

**Cusu Council EASTER I**
Monday 29TH APRIL 2019, 7pm
Room 2, Mill Lane LEcture Theatres

Agenda

1. Objections to the order of items on the agenda
2. Matters arising from the minutes of the last Council Meeting
3. Announcements by Committees, Campaign Teams and the Executive
4. Ordinary Policy Motions from Previous Council
	1. **Motion to mandate the development of CUSU CamSpire - a novel outreach initiative**
	2. **To approve changes to the Disabled Students Campaign constitution**
5. Discussion
	1. **Student Representation**
6. Proposed Ordinary Action Motions
7. Proposed Ordinary Policy Motions
	1. **Motion to Support the Disabled Students’ Campaign Accessibility Pledge**
8. Any other business

**Please note**, as this is the first council under the new structure and so voting members of Council will be as follows:

* 2 votes per college (not per common room),
* 2 votes per CUSU campaign,
* schools reps,
* CUSU executive team

If you have any questions about who can attend, please contact any sabbatical officers, the Chair or DSA ahead of the meeting. As always, if you are unable to attend you may send a proxy on your behalf. If you intend to do this, please email chair@cusu.cam.ac.uk with your proxy’s name before Monday evening.

Supporting Information

1. Objections to the order of items on the agenda

2. Matters arising from the minutes of the last council

Minutes can be accessed via the CUSU council page at www.cusu.co.uk, email links or the folder shared on Facebook.

3. Announcements by committees, campaign teams and the executive

For updates from Sabbatical officers, please see accountability documents and videos.
Liberation Campaigns and Ethical Affairs will update at Council.

4. Discussions

Student representation

5. Ordinary policy motions from previous council

Policy requires approval at two consecutive Councils. The approval of the ‘starred’ motion at the second Council will be deemed to be automatic unless this ‘star’ is removed by a single member at the second Council wanting to revisit the motion for further discussion.

Please find the starred policy motions that were passed at the last Council listed below:

**Motion to mandate the development of CUSU CamSpire - a novel outreach initiative\***

Proposed by: Shadab Ahmed, CUSU Access and Funding Officer

Seconded by: Zainab Haider, CUSU Part-Time Executive

CUSU Notes:

1. Bangladeshi, Pakistani and Arab students are significantly less likely to both apply and receive offers from the University of Cambridge.
2. There is no outreach initiative that targets this severely underrepresented group both at Cambridge and nationally, whilst work covers all other groups specifically.
3. British Pakistani and British Bangladeshi students are over six times more likely than White students to stay living at home and study locally – with the chances increasing substantially since the increase in fees.[1]
4. The Access and Funding Officer 2018/19 has submitted a WPPF\* Bid for the 2019/20 academic year.

CUSU Believes:

1. Legacy work is vital in making change, especially in a context where the creation of a scheme is the biggest hurdle.
2. That sufficient work has been carried out to limit the workload for future officers carrying out the project.

CUSU Resolves:

1. To mandate the CUSU Access and Funding Officer to continue running CamSpire and develop the programme as future contexts see fit, including the possibility of expansions to other underrepresented groups.
2. To renew the WPPF Bid every year for the programme to ensure continuous funding.

\* The WPPF is a pool of money designated for outreach initiatives. This can be applied for by schools, departments, faculties and external organisations. Student groups may also apply through a department, CUSU or CAO. This year we have submitted bids for the Shadowing Scheme, CamSpire and an iSoc Conference.

[1]: HOME AND AWAY: Social, ethnic and spatial inequalities in student mobility, Michael Donnelly and Sol Gamsu, February 2018

**Constitutional changes**

**To approve changes to the Disabled Students Campaign constitution**

As this is a constitutional change, it **must be voted through** a second time, rather than just accepted.

* See supporting documents to see the changes made to the document.

6. Proposed ordinary POLICY motions

7. Proposed Standing order changes

**Motion to Support the Disabled Students’ Campaign Accessibility Pledge**
Proposed: Rensa Gaunt (Part Time Exec for Part Time Students)

Seconded: Jess O’Brien (CUSU Disabled Students’ Officer-Elect)

CUSU Notes:

1. That disabled students often are not able to find out if events and meetings accommodate their access needs, and are therefore excluded or discouraged from attending those events;
2. That many JCR/MCRs, clubs, and societies (along with other University, College, or Cambridge-associated groups) are unaware of the access needs of their disabled members, and have no simple means of discovering what steps they can proactively take to ensure access needs are met;
3. That disabled students have frequently been unable to address access issues, as there are no clear guidelines on what is expected from JCR/MCRs, clubs, and societies;
4. That freshers in particular may not be aware of best practice regarding accessibility;
5. That the incoming CUSU Disabled Students’ Officer was elected on a manifesto that included commitment to an Accessibility Pledge;
6. That the CUSU Disabled Students’ Campaign Committee, in consultation with Campaign Members, have written such an Accessibility Pledge (see Supporting Information attached);

CUSU Believes:

1. That disabled students should be provided with the information they need to decide whether events and meetings are accessible for them;
2. That an Accessibility Pledge to establish best practice would allow JCR/MCRs, clubs, and societies to be more aware of accessibility, as well as encouraging them to make their events more accessible;
3. That the existence of an Accessibility Pledge would allow disabled students and allies to address issues relating to inaccessibility and/or lack of accessibility information;
4. That it would be beneficial to bring the attention of freshers to the issue of accessibility, so that disabled students feel immediately welcomed, and so that students develop an awareness of accessibility starting from the beginning of their time at university;
5. That the Accessibility Pledge has a strong mandate from disabled students across the university as part of the DSO-elect’s manifesto;

CUSU Resolves:

1. To officially endorse the Accessibility Pledge;
2. To encourage JCR/MCRs, clubs, and societies to sign up to the Accessibility Pledge on a continual basis, particularly focusing on encouraging signups in time for full implementation by Freshers’ Week yearly;
3. To link to or otherwise indicate the list of groups signed up to the Accessibility Pledge on the CUSU Societies Directory, thereby bringing accessibility specifically to the awareness of freshers;
4. To ensure, as an expansion upon existing CUSU policy, that all central CUSU events adhere to and/or consider the relevant points of the Accessibility Pledge.

Supporting Information: Disabled Students’ Campaign Accessibility Pledge

Text of the Accessibility Pledge:

* We will aim to hold events where possible in rooms that are accessible - step-free access, comfy seating, etc.
* All our events will include detailed access statements on publication, made available everywhere the event is advertised.
* All event publicity will include a designated point of contact who can be consulted for further access information.
* We will aim to hold a range of events that cater to different access needs.
* We will consider access needs relating to food and drink, by e.g. providing non-alcoholic, sugar-free, gluten-free etc. options and by keeping allergen information/packaging available.
* We will attempt to make meetings accessible to those who can’t attend in person, e.g. via remote attendance or minutes.
* We will consider access needs when creating and distributing resources, e.g. via text-selectable digital versions, image descriptions, offering large print/other formats on request, etc.
* We will consider access needs when structuring our events, e.g. by including short access breaks, providing a separate quiet space, making it easy for attendees to leave at any time, etc.

-> Groups in Cambridge, affiliated with the university or not (e.g. J/MCRs, clubs and societies, campaigns, social and discussion groups) can sign the Pledge by filling out this form: <https://forms.gle/aW9mWNC5PBPyt9Yk8>

-> There will be a list of groups who have signed up to the pledge on the DSC website: <https://www.disabled.cusu.cam.ac.uk/accessibility-pledge/>

-> The DSC generator is available here for anyone to make an event access statement: <https://www.disabled.cusu.cam.ac.uk/resources/access-statements/>

8. Any other business