

Your Societies Group Agreement

Code of Conduct

The Your Societies Code of Conduct directs the behaviours that are expected from all societies; their leaders and members; in line with the vision and values of Sunderland Students' Union (SU).

It's important that all societies are inclusive, welcoming and safe. They should provide their members with positive opportunities to participate and should reflect the values of:

- Innovation and energy
- Fairness and equality
- Empowerment and accountability

Our society will:

- Be open to all Sunderland students to join.
- Be inclusive; free from racism, classism, sexism, ageism, ableism, homophobia, transphobia, biphobia, body shaming, xenophobia and religious discrimination.
- Respect the rights of others to express, within the law, their beliefs and convictions.
- Operate with the roles of President and Treasurer as a minimum.
- Participate in all compulsory training to ensure that societies are compliant with SU policies and the law.
- Be positive ambassadors for the SU and the University and will uphold, and not bring into question or disrepute, the reputation of the SU, University or any society.
- Not permit initiations as a membership requirement.
- Ensure that all society activities and events are risk assessed and delivered safely.
- Treat facilities, staff and students at the University, and other individuals and organisations, with respect, abiding by any rules that might apply and any agreements that have been made with them.
- Ask all prospective members to complete the membership process and pay their membership fee.
- Maintain accurate membership records.
- Use membership data only for its intended purpose and do not share this without agreement or consent.
- Act honestly about activities, beliefs and allegiances; providing the SU with relevant details of any affiliations with other organisations that the society has.

- Ensure that all media, including digital and print, is free from material that could be deemed offensive or in breach of the law.
- Act respectfully regarding the taking and using of photographs and filming and ensure our members have the option to opt out and to not have photos/films published in any format if requested.
- Follow the SU's financial and administrative processes and accept liability for any losses incurred as a result of our not following the correct financial procedures of the SU.
- Keep accurate records of finances.
- Not hold an external bank account.
- Not raise money for a charity other than the SU without the prior agreement of the SU and in line with the Financial Procedure Summary.
- Not enter into any contracts, sponsorship agreements or orders without the appropriate SU agreement.
- Ensure that the finances of the society are used only to benefit our members and no individual member shall receive financial gain from the society's activities.
- Understand that all societies must comply with the Freedom of Speech policies of the SU and the University.
- Contribute to the ongoing development of societies by participating in network activities and in a reasonable amount of development and evaluation activity.
- Act within the law.
- Accept that the SU may take action or un-register our society if we fail to comply with this Your Societies Group Agreement_Code of Conduct.