**SSU AGM 22/04/2025 Script:**

**Opening Remarks [Chinmay]**

Welcome everyone to the Students’ Union Annual General Meeting 2025 and thank you for coming. I have received confirmation that there are \_\_\_ members present so we are;

NOT QUORATE and will wait 30 minutes. If quoracy is not met, we will end the meeting, and no votes will be taken.

QUORATE and will continue with the meeting. If at any point the meeting drops below 50, we will stop the meeting until quoracy is reached again or end the meeting. It will be taken that you have viewed the papers in advance to this meeting and so will assume them read. However, they are accessible via the QR code on your voting cards or on our website.

Before we start there is some general housekeeping to get through. Firstly, we are not planning for a fire drill so if the fire alarm goes off, please can you calmly make you way to the nearest fire exist. There are 2 designated meeting points, one is in front of the sports centre and the other is across the road next to the park. If you have any concerns or mobility issues, please let a member of staff know and they will be able to help you with the best route.

There is also pizza and refreshments outside for you to grab if there is any left! Please be mindful of other attendees and the people presenting. Please remain as quiet as possible when people are presenting and leave your questions until the end. Please ensure that your phone is on silent to avoid disruption. There will be a time for questions after each section, if you have a question put you hand/card up and I will choose you 1 by 1 as fairly as possible.

There will photography and filming of the event, as shown by the posters around the room. If you have any concerns of queries about being photographed or filmed, please let the photographer or a member of staff know.

Brief overview of how AGM will run:

For each agenda item it will be presented by either myself as Chair of the AGM or the items presenter. For most items there will be time for you to discuss the item and ask questions. After which you will vote on the item, it will be shown on screen what your vote means for each item.

The question time for reports is for you to make sure the work the Union has done is representative of your values as a student and you are happy with the quality of the work. Whereas the question time for student motions is for you to understand the motion and how it would benefit the students.

Comments or questions relating to personal attacks at elected representative, or any Union staff will not be permitted. Equally any mention of a Union staff member that is not elected is outside the scope of the AGM.

**Apologise [Chinmay]**

The following absent members and officers have sent ahead apologises for their absences:

-Sanidhya Shetty- VP Education

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**Minutes of Previous AGM [Chinmay] (1 minute)**

The minutes of the previous quorate meeting have been circulated and can be found in paper 1. Does anyone have questions about the previous meeting or the minutes?

We will move to vote on the minutes:

Can all those who vote to approve the minutes of the previous meeting please raise their voting cards?

Thank you, next can you please raise your hand if you abstain from passing the item?

Thank you, finally can you please raise your hand if you DO NOT approve the passing of the item?

From the vote count we have:

X Approve

X Abstain

X Reject

As a result, the report [PASSES/FAILS]

**Reports from the Trustees [Chinmay]**

Now we will move on to our report from the trustees this is just an update from the trustees and will not be voted on but there will be time for questions. Following this report we will have the reports from the 3 sabbatical officers which will be voted on regarding the quality, quantity and value of their work.

*[Present report]* **(4 minutes)**

Does anyone have any questions regarding the trustee report?

**SU President report [Chinmay]**

As I cannot chair my own report I will momentarily hand over to Syed.

SYED: The president report can be found in paper 2 and that has been circulated. I will let Chinmay present his AGM report.

*[Chinmay presents]*

Does anyone have any questions about the report before we move onto voting?

*Chooses who speaks in order, if they have questions.*

We will move to vote on the report:

Can all those who vote to approve the report please raise their voting cards?

Thank you, next can you please raise your voting card if you abstain from passing the item?

Thank you, finally can you please raise your voting card if you DO NOT approve the passing of the item?

From the vote count we have:

X Approve

X Abstain

X Reject

As a result, the report [PASSES/FAILS]

**VP Education [Chinmay]**

I can now return to my normal position as chair! The VP Education report can be found in paper 3 and that has been circulated. I will be presenting the VP Education AGM report, as Bria is unable to attend today.

I will answer any questions after the report to the best of my knowledge. But any questions that I cannot, we will pass on to Bria, and we will share the responses online when she returns.

*[Chinmay Presents]* ***(2 Minutes)***

Does anyone have any questions about the report before we move onto voting?

*Chooses who speaks in order, if they have questions.*

We will move to vote on the report:

Can all those who vote to approve the report please raise their voting cards?

Thank you, next can you please raise your voting card if you abstain from passing the item?

Thank you, finally can you please raise your voting card if you DO NOT approve the passing of the item?

From the vote count we have:

X Approve

X Abstain

X Reject

As a result, the report [PASSES/FAILS]

**VP Wellbeing [Chinmay]**

The VP Wellbeing report can be found in paper 4 and that has been circulated. I will let Syed present his AGM report.

*[Syed Presents]* ***(2 minutes)***

Does anyone have any questions about the report before we move onto voting?

*Chooses who speaks in order, if they have questions.*

We will move to vote on the report:

Can all those who vote to approve the report please raise their voting cards?

Thank you, next can you please raise your voting card if you abstain from passing the item?

Thank you, finally can you please raise your voting card if you DO NOT approve the passing of the item?

From the vote count we have:

X Approve

X Abstain

X Reject

As a result, the report [PASSES/FAILS]

**Audited Accounts 2023/24 [Chinmay]**

The audited accounts for 2023/24 can be found in paper 5 and that has been circulated. I will present an overview of the accounts for you to ask questions on if you wish.

*[Chinmay Presents]* ***(5 minutes)***

* Solent Students’ Union presents its audited financial statements for the year August 2023 to July 2024. The accounts consolidate the charity, Solent Students’ Union, and the trading company, Solent Students' Union Trading Limited.
* Although there is no statutory requirement at present to conduct an audit due to the charity’s income being well below the audit threshold (£1m), the charity has its financial statements and practices externally audited on an annual basis to satisfy the University and also the charity’s trustees. The trading company is not audited, although the intercompany balances between the charity and trading company are examined by the auditors.
* The audit, which took place on site in September 2024, was undertaken by Godfrey Wilson.
* The resulting financial statements were signed off by the Board of Trustees in November 2024.
* The charity received an unqualified audit report, meaning the auditors consider the financial statements provide a true and fair view of the charity’s finances.
* The financial statements recognise a deficit of £37,438 during the year, compared to a deficit of £67,271 in the prior year.
* At the end of the year, the general fund level (funds which can be used in future years and are not restricted in how they can be spent) was £123,221, down from £182,033 in the prior year.
* However, if you add back the SUSS pension deficit liability, the free reserves level was £475,465, down from £553,224 in the prior year.
* SUSS is a liability on the Union’s balance sheet of £352,244 (£371,191 in the prior year). SUSS is a defined benefit pension scheme whose membership consists of employees of students’ unions throughout the UK. The scheme is in deficit and the Union makes monthly contributions, increasing at 5% per annum. At present, the University provides additional funding to cover these deficit contributions.

Does anyone have any questions about the Audited Accounts before we move onto voting?

*Chooses who speaks in order, if they have questions.*

We will move to vote:

Can all those who vote to approve the audited accounts please raise their voting cards?

Thank you, next can you please raise your voting card if you abstain from passing the audited accounts?

Thank you, finally can you please raise your voting card if you DO NOT approve the passing of the audited accounts?

From the vote count we have:

X Approve

X Abstain

X Reject

As a result, the report [PASSES/FAILS]

**Appointing Auditors [Chinmay]*****(2 minutes)***

The suggested auditors for the Union’s accounts can be found in paper 6 and that has been circulated. It has been suggested that Godfrey Wilson Ltd continue to be the Union auditors for the following year.

Does anyone have any questions about the suggested auditors before we move onto voting?

*Chooses who speaks in order, if they have questions.*

We will move to vote:

Can all those who vote to approve the auditors please raise their voting cards?

Thank you, next can you please raise your voting card if you abstain from passing the auditors?

Thank you, finally can you please raise your voting card if you DO NOT approve the passing of the auditors?

From the vote count we have:

X Approve

X Abstain

X Reject

As a result, the report [PASSES/FAILS]

**External Affiliations 2024/25 [Chinmay] *(2 minutes)***

The external affiliation for 2024/25 can be found in paper 7 and that has been circulated. The external affiliations are:

- National Union of Students (NUS UK and NUS Charity)

- Student Radio Association

Does anyone have any questions about the external affiliations before we move onto voting?

*Chooses who speaks in order, if they have questions.*

We will move to vote on the report:

Can all those who vote to approve the external affiliations please raise their voting cards?

Thank you, next can you please raise your voting card if you abstain from passing the external affiliations?

Thank you, finally can you please raise your voting card if you DO NOT approve the passing of the external affiliations?

From the vote count we have:

X Approve

X Abstain

X Reject

As a result, the report [PASSES/FAILS]

**Student Motions [Chinmay]**

We now move onto the Student Motions, which is the more enjoyable part of the AGM process. Five students have submitted motions for you to hear and debate on before voting on each. Please consider each motion carefully and how it would best impact students. The students who are presenting the motion do not need to have a full idea of how the motion will happen, just why they want it and the positive effect if will have on students. It is for the Union to figure out how the motion will happen afterwards, if they have been passed

**Safeguarding and Accountability System [Chinmay]**

The motion called “**Safeguarding and Accountability System**” can be found in paper 8 and that has been circulated. I will now pass over to Lou to present their motion.

*[Lou Presents]* ***(2 minutes)***

Does anyone have any questions about the motion before we move onto voting?

*Chooses who speaks in order, if they have questions.*

We will move to vote on the report:

Can all those who vote to approve the motion please raise their hands?

Thank you, next can you please raise your hand if you abstain from passing the motion?

Thank you, finally can you please raise your hand if you DO NOT approve the passing of the motion?

From the vote count we have:

X Approve

X Abstain

X Reject

As a result, the report [PASSES/FAILS]

**QUESTIONS SHOULD NOT BE ON HOW A MOTION WILL HAPPEN, THAT IS FOR THE UNION TO FIGURE OUT. THEY SHOULD BE ON THE MOTIVE BEHIND THE MOTION.**

**Instate a Housing Student Officer [Chinmay]**

The motion called “Instate a Housing Student Officer” can be found in paper 9 and that has been circulated. I will now pass over to Ben to present their motion.

*[Ben Presents]* ***(2 minutes)***

Does anyone have any questions about the motion before we move onto voting?

*Chooses who speaks in order, if they have questions.*

We will move to vote on the report:

Can all those who vote to approve the motion please raise their hands?

Thank you, next can you please raise your hand if you abstain from passing the motion?

Thank you, finally can you please raise your hand if you DO NOT approve the passing of the motion?

From the vote count we have:

X Approve

X Abstain

X Reject

As a result, the report [PASSES/FAILS]

**QUESTIONS SHOULD NOT BE ON HOW A MOTION WILL HAPPEN, THAT IS FOR THE UNION TO FIGURE OUT. THEY SHOULD BE ON THE MOTIVE BEHIND THE MOTION.**

**Promotion of Vegan Options [Chinmay]**

The motion called “Promotion of Vegan Options” can be found in paper 10 and that has been circulated. I will now pass over to Aggie to present.

*[Aggie Presents]* ***(2 minutes)***

Does anyone have any questions about the amendment before we move onto voting?

*Chooses who speaks in order, if they have questions.*

We will move to vote on the report:

Can all those who vote to approve the motion please raise their hands?

Thank you, next can you please raise your hand if you abstain from passing the motion?

Thank you, finally can you please raise your hand if you DO NOT approve the passing of the motion?

From the vote count we have:

X Approve

X Abstain

X Reject

As a result, the report [PASSES/FAILS]

**QUESTIONS SHOULD NOT BE ON HOW A MOTION WILL HAPPEN, THAT IS FOR THE UNION TO FIGURE OUT. THEY SHOULD BE ON THE MOTIVE BEHIND THE MOTION.**

**SU to provide Vegan options at events/meetings [Chinmay]**

The motion called “**SU to provide Vegan options at events/meetings**” can be found in paper 11 and that has been circulated. I will now pass over to Aggie to present.

*[Aggie Presents]* ***(2 minutes)***

Does anyone have any questions about the amendment before we move onto voting?

*Chooses who speaks in order, if they have questions.*

We will move to vote on the report:

Can all those who vote to approve the motion please raise their hands?

Thank you, next can you please raise your hand if you abstain from passing the motion?

Thank you, finally can you please raise your hand if you DO NOT approve the passing of the motion?

From the vote count we have:

X Approve

X Abstain

X Reject

As a result, the report [PASSES/FAILS]

**QUESTIONS SHOULD NOT BE ON HOW A MOTION WILL HAPPEN, THAT IS FOR THE UNION TO FIGURE OUT. THEY SHOULD BE ON THE MOTIVE BEHIND THE MOTION.**

**SU to provide mor support to Apprentices [Chinmay]**

The motion called “**SU to provide mor support to Apprentices**” can be found in paper 12 and that has been circulated. I will now pass over to Charlotte to present.

*[Charlotte Presents]* ***(2 minutes)***

Does anyone have any questions about the amendment before we move onto voting?

*Chooses who speaks in order, if they have questions.*

We will move to vote on the report:

Can all those who vote to approve the motion please raise their hands?

Thank you, next can you please raise your hand if you abstain from passing the motion?

Thank you, finally can you please raise your hand if you DO NOT approve the passing of the motion?

From the vote count we have:

X Approve

X Abstain

X Reject

As a result, the report [PASSES/FAILS]

**QUESTIONS SHOULD NOT BE ON HOW A MOTION WILL HAPPEN, THAT IS FOR THE UNION TO FIGURE OUT. THEY SHOULD BE ON THE MOTIVE BEHIND THE MOTION.**

**Open Questions to Officer Trustees [Chinmay]**

Does anyone have any questions for the officer trustees about our work or the work of the union this year. The officer trustees are the three of the sabbatical officers here.

*STRUCTURE* ***(10 minutes)****:*

*Chair asks if there are any questions for the officer trustees.*

*Chair chooses who speaks in order.*

*Questions end, move onto next issue REPEAT*

**Any other appropriate business [Chinmay]**

Does anyone else have any other appropriate business they wish to bring to the attention of the AGM?

*STRUCTURE* ***(2 minutes)****:*

*Appropriate business is brought forward, decide on an order if multiple.*

*Chair asks if there are any questions relating to the report from the other attendees.*

*Chair chooses who speaks in order.*

*Questions end, move onto next issue REPEAT*

***AGM CLOSE, THANK EVERYONE FOR COMING.***