

# The College Review



**an annual data return from college student committees**



## INTRODUCTION

The College Review aims to bring together data from across the Colleges as submitted by JCR and MCR representatives. The data refers to college practices and services to allow for comparisons across colleges and particularly to provide JCRs and MCRs with the tools to lobby for changes in their colleges.

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### *Sample*

J/MCR committee representatives were asked to complete an online survey; responses were received between 27 July 2018 and 04 September 2018.

27 Colleges were represented. Within the sample there were 25 JCRs, 11 MCRs and one 'combined' College (Wolfson). For the purposes of analysis, Wolfson was classed as an MCR.

Six J/MCRs completed the survey twice; these results were merged together so that each J/MCR was represented once in the data set - the similarity of the submissions permitted this.



Figure B: Table showing the proportion of J/MCR's that included the various study levels/years within their membership.

Proportion of J/MCR's that represent each level/year of study		
	MCR	JCR
1st-3rd Year Undergrads	17%	100%
4th Year Undergrads	75%	92%
Grads/Postgrads	100%	8%
Clinical Medics	50%	20%
Mature Undergrads	33%	32%
Other (please specify)	58%	12%

## 1. COMMITTEE POSITIONS

Officer portfolios seemed to fall into 'lead offices' of the committee with overarching responsibilities (e.g. President) and specialist roles, with defined responsibilities for a group/sub-set of students or a particular area or concern of students within the college (see *Findings 1.1*).

Specialist roles, depending on the setup in a particular college may sometimes be joint (i.e. held by two students) or students may be appointed to a role (e.g. IT officer). There was, as might be expected, cross-over in the brief of some specialist roles depending on the college's particular setup too: e.g. cross-over between roles involving facilities, services, accommodation and catering; between Access and Academic; and between Vice-President and External; and between communications and IT.

Whilst Welfare would likely be considered a 'lead' role, this portfolio might at times be shared or split between two or more students, and sometimes with a required gender split or other focus. It may also be part of, or made up of, a family of welfare-related portfolios and/or representative officers.

Also mentioned, and not on the options given were: Careers, Council Representatives, Families, Bar, Events, Punts, Equal Opportunities, magazine or newsletter editor/s, Gym officers, Bike rep, Freshers rep. Some J/MCR has representatives from their respective M/JCR on their committees.

Findings 1.1: Percentage of role portfolios/titles in J/MCR committees.

	All J/MCRs	JCR	MCR
President	100%	100%	100%
Treasurer	95%	96%	92%
Vice-President	86%	100%	58%
LGBT+	86%	96%	67%

Green	81%	88%	67%
Ents	81%	100%	42%
BME	76%	96%	33%
Internationals	76%	92%	42%
Secretary	68%	56%	92%
Access	65%	96%	0%
Women's	62%	76%	33%
Disabled students	62%	84%	17%
IT	62%	64%	58%
Welfare	54%	44%	75%
Sports and societies	54%	56%	50%
Men and non-binary welfare	51%	64%	25%
Female and non-binary welfare	51%	64%	25%
Academic	51%	60%	33%
Communications	46%	48%	42%
Accommodation	43%	44%	42%
Freshers	41%	56%	8%
Food	32%	36%	25%
Services	32%	44%	8%
Charities	30%	40%	8%
Social	27%	4%	75%
Externals	24%	16%	42%
Ethical Affairs	24%	32%	8%
Men's	8%	12%	0%
Gender Equalities	8%	12%	0%

## 2. COMMON ROOM ELECTIONS

There was little uniformity in time-of-year of elections save for 'term time'. There were 37 responses: 12 MCR, 25 JCR. MCR's were more likely to have elections twice per year; this may relate to the mix between one-year and multiple-year students and a desire to ensure effective handover from one year to the next through staggered election cycles.

Where multiple elections occurred it was common for lead roles elected at one time of the year and specialist roles elected at other times. Most elections take place from mid-to-end of the Michaelmas and Lent Terms. 11 JCRs held one election per year, with near two-thirds occurring in Lent.

Only 14 respondents suggested when their handover might be, of which 9 held handover in Lent and 7 in Easter.

*Findings 2.1: Proportion of J/MCRs and the number of elections they have per year.*

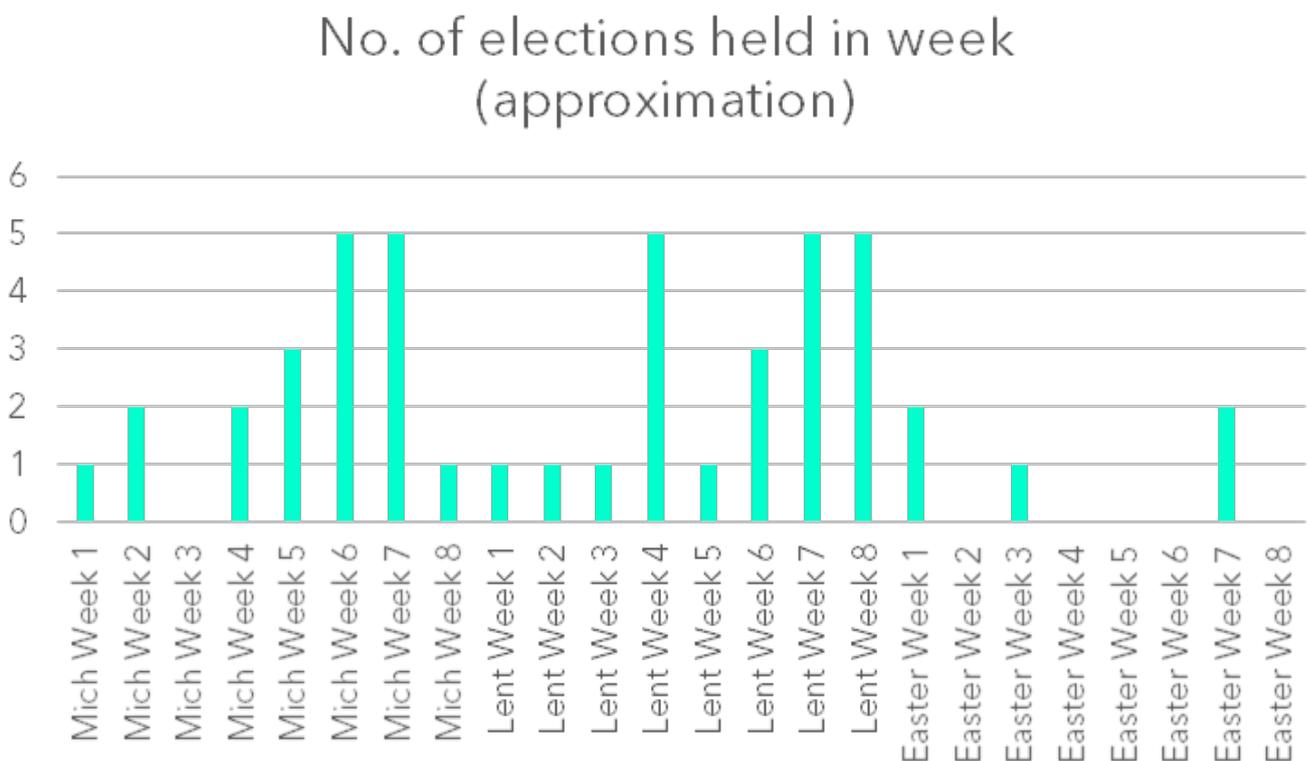
	1 Election per year	2 Elections per year	3 Elections per year
MCR	33%	67%	0%

JCR	44%	44%	12%
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Findings 2.2: Proportion of J/MCR elections each term and week of term.

	Mich	Av. week in term	Lent	Av. week in term	Easter	Av. week in term
All J/MCRs	65%	5.3	62%	5.6	19%	3.8
MCR	67%	3.4	50%	6.8	42%	5.7
JCR	64%	6.0	68%	5.2	8%	1.0

Findings 2.3: Number of elections by week throughout Cambridge terms (approx.).



### 3. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

JCR's were more likely to meet weekly and more frequently than MCR's. Other arrangements included meeting frequency relating to business at various times of year, either as planned (e.g. a Freshers Week prep meeting or fewer meetings in exam term) or ad hoc (e.g. as and when needed, or occasional out of term meetings).

"Open" meetings traditionally refer to meetings whereby all students are welcome to attend and vote on business. An Annual General Meeting is a form of Open Meeting,

though Open Meetings are normally considered to occur more frequently on an ad hoc basis based on specific issues.

Frequency of "open meetings" varied: from twice in Michaelmas and Lent terms, to others who only held when requested, and some constitutionally bound to have up to or over 5 per year. Multiple respondents described that all meetings were "open", but that traditional 'open meetings' would be called for specific, important issues as they emerged. One respondent described formal open and annual meetings, which had a tendency to put members off attending; they were seeking to make these meetings less formal and relaxed. Some explicitly mentioned that none were held in Easter.

*Findings 3.1: Frequency of J/MCR meetings (proportion of respondents).*

<b>How frequently do you have J/MCR committee meetings?</b>				
	<b>Once a week</b>	<b>Every other week</b>	<b>Once a month</b>	<b>Other</b>
ALL J/MCRs	41%	24%	14%	22%
MCR	8%	25%	25%	42%
JCR	56%	24%	8%	12%

*Findings 3.2: Frequency of J/MCR 'open' meetings (proportion of respondents).*

<b>How frequently do you have open meetings?</b>				
	<b>Once a term</b>	<b>Once a month</b>	<b>Once a year</b>	<b>Other</b>
ALL J/MCRs	41%	5%	5%	49%
MCR	50%	0%	17%	33%
JCR	36%	8%	0%	56%

## **4. REPRESENTATION ON COLLEGE GOVERNING BODY**

There were 36 responses: 11 MCR, 25 JCR responses.

54% of respondents said they had voting rights on their College governing body, with 32% having a standing invite and no voting rights and 11% having no right to attend.

It is standard practice for a students' union representative to form part of their institution's governing body (often called a 'Council'). For example, the CUSU President is a trustee of the University as a member of their Council.

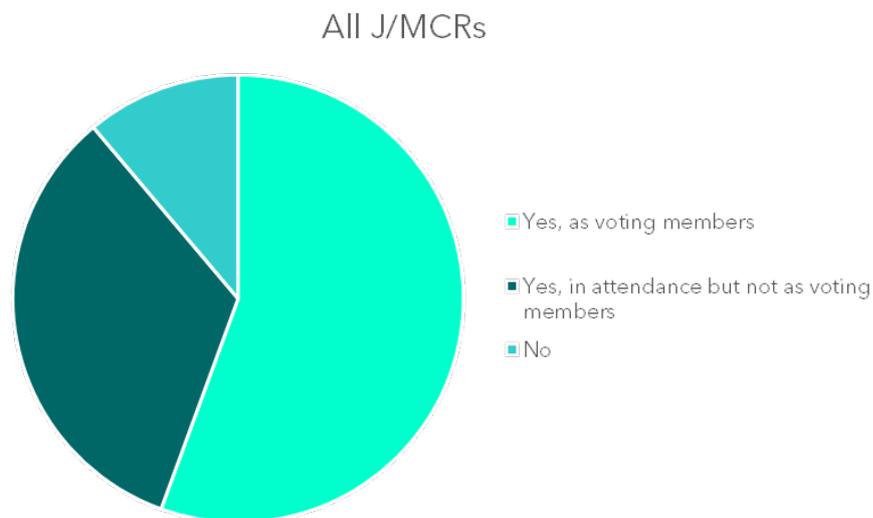
If a student representative holds trustee- or director-ship, when that student representative votes the representative must adhere to trustee law. In this regard mandate cannot dictate a representative's vote or preference; they instead must vote on the matter as they honestly see as in the interests of the college and what the college's purpose is.

Cases of 'reserved business' are common; student representatives can often be asked to leave for this. This is wholly legitimate for any non-voting members, but less so for voting member. Should a representative be a trustee of their college governing body, they should check the legal status of the institution to ensure the legitimacy of trustees being asked to leave the discussion for certain items. Whilst it might be appropriate for some trustees to withdraw from some agenda items due to a personal conflict of interest, this should be weighed against any responsibility the trustee continues to have for decisions made in their absence (as indicated by the college governing document).

57% of respondents had formal, voting representation on their college *prevent* committee; with a further quarter (24%) having standing invite to attend. 19% did not.

Findings 4.1: Extent of J/MCR representation on College governing body.

Do you have student representation on the College's governing body?			
	Yes, as voting members	Yes, in attendance but not as voting members	No
MCR	50%	33%	8%
JCR	56%	32%	12%



Findings 4.2: Extent of J/MCR representation on College governing body.

Do you have student representation on your college's Prevent decision-making body?			
	Yes, as voting members	Yes, in attendance but not as voting members	No
MCR	58%	33%	8%
JCR	56%	20%	24%

## 5. J/MCR FUNDING

The findings highlight that J/MCR funding is a complex matter to understand across all colleges; the data was felt to be speculative in some cases and the extent to which respondents were fully aware of how their budget was made-up or allocated was varied. Further, comments offered by respondents suggest there is limited knowledge or agency in decisions surrounding the allocation of budgets to student activity.

Note that respondents completed the survey between July and September, a period crossing the financial year of most colleges, therefore figures should be seen as indicative rather than authoritative (i.e. a general gauge).

Only a third of respondents clearly stated their budget allocation; another third provided a rough or approximate indication of their budget allocation. MCR respondents for this question were low, with only five respondents and only one of those definitively able to state their budget. *Findings 5.8* shows the extent of confidence respondents had in responding to the question about budget.

The average budget available to a J/MCR, exclusive of Clubs and Society allocations, is £14,898. According to the responses given MCR committees had more than double the allocation of JCR committees (MCR averaging £18,119 and JCR averaging £8,684).

Respondents gave an approximate projection of their number of members; the average J/MCR budget per member was £30.60 per member. Average per member for MCR was £33 (5 responses) and £30 for JCR (12 responses). Responses are shown in *Findings 5.6*.

A comparison between the data shown in *Figures 5.1* to *5.6* show that funding differences between J/MCR's seem considerable. If the figures are correct, calculated exclusive of Sports and Society allocations from within the gross J/MCR figure, the smallest MCR budget could fit into the largest by over 6 times; and the smallest JCR budget could fit into the largest by 91 times. The funding of a J/MCR per student member ranges from £7 per member per year to £67.

Most responses did not tell us whether budgets included or excluded other common amounts, such as Ball Committees (often separate bodies in colleges) or CUSU/GU fees. Some did provide information, which suggests that these average figures may over-estimate the funding committees have, such as the payment of staff or allocation towards other college services or provisions.

There is little to explain this from the data available and more research will be needed, with greater insight into J/MCR finances, if CUSU's affiliate members wish to compare their budget allocations. A future survey might gauge budgetary spending as well as budget allocation from the college. *Figure C* shows a weak correlation between the size of a college's endowment and the pound per member afforded to a J/MCR budget (17 responses). Whilst a general correlation is shown, there was no link between the total size of the J/MCR budget and college assets per student or endowment size.

61% of J/MCR's fund their Clubs and Societies, and this is reflective in the gross figure provided by J/MCR's and some of the maximum figures where large amounts of the budget were apportioned or set-aside for Clubs and/or Societies. Where J/MCRs received large amounts of funding, most said that a majority of that budget was used for re-allocation to clubs and societies. The proportion of J/MCR budgets apportioned to Clubs and Societies, compared, is shown in *Findings 5.7*.

In some cases Club and Society funding is part of the J/MCR budget but is organised and decided separately. In some cases some of the J/MCR budget was allocated to clubs and societies, but Clubs and Societies received funds from elsewhere also, be that external grant sources or additional funding arrangements. This too make is difficult to accurately gauge the funding the J/MCR receives.

The survey asked, "In total, how much funding is your Common Room given by college?"; this is presented as the *gross funding* below.

We then asked respondents to offer detail on how this gross figure is distributed; this largely referred to funds solely to be applied to the J/MCR (presented as "J/MCR funds") and funds "Reserved for Clubs and Societies".

*Findings 5.1: All J/MCR funding, averaged from responses received,*

	Gross funding		<i>n</i> *	J/MCR funds:		<i>n</i> *	Reserved for Clubs & Societies		<i>n</i> *
ALL (average)	£	24,862	25	£	14,898	18	£	15,988	28
MCR (average)	£	25,812	7	£	18,119	5	£	14,648	8
JCR (average)	£	24,493	18	£	8,684	13	£	16,754	20

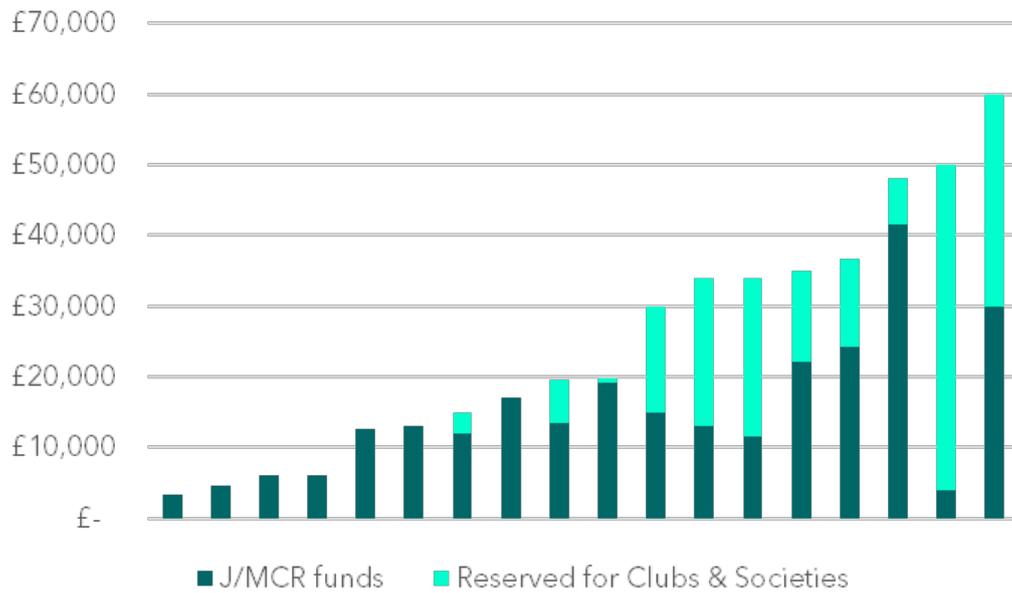
*n*\* = number of respondents

*Findings 5.2: J/MCR funding with greater context, averaged from responses received, with minimum, maximum and quartiles shown.*

<b>Funding responses from ALL respondents</b>									
ALL RESPONDENTS	Gross funding		<i>n</i>	J/MCR funds:		<i>n</i>	Reserved for Clubs & Societies		<i>n</i>
ALL (average)	£	24,862	25	£	14,898	18	£	15,988	28
ALL (Minimum)	£	3,200		£	3,200		£	590	
ALL (Maximum)	£	60,000		£	41,500		£	46,000	
All, Top Quartile (Q3)	£	35,877	6	£	19,821	4	£	22,500	3
All, Median (Q3)	£	19,500		£	13,057		£	13,000	
All, Lower Quartile (Q3)	£	12,500	7	£	6,000	12	£	6,000	17

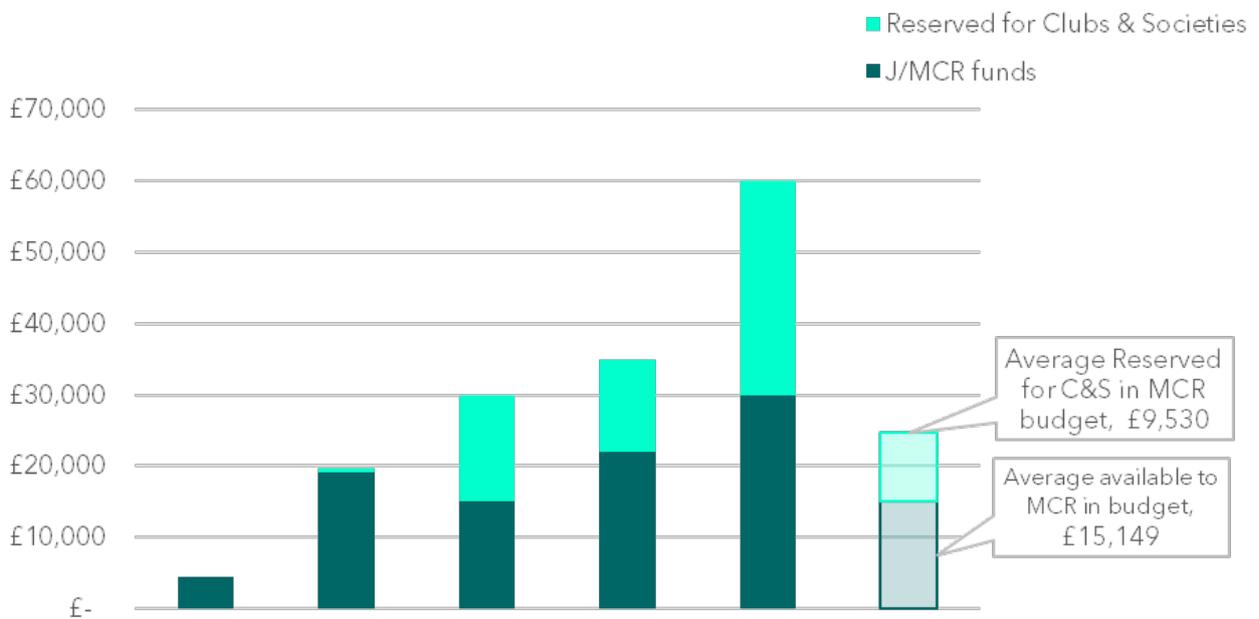
*Findings 5.3: All J/MCR gross funds, with the split shown between budgets allocated to the J/MCR and those allocated to Clubs and Societies.*

### All J/MCR funds with Clubs/Socs funds



Findings 5.4: MCR gross funds, with the split shown between budgets allocated to the MCR and those allocated to Clubs and Societies; average, minimum and maximum amounts shown from MCR sample.

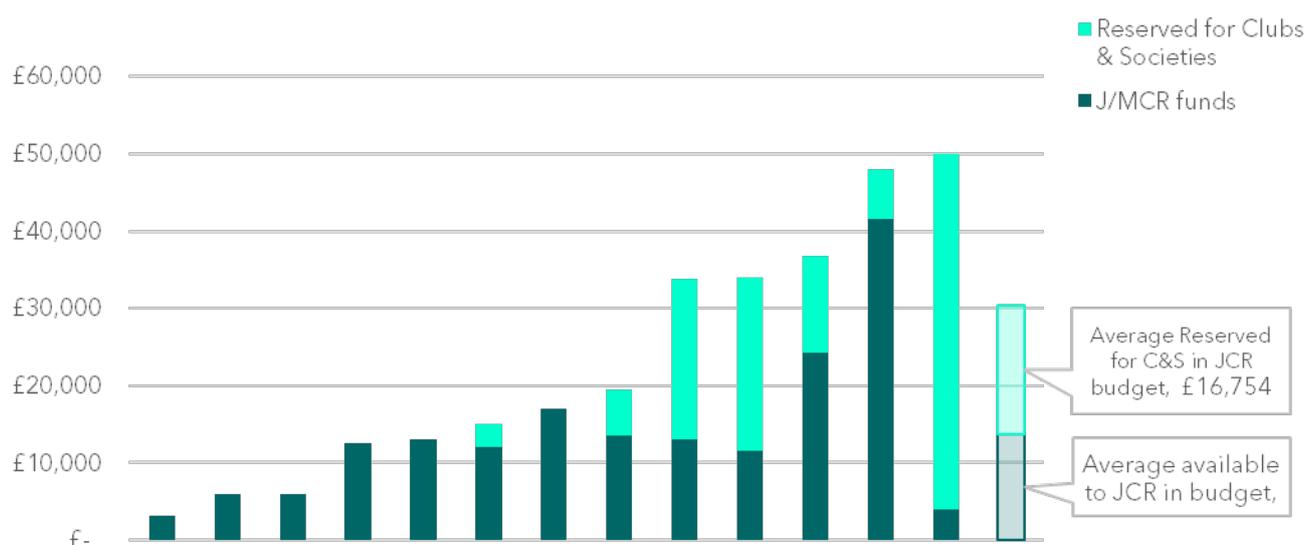
### MCR funds with Clubs/Socs funds



<b>Funding responses from MCR respondents</b>						
MCR	Gross funding	n	J/MCR funds	n	Reserved for Clubs & Societies	n
Average	£ 25,812	7	£ 18,119	5	£ 14,648	8
Minimum	£ 4,500		£ 4,500		£ 590	
Maximum	£ 60,000		£ 30,000		£ 30,000	
Top Quartile (Q3)	<b>£ 35,000</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>£ 26,000</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>£ 26,250</b>	<b>1</b>
Median (Q3)	£ 19,684		£ 19,094		£ 14,000	
Lower Quartile (Q3)	£ 13,000	7	£ 9,750	8	£ 3,693	9

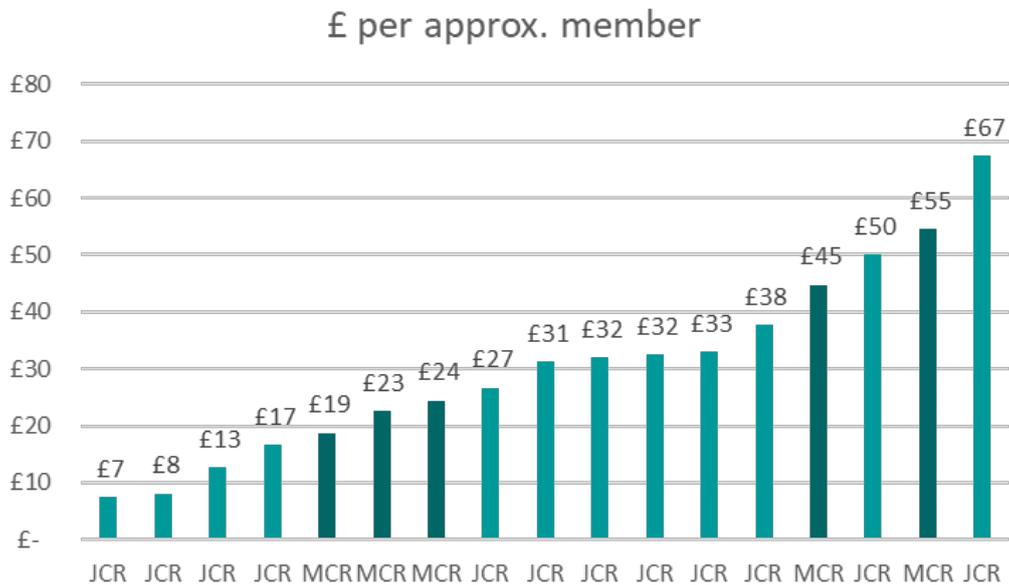
Findings 5.5: JCR gross funds, with the split shown between budgets allocated to the JCR and those allocated to Clubs and Societies; average, minimum and maximum amounts shown from JCR sample.

## JCR funds with Clubs/Socs funds



<b>Funding responses from JCR respondents</b>						
JCR	Gross funding	n	J/MCR funds	n	Reserved for Clubs & Societies	n
Average	£ 24,493	18	£ 8,684	13	£ 16,754	20
Minimum	£ 3,200		£ 453		£ 3,000	
Maximum	£ 57,000		£ 41,500		£ 46,000	
Top Quartile (Q3)	£ 39,121	4	£ 13,057	5	£ 22,500	2
Median (Q3)	£ 18,250		£ 6,000		£ 12,490	
Lower Quartile (Q3)	£ 11,074	8	£ 625	6	£ 6,000	17

Findings 5.6: Approximate budget per student represented by each J/MCR (dark green indicates MCR).



Findings 5.7: Percentage of J/MCR's who do or don't fund their Clubs and Societies.

	J/MCR funds clubs and societies from their budget	Clubs & Socs funded separately (not from J/MCR budget)
ALL respondents	61%	39%
MCR respondents only	86%	29%
JCR respondents only	55%	45%

Findings 5.8: Respondent awareness of their budgetary arrangements.

### How aware were respondents of their budget arrangements?

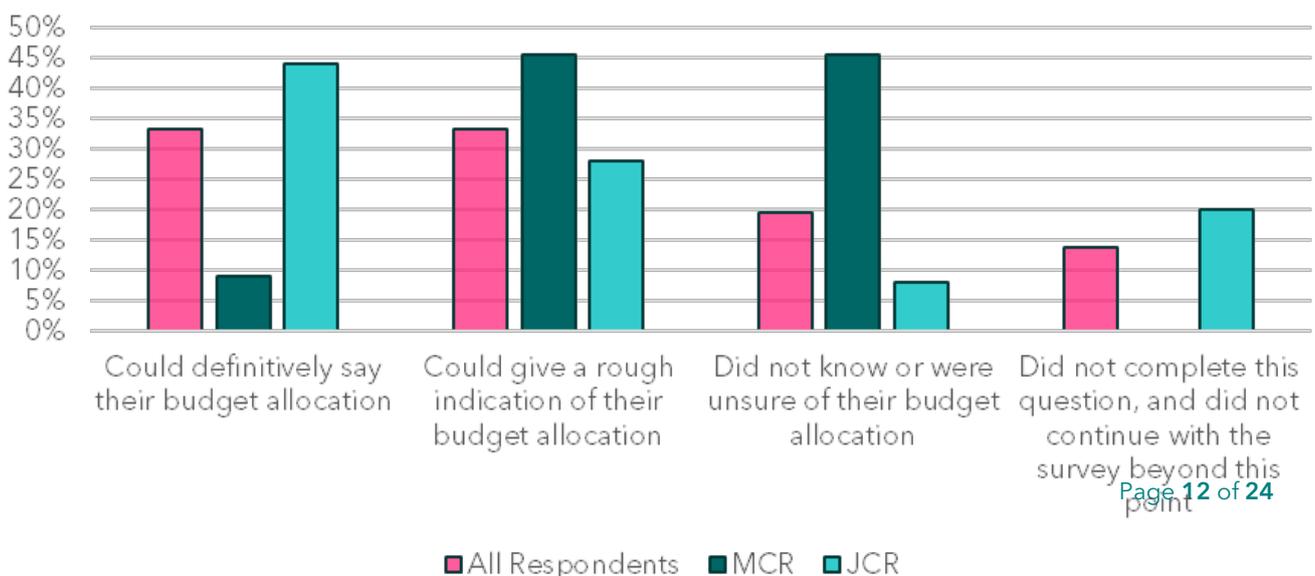
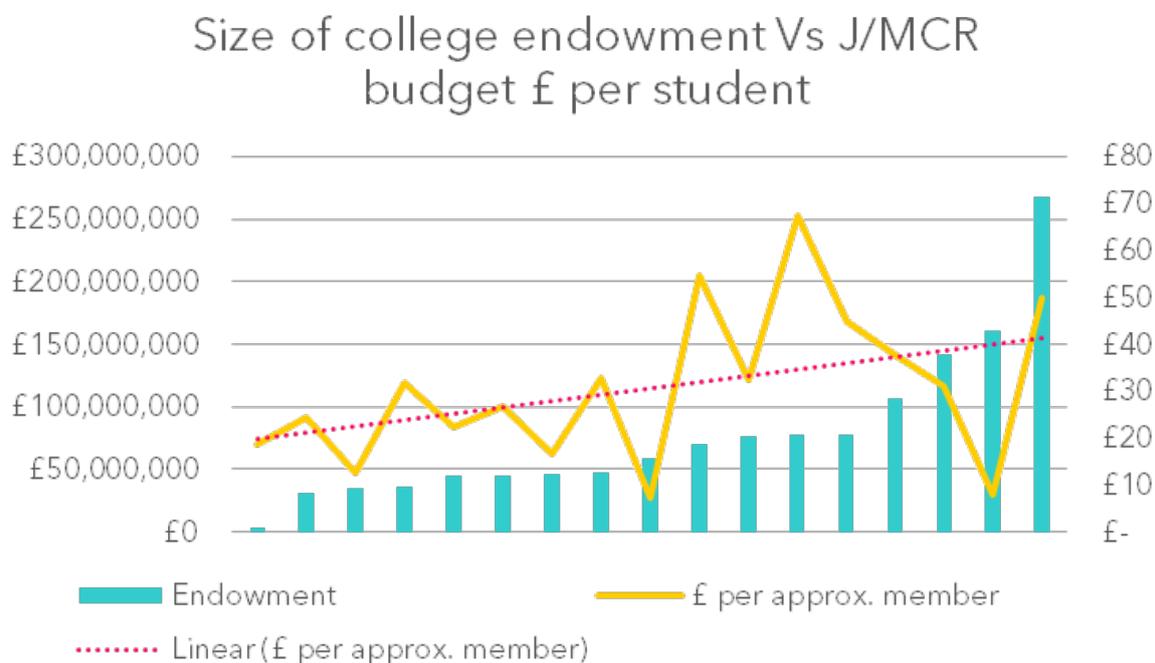


Figure C: the J/MCR budget split per member, compared with the respective college's endowment figure.



## SUBSCRIPTIONS

Some respondents commented that a subscription model was in place whereby students paid to be a member of their J/MCR. This is very uncommon among JCRs but more common among MCRs.

Under the Education Act 1994, students have a right to opt-out of their membership of a students' union (should they automatically become a member); and the College has an obligation to ensure no student is disadvantaged, to which they meet this obligation by regulating the SU. In short, whether or not the student pays to be a member, the student has a right to access the SU's services by law (i.e. no student should be disadvantaged by opting out of membership).

If subscriptions are in place at a college union/association/common room, that association may consider arguing to their college that student membership should be free and by right; and in accordance with the College's obligations under the Education Act, this should support the SU to ensure no student is, or would be, "unfairly disadvantaged, with regard to the provision of services or otherwise" (*chapter 30, part II, Education Act 1994*). In this case, the association might expect their college to gift grant funding in place of subscriptions on the basis that, otherwise, the subscription fee of some students would need to be deployed on behalf of all students.

## 6. RENTS AND COLLEGE COSTS

Approximately 28 J/MCRs responded to questions on rents: 18 JCRs and 10 MCRs.

There were responses from 22 different Colleges: 15 were banded, 2 flat rate and 4 'other'. 75% of pricing structures were banded.

Three respondents commented that rooms judged on a range of metrics, such as quality, privacy, size, location, facilities etc. Two respondents were unsure what the question referred to.

We asked those indicating a 'flat rate' system to indicate the rate. There were three respondents: two indicated rent was £160-170 per week; another indicated a termly contract in place (between £1.8k and 2.1k), which included facilities, insurance and KFC. It was commented that rent had increased significantly.

*Findings 6.1: Proportion of J/MCR's with either banded systems, flat rates or other arrangements in place for college rent/accommodation pricing structure*

What is the pricing structure of your rents?			
	Banded system	Flat rate	Other (please specify)
ALL	75%	7%	18%
MCR	80%	0%	20%
JCR	72%	11%	17%

### Banded rents - weekly rates

The data received did not seem very reliable, and there are a range of reasons that data could be caveated, for example:

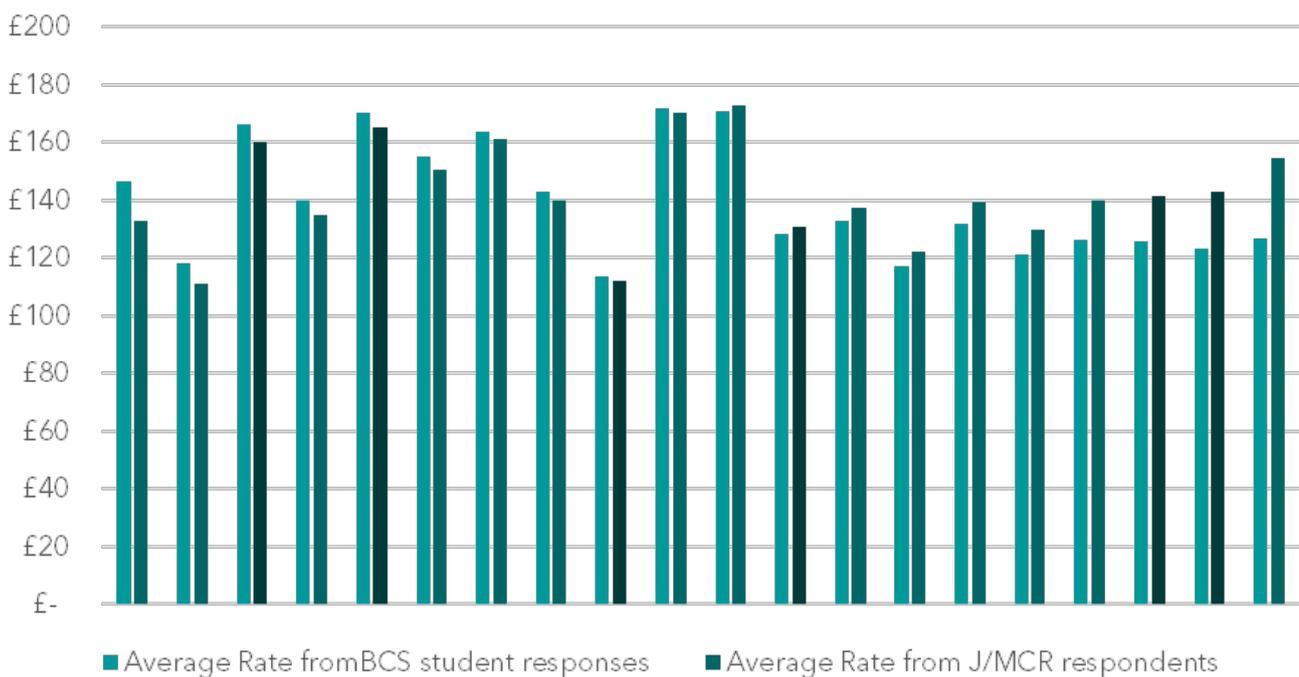
- Rates from some rooms were unavailable for all calculations; some weekly rates were calculated by dividing term rates, which were given instead of a weekly rate.
- Some respondents commented that their rates excluded additional charges; but other respondents did not do this and so we do not know if others included or excluded them.
- Where additional charges were mentioned by respondents, we do not know the limits of those charges; for example, the charges might include KFC or heating, but we did not know if they included insurance too.
- One respondent said that whilst a banded system was in place, there were additional price brackets; with rising rent prices, the respondents found it difficult to define a definitive average rate.

However, when compared with student responses from the Big Cambridge Survey (*Figure D*), J/MCR responses were, on the whole, relatively similar to the 'average rent price' per college, which was collated from individual student responses to the question 'what is

your weekly rent?’ (see below). Therefore the data can represent a relatively confident gauge of what is happening with rents across the colleges.

Figure D: Chart showing College Review responses (given by J/MCR representatives) compared with Big Cambridge Survey 2018 data (collated from data of over 2000 students from across the colleges).

### Average weekly rent - J/MCR responses compared with student responses from Big Cambridge Survey (2018)



\* Darker green indicates where duplicate responses from both J/MCR from the Colleges

#### Rents findings

It seemed that the average weekly minimum (£110) and maximum (£166) rates across colleges were slightly less expensive for graduates, however this may relate to contract lengths.

There was a confident mean across colleges of £138.75 (this refers to average of average rents). Findings 6.4 highlight variances from the mean in some college average rents that showed:

- there were six colleges with an average rent over £150 per week, which was £12 higher than the mean average rent across colleges;
- the average rent in two colleges was over £32 over the mean average rent; and

- average rent in three colleges was below the mean by £16 or greater.

There was a weak positive correlation between endowment size and the distance above/below the collegiate mean average rent; albeit weakly, as the endowment size got larger, the college average became more expensive than the mean.

As a college charged higher for their 'maximum' rate room, they did not then seem to charge higher for their lower rate rooms (i.e. 'minimum' rent), as shown in *Findings 6.5*.

The average percentage rise on the previous year was 3.47% (20 responses).

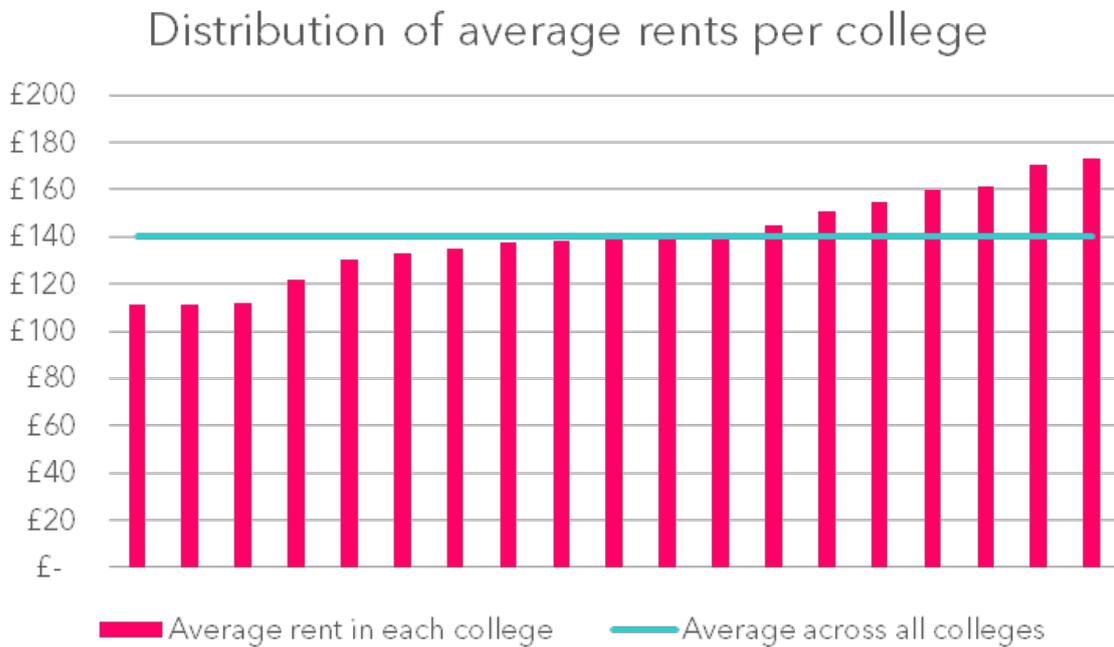
*Findings 6.2: Average rents prices as reported by respondents; averages shown for each college's average, each college's minimum and each college's maximum.*

If your rent is banded or other, what is the average rent per week for your members?									
	Average of 'Average Rate' per college			Average of 'Minimum Rate' per college			Average of 'Maximum Rate' per college		
	£		Count	£		Count	£		Count
ALL J/MCRs	£	139	20	£	110	24	£	166	24
MCR	£	139	6	£	106	8	£	160	8
JCR	£	139	14	£	111	16	£	170	16

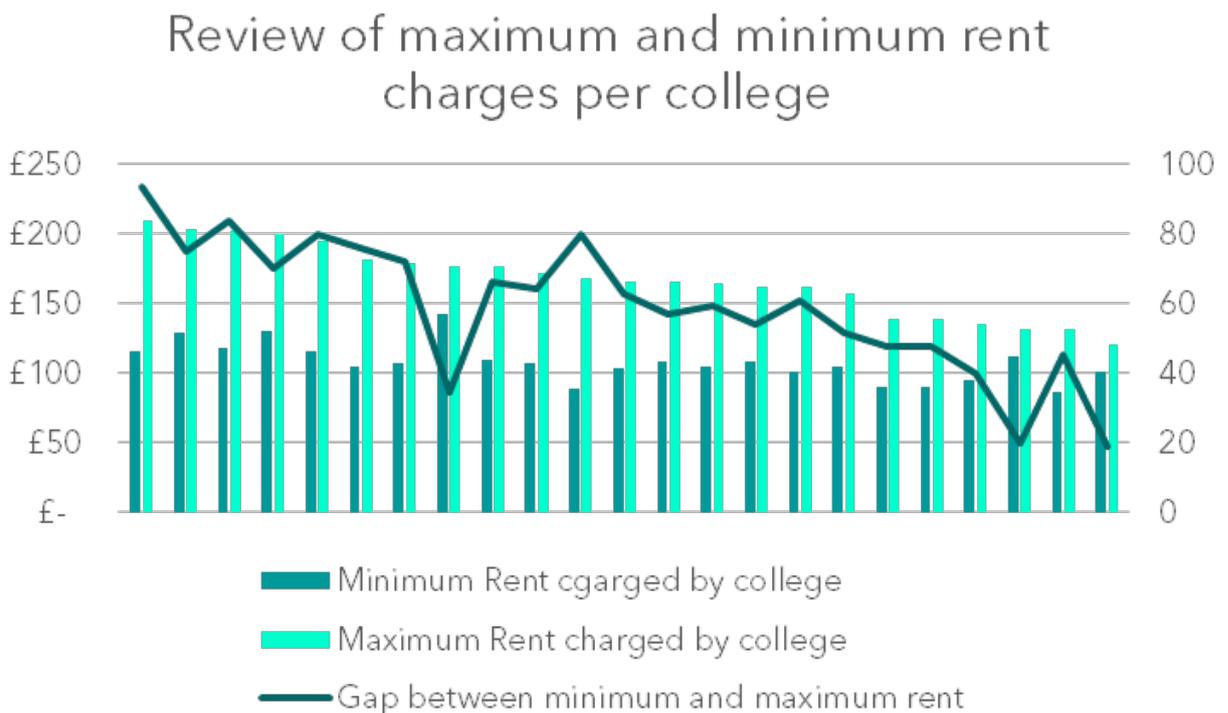
*Findings 6.3: Average, minimum/maximum and quartiles shown.*

	All		Count	MCR		Count	JCR		Count
Average	£	139	20	£	106	6	£	139	14
Minimum	£	86	24	£	91	8	£	86	16
Maximum	£	209	24	£	179	8	£	209	16
<i>Average Rates by quartile</i>									
Top Quartile (Q3)	£	154	5	£	164	1	£	152	3
Median (Q3)	£	139		£	136		£	140	
Lower Quartile (Q3)	£	124	9	£	113	3	£	128	5

Findings 6.4: Chart showing distribution of average rents per college



Findings 6.5: Chart showing comparison of ranges between college minimum and maximum rental figures; higher 'maximum rents' does not correlate to higher 'minimum rents'.



## Commentary on rent prices

In Spring 2018, research by website *Spareroom* reported average monthly rent, for students in Cambridge, as £572; the mean average monthly rent across the colleges in this survey was £601.25. This difference is 5.01%. Widely cited research from October 2017 also projected the average weekly rent for students nationally was £125 per week.

The Big Cambridge Survey 2018 report, yet to be published, will show that Cambridge students, on the whole, do not feel their accommodation is value for money. The data is here put alongside findings from the College Review. *Figure E* suggests there is a clear point at which students feel the cost outweighs the value; in this chart the trend line of *perception of value* (students indicating they either *agree* or *strongly agree* that their accommodation is value for money) meets the weekly average rent of ~£132, beyond which the perceptions of value for money plummet.

If we can suggest that £132 is the threshold at which students' perceptions of value begin to be tested, it may not then be so surprising to see that, with a mean college average of £138.75, students feel that the level of rent charges are unfair. *Figure F* shows that the threshold for which students feel their rent level is unfair is similar to their perceptions of value. At £132, roughly 25% of students might expect to feel their rent is unfair; at £138, a college might expect a third of students to feel their weekly rent is unfair; and by £150 per week, half of students feel this price is unfair.

There was only weak negative correlation between student dissatisfaction with the quality of their accommodation and price (i.e. there was a weak trend in dissatisfaction regarding quality as rents got higher, however there was no correlation apparent in satisfaction (only dissatisfaction)).

One respondent mentioned that room availability was a critical issue to be considered alongside rent process and contract lengths. For example, in one case there were only a small proportion of rooms available for less than £177 per week. If this is a more entrenched issue across the colleges, it may be that the average rate is below what many students have the option of choosing.

Figure E: Perceptions of value in each college, as reported by students (sample: 1,898), compared with average rent per college

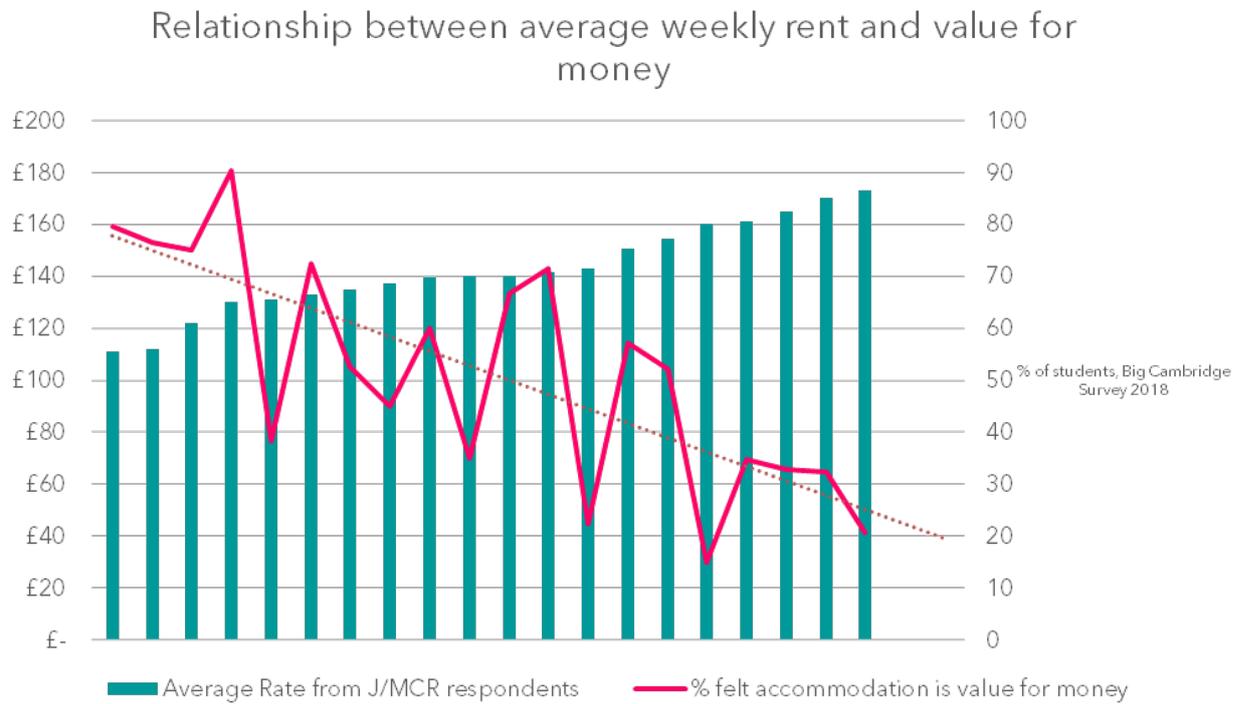
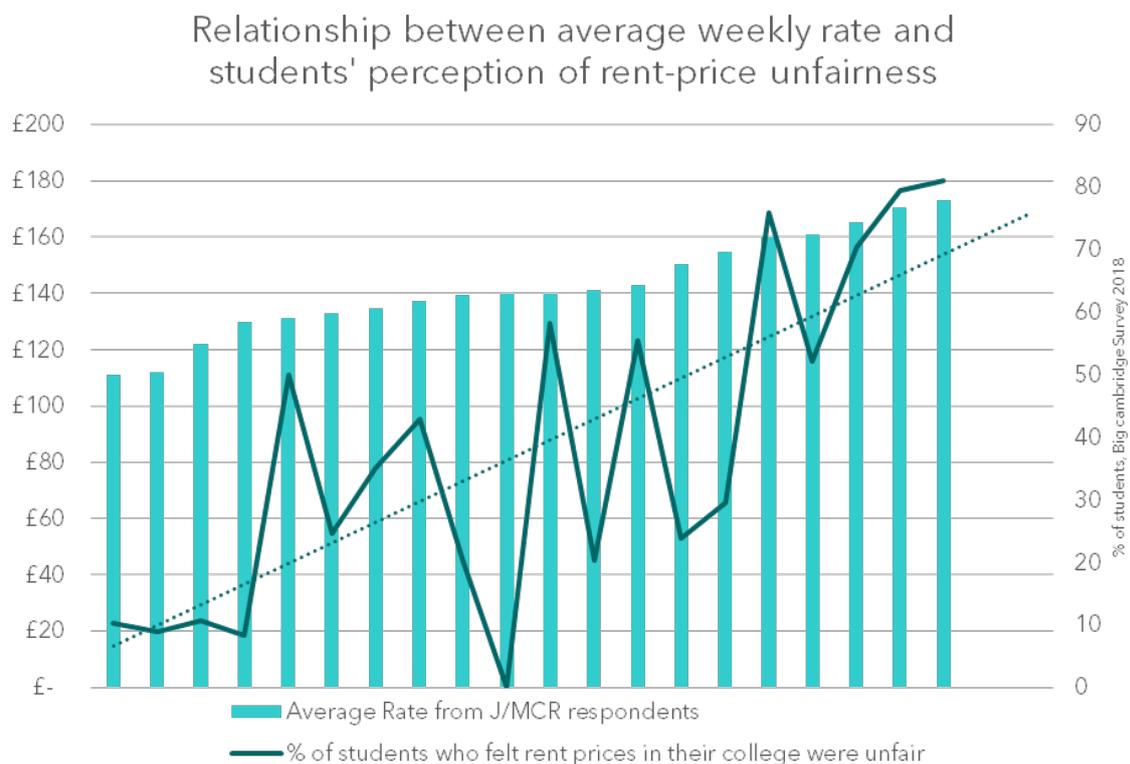


Figure F: Percentage of students who felt their college rent was unfair, per college (all-student sample: 1,898), compared with average rent per college.



## Contract lengths and room allocation

11 respondents gave specific answers of either 27 or 30 weeks (only one of the 11 respondents was an MCR). The remaining 17 respondents described differing contract arrangements, which mostly followed that students had the option to choose lengths of contract from a set of options given (each with varying lengths). Over half of these respondents were MCR's.

Where a J/MCR responded with differing rates, e.g. "30 week short contract (move out end of term), 37/38 week long contract (keep belongings in college over holidays, paying 35/36 weeks only)"; for analysis purposes we averaged these weekly rates. The average tenancy paid by students each year was 34.69 weeks.

Respondents were asked to detail room allocation arrangements at their college; these differed, mostly, depending on whether students were starting at the college or returning. Most returning students took part in a ballot whereas, for new students, different arrangements were in place, including over a third of students apportioned rooms randomly.

### *Findings 6.6: Options for renting outside term-time.*

<b>What are the options for renting College accommodation outside term time for your members?</b>	
Automatic or on simple application	46%
Possible but limited room availability	29%
For specific purposes or negotiated in respect of specific circumstances	11%
Discretionary	7%
Options given in contract	7%

### *Findings 6.7: Information on room allocation methods across colleges.*

<b>How are rooms allocated by your college?</b>			
	New students	Returning students	<i>n</i>
Ballot	39%	77%	23/26
Subject to certain conditions	4%	4%	23/26
Organised by J/MCR	13%	12%	23/26
Assigned by College	0%	8%	23/26
Random	35%	0%	23/26

## The Kitchen Fixed Charge ("KFC")

Half of respondents indicated that their college charged a KFC (both JCR and MCR were 50%). The average KFC was £179.16; no information was given by respondents to indicate whether this was weekly, monthly, termly or annually.

Most respondents said the KFC was banded or tiered depending on a student's living or study situation.

In one college students could opt-out of the KFC, but would be automatically included unless actively did so; in another there was a mandatory rate that had to be spent that would not be refunded otherwise.

*Included in rent...*

Three respondents described how there used to be KFC's, but they are now absorbed into the general rental or accommodation charges.

Three other respondents described a different arrangement to the KFC; however their description sounded very similar to the KFC. For example:

- A "Minimum Meal Contribution" £195 per term and could be used for College food and drink purchases across the college site. If unused by end of the year the balance would be wiped.
- An "overhead charge" was payable in one college, which was tiered depending on living situation; again, the costs were comparable to KFC's elsewhere. It included additional college facilities beyond the kitchens. In another college there was a 'facilities charge' of similar proportion to other college's KFC.

*Findings 6.8: Proportion of respondents paying a Kitchen Fixed Charge in addition to rent (or other/not).*

Does your college make you pay a Kitchen Fixed Charge?	
Pays KFC	50%
KFC Variant	11%
Included in rent	11%
No KFC	29%

## Meal Prices

We asked the average price of lunch or dinner. There were 25 responses with an average of £5 per meal. Of those 25, 21 respondents explicitly gave the cost of a meal

incorporating a main item (e.g. meat) and up to two sides; this average was £4.15, which is likely a more accurate comparison. There was no distinction between JCR and MCR.

### Discounts and Subsidies (at cafeteria, buttry or hall)

All but a few respondents said they received some form of discount, subsidy or lower-than-otherwise rate for purchases at their cafeteria, buttry or hall.

Twelve respondents said students received explicit *percentage* discounts at their college; the average discount was 30%.

*Findings 6.9: Extent of discounts in place to student residents across the colleges.*

	Received Explicit* Discount Rate	No Explicit* Discount	Count
ALL J/MCRs	44%	56%	27
MCR	56%	44%	9
JCR	39%	61%	18

\* Where respondents indicated that students received an explicit discount on a costed product, this was counted as a discount received. Some respondents said students paid less than other customers due to a subsidy; this was deemed to be inexplicit in regards to a discounted rate and, therefore, not a discount.

There were discounts in some instances, which mostly were limited to a selection of choices - it was mentioned by one college that it appeared non-members of the college paid an extorted, higher price for the same products, which could then be put in context with, say, a 50% discount for the student member.

Two respondents mentioned that prices weren't transparent; it was understood that prices were subsidised by the college, but students were not aware by how much or in what capacity ("food is 'subsidised' by the KFC, but there is no indication as to the monetary value of this subsidy").

Six further respondents acknowledged that, whilst there was no discount, food prices were low or subsidised, so were less than non-student customers; and one respondent mentioned that Grad students received a free weekly, term-time Formal Hall.

One respondent said students received 'rewards points' instead of discounts, and another respondent said they received an allocation of free food per student per term and that meal deals existed.

## 7. COLLEGE SERVICES AND PROVISIONS

78% of respondents reported their being counselling available in college; fewer MCR's reported this. A full-time college counsellor was less common, with over a quarter of JCR's indicating access to a full-time counsellor compared to 11% of MCR's.

Most colleges were aware of a *college nurse*. Respondents also commented that their tutorial systems, welfare officers and/or chaplaincies were a component of pastoral support at the college.

Some respondents gave information on additional welfare provisions at their college, two of which referred to outsourced specialist services, such as counselling or other health-related matters, that could be called upon on a needs-basis. Two respondents mentioned additional counsellors being available (a mental health advisor and a counsellor working 2/3 days per week).

Recent developments included one college sharing a nurse and counsellor with another college, and a recent hiring of an assistant college nurse to free-up capacity of existing provision.

Most colleges gave students free sanitary products, but the access to wider products, such as free prescriptions or diagnostic tests were uncommon. In some cases, it was the J/MCR who provided free sanitary products instead of the college directly.

Most respondents were not aware of whether colleges did not offer training to wider college staff in specific welfare concerns, such as sexual misconduct awareness, implicit bias and mental health. Less than a fifth of respondents were aware of whether their college provided implicit bias training and only 41% were aware of sexual misconduct awareness or mental health crisis training being undertaken.

Some respondents commented that Tutors and/or Porters are provided with a range of training in respect of student mental health awareness and sexual misconduct, with external providers delivering training in most instances (Cambridge Rape Crisis, MIND, University courses).

For some respondents this was a developing area, with the college engaging with the J/MCR on a variety of training, which extended to gendered language awareness workshops and other areas under consideration.

*Findings 7.1: Extent of common welfare services across the colleges.*

<b>Which of the following welfare services does your college provide?</b>						
	<b>All</b>	<i>n</i>	<b>MCR</b>	<i>n</i>	<b>JCR</b>	<i>n</i>
College counselling	78%	27	67%	9	83%	18
A full-time college counsellor	22%		11%		28%	
A college nurse	93%		89%		94%	
Other (i.e. other mental health support)	41%		22%		50%	

*Findings 7.2: Extent of common welfare products provided free across the colleges.*

<b>Does your college provide the following health products?</b>						
	<b>All</b>	<i>n</i>	<b>MCR</b>	<i>n</i>	<b>JCR</b>	<i>n</i>
Free sanitary products	76%	25	78%	9	75%	16
Free prescriptions	4%		0%		6%	
Free diagnostic tests for disability/specific learning disorders	24%		11%		31%	
None of the above	12%		11%		13%	

*Findings 7.3: Extent of common welfare training provided to college staff across the colleges.*

<b>Does the college provide the following types of training for college staff such as porters, catering staff and tutors?</b>						
	<b>All</b>	<i>n</i>	<b>MCR</b>	<i>n</i>	<b>JCR</b>	<i>n</i>
Sexual misconduct awareness training	41%	27	33%	9	44%	18
Implicit bias training	19%		33%		11%	
Mental health crisis training	41%		22%		50%	
None of the above	74%		67%		78%	