

Bye-law 6: Societies

Purpose

This Bye-law explains what a Society is, how you can create one, how you can join one, how Hallam SU supports registered Societies, and how Societies should be run by their Committees.

Overview

1. A Society is a group of students who share a common interest, hobby, or cause. Societies are run by Hallam students. They arrange events and activities to build community among Hallam students. Hallam SU provides additional resources, support and funding to Societies that are registered with the Union.

Creating a Society

2. New Societies can register with Hallam SU according to the New Society Application process. The process will outline who makes decisions, and how.
3. For a Society to register with Hallam SU, it needs to present:
 - 3.1. the name of the Society.
 - 3.2. an overview of the purpose of the Society.
 - 3.3. a list of at least ten Hallam SU Student Members who will join the Society, including three who will serve as President, Secretary, and Treasurer on the Society's Committee for the Society's first year.
 - 3.4. the proposed membership cost of the Society.
4. Societies which are considered 'High-Risk' also need a compulsory Health & Safety Officer. The Application process will explain how High-Risk Societies are identified.
5. A Society may not be allowed to register with Hallam SU if its purpose is deemed to be too similar to the purpose of an existing Society.
6. A Society may also not be allowed to register with Hallam SU if its purpose goes against the Union's strategy, policies or charitable aims.
7. Every Society must have a constitution, which explains its purpose and how it operates. Hallam SU will provide a model constitution, which will be used for any Society that doesn't write its own constitution.
8. Every Society must also agree to the general terms and Code of Conduct as laid out by Hallam SU.
9. The Committee of every new Society must attend a Society induction session before being officially registered with Hallam SU.

Joining a Society

10. All Members of Hallam SU and opted-out students are entitled to join any Hallam SU Society.
11. Membership for some Societies is free, but others have a membership fee. Societies might also have additional costs for events and activities.

Running a Society

12. Society Committee members will make sure that:
 - 12.1. the Society is run in a fair and democratic way.
 - 12.2. their Society remains financially sustainable, and that funds are spent in a way that benefits all Society members.
 - 12.3. the Society's activities support the interests of its members.
 - 12.4. the principles of Equality, Diversity & Inclusion are prioritised within the Society.
 - 12.5. All committee members are aware of their responsibilities in relation to Health & Safety, and processes for running events.
 - 12.6. There is continuity between incoming and outgoing Committee members.
13. It is the Committee's responsibility to ensure that engagement with the Society is sustainable. Societies that don't elect a full Committee may be disbanded for the coming year.

Support for Societies

14. Hallam SU will support Societies to run events and activities.
15. Societies will have access to funding from Hallam SU. The Union will publish clear guidelines for accessing funding.
16. Hallam SU will support Societies to run elections for Committee positions at appropriate times in the year.
17. Hallam SU will provide opportunities for students to take on disbanded Societies to keep them going through the "Adopt a Soc" process.
18. Where a committee cannot be found for Societies which represent Liberation groups, the Society will remain in "Adopt a Soc" until one is found.