss-affiliation of the Student Activity
- Referral to the University to investigate on grounds of breaking the '[Code of Practice on Student Discipline \(Non-Academic\)](#)'

If the Student Activity has grounds to appeal the outcome, an appeal process would be followed. The grounds for the appeal and procedure would follow section 6 of Byelaw 16 - Members' Complaints Procedure.