

BYE LAW 6 - REFERENDA		
1. Principles	1.1	In keeping with the Constitution, referenda shall determine the policy of the Union, or be used to amend the Constitution.
	1.2	A referendum may be called on receipt of a petition of 1% of the Full Members of the Union or by a simple majority decision of the Trustees. A Returning Officer shall be appointed to organise the referenda in line with the elections bye law
	1.3	The referendum shall be held no sooner than 6 days and not later than 20 days following the decision of the Trustees or receipt of the petition.
	1.4	Any decision or petition for a referendum shall specify a single proposal or separate proposals which can be answered by a “Yes” or “No” vote.
	1.5	In the case of proposed amendments to the Ordinance, Regulations or Bye-Laws the full wording of the amendments shall be clearly displayed adjacent to the polling station.
	1.6	The proposal to be considered shall be displayed in the Union and on its website within one day of receipt of the petition or the decision to organise a referendum.
	1.7	Prior to the referendum the Deputy Returning Officers will ensure that the proposal is tabled for debate and discussion at the appropriate democratic forum.
	1.8	The proposers and opponents of a referendum shall be entitled to produce a statement of not more than 200 words for publication.
	1.9	The Referendum shall be conducted by means of a secret ballot open to all Full Members and voting should be held in accordance with the provision for elections
	1.10	For its result to be binding on the Union a referendum shall be required to reach a quorum of the members of the Union as specified in the Constitution.
2 Campaigning and Publicity	2.1	For each referendum proposal submitted, the Returning Officer or their Deputies shall put out a call for Full Members of the Union to run a “Yes” and “No” campaign based on the question posed. The Returning Officer shall determine the deadline for responding to the request.
	2.2	There shall only be one “Yes” campaign and one “No” campaign funded by the Union. Should a referendum be running alongside the Students’ Union Trustee Board elections, then any candidate receiving funding from the Union for the Trustee Board elections shall not be accepted as the leader of a “Yes” or “No” campaign. There shall be no cross promotion of a “Yes” or “No” campaign on any Trustee Board candidates’ publicity, nor shall there be any cross funding of campaigns.
	2.3	Referenda campaign publicity shall be subject to the same rules as observed by election candidates as set out in this document.
	2.4	Each campaign may submit publicity for publication in support of their campaign no later than 7 calendar days before voting commences in the referendum.

	<p>2.5 Campaign teams in a referendum may submit the same publicity as candidates in a Trustee Board election</p> <p>2.6 The regulations applying to campaigning in Trustee Board elections shall apply to referendum campaigns.</p> <p>2.7 In the case of a referendum concerning the Union's affiliation to the National Union of Students (NUS), representatives of the NUS would be allowed to operate a campaign team to promote affiliation to the NUS providing that it is operated within the regulations outlined above with specific reference to financial expenditure.</p>
3 Voting	<p>3.1 All voting in a referendum shall be held in accordance with the regulation set out in the elections bye law</p> <p>3.2 Ballot papers shall specify the question under consideration and contain the voting choices of either "Yes" or "No".</p>
4 Counting	<p>4.1 Counting of votes shall be consistent with the procedures set out in clause 8 of this document,</p> <p>4.2 Provided that the constitutional quorum of votes for a referendum has been achieved, a simple majority shall determine the outcome of the vote.</p> <p>4.3 The result of the referendum shall be announced as soon as is possible after the conclusion of the count, and published on the Union's website.</p>