

CUSU Council Lent 2
7:15pm, Monday 2nd February 2014
Small Examinations Hall



1. Objections to the order of items on the agenda
2. Corrections to the minutes of the last Council Meeting
3. Matters arising from the minutes of the last Council Meeting
4. Date, time and venue of upcoming Council Meetings:
16th February 2015, 7:15pm, small exams hall
5. Announcements by Committees, Campaign Teams and the Executive
 - a. The NUS National Conference
6. Questions to Committees, Campaign Teams and the Executive
7. Announcements by the Council
8. Motions to be Ratified
 - a. Motion to Reform the Structure of the CUSU Executive
9. Emergency Motions
 - a. Voter Registration
10. Any other business

8a. Motion to Reform the Structure of the CUSU Executive

Proposed Helen Hoogewerf-McComb & Rob Richardson

CUSU notes

1. That, following consultation, with members of Council and the CUSU Executive, the Standing Orders have been redrafted to reform the structure of the CUSU Executive

CUSU believes

1. That the proposed changes will improve the functioning of the Executive.

CUSU resolves

1. To adopt the newly drafted Standing Orders, as amended at the previous meeting of CUSU Council.

9a. Voter Registration

Proposed by Fred Jerrome & Seconded by Holly Higgins

CUSU Notes

1. Changes to the way in which voter registration works has resulted in many people being removed from the Electoral Register without their knowledge, and thus denied the ability to exercise their vote
2. Particular social groups are worse affected by this change to Individual Electoral Registration (IER), one of them being students, due to the transient nature of their accommodation
3. The number of students in Cambridge who have disappeared from the electoral register is estimated at 2000 but is likely higher

CUSU Believes

1. That students are not a homogenous bloc but there are common interests and experiences of the group that should be voiced
2. That it is important for students to have the opportunity to vote (or not), rather than to be forced into disenfranchisement by a lack of awareness of procedural changes
3. That as a students' union representing the interests of its members, CUSU has a duty (i) to promote awareness of the changes to the registration process and (ii) to encourage students to register to vote and (iii) to exercise their vote in an informed manner
4. This duty also falls on JCRs and equivalent college-level representative bodies who have a regard for the welfare and responsibilities of their studentry

CUSU Resolves

1. To run its own voter registration campaign
2. To support non-partisan and cross-party efforts to register students to vote
3. To work with Cambridge University and Cambridge City Council to this end
4. To provide funding of up to £750 from relevant budgets to enable student voter registration
5. To make its non-financial assets available, including but not limited to: computer equipment, publicity facilities, and representative capabilities, in order to increase student voter registration rates
6. To bring attention to National Voter Registration Day (February 5 2015) and the connected Meaning of Your Vote event (February 9 2015).