

Your Societies - Endorsements Guide

Your Elections 2024

Your Student Executive Team are elected from and by our student body annually. Your vote gives them the mandate to lead the organisation and ensure that your voice is represented in the Union, the University and beyond. Societies can play a key role by endorsing as many or as few candidates as you would like.

In 2024 Your SU is electing:

- Four Full Time Presidents (Paid Roles): Activities, Education, London, Wellbeing.
- Five Part Time Officers (Voluntary Roles): Equality and Diversity, LGBTQ+, International, London Campus, Mature and Postgraduate as well as Chair of Union Council. Societies can play an important role during elections; endorsing candidates and promoting the opportunity for members to nominate themselves and to vote.

Voting is open from Monday 4th March 9:00AM – Friday 8th March 2:00PM.

Here is the process for societies to endorse candidates:

1. Once candidates are announced, committee members should review all manifestos to decide who they feel is the best candidate/s from the perspective of the society.
2. The Society President should lead an informal vote with the committee to decide who the society will endorse – this can take place in person or online. **However, if the Society President is a candidate, another impartial committee member should lead, or the SU can act as a proxy leader where required.**
3. Once this vote is completed email yoursocieties@sunderland.ac.uk to confirm which candidate/s you are endorsing.

That's it! As soon as the email is in our inbox you can consider your endorsements live and you can start publicising your endorsement using your society's social media.

It is important that elections are fair for all candidates and all students so once campaigning begins societies **must give an equal platform** to all candidates. For example, if Candidate A requests to come to your Society meeting and spends five minutes campaigning to your members, you should give the same opportunity to Candidate B if they request it. If your society endorses a candidate, Your SU may request evidence that all candidates have been given the same opportunity.

What do if you have any issues or concerns?

If you encounter any issues with the process, or have any questions, please contact yoursocieties@sunderland.ac.uk so we can offer you support and guidance on a case-by-case basis. If you are a society member you are also able to contact Your SU if you have any questions or concerns about the process - specifically if you have any issues about how your society has made decisions. Be sure to do this in a timely way in order that appropriate action, as required, can be taken.