

## **STANDING ORDERS** **GOVERNING A REFERENDUM**

1. **Interpretation**

These Standing Orders shall be read in conjunction with the Constitution, Bye Laws and the relevant Standing Orders of Hull University Union and shall be interpreted accordingly. "Clear days" excludes University holidays; Bank Holidays; Saturdays and Sundays.

2. **Introduction**

A referendum may only be called in the following circumstances to consider a proposal:

- (a) to amend the HUU Constitution;
- (b) to overturn a successful motion of no confidence in a Sabbatical Officer by Union Council;
- (c) to approve new policy recommended by a Union General Meeting;
- (d) to approve new policy submitted and signed by at least 15 full members and approved by the Governance Zone; and
- (e) for direct action against the University.

3. **Confidence in a Sabbatical Officer**

A Full Member may request that a motion of no confidence in a Sabbatical Officer, be overturned by a secret ballot in which all Full Members are entitled to vote, provided that the request is lodged with the President or General Manager no later than 5 clear days after the Union Council at which the motion was passed.

4. **Amendment to the HUU Constitution**

A Full Member may request that a proposal to amend the HUU Constitution be put to a secret ballot in which all Full Members are entitled to vote provided that:

- (a) The amendment has been approved for referendum at a General Meeting.
- (b) The issue has not been the subject of a referendum in the same academic year.
- (c) The result shall not be taken as indicative if quorum is not attained.

5. **Conduct of a Referendum**

The President shall arrange for the referendum to take place not later than 10 clear days after receipt of the request, except in the case of making policy (see paragraph 6). The election of the Returning Officer, and arrangements for polling and the count, shall be in accordance with S.O. 8001.

6. **Campaigning Weeks on Policy to go to Referendum**

Referenda called to approve policy in paragraphs 2(c) and 2(d) will take place over 5 days in Week 8 of Semester 1 and Week 7 of Semester 2. Members will be allowed to campaign for/against the policy throughout the referenda. The President shall ensure notice of the policies to be put to referenda are advertised 5 clear days before the start of voting.

7. **Quorum**

The quorum shall be 10% of Full Time Equivalent students at the University of Hull for referenda called in paragraph 2 (a).

The quorum shall be 5% of Full Time Equivalent students at the University of Hull for referenda called in paragraph 2 (b) and (e).

Spoiled/rejected votes will count towards the quorum.

8. The referendum shall pass with a majority of over 50% in favour, with the exception of 2(a) which shall need 2/3rds majority (see Constitution).

Spoiled/rejected votes will not be included in determining the threshold for the votes to pass.

PT/JH

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Passed at UEC: 1<sup>st</sup> December 2009  
Passed at Union Council: 14<sup>th</sup> December 2009