

## NUS Scotland President

<b>Author:</b>	Luke Humberstone
<b>Date produced:</b>	09/01/18
<b>Committees:</b>	Scottish Executive Committee
<b>Action:</b>	Approve

### Priorities

Main priorities	Progress (what have you achieved since the last Committee meeting)
Student Mental Health	A long list of suggested rights for the Charter for Rights on Mental Health were discussed and debated at Zone conference and prioritised. Better mental health provision is also included in the Budget for Better campaign.
Student Support Review	The final report of the Student Support Review was released which led directly to our Budget for Better campaign to get more money for bursaries, a better deal for graduates and better mental health provision.
Union Development	I met with four members and discussed how they could be supported by NUS Scotland to become more sustainable after the College SA Development project ends.
Brexit: All Students welcome	Brexit and Fees session run at Zone conference to start a discussion on how policy might be developed in relation to funding of international students post Brexit.

### Other achievements

Budget for Better campaign visit	07/12/17 Visited Dundee University Students' Association after being invited to their campus to promote the Budget for Better campaign.
----------------------------------	---

### Attendance at events/meetings and actions taken or agreed

Event/meeting	Outcomes and/or actions taken or agreed on
SSR Launch	20/11/17 The launch of the Student Support Review.
Meeting with Tavish Scott MSP	22/11/17 Tavish Scott is the education spokesperson for the Scottish Liberal Democrats, we explained our asks ahead of the Draft Budget.
Meeting with Ross Greer MSP	22/11/17 Ross Greer is the education spokesperson for the Scottish Greens, we explained our ask ahead of the Draft Budget.
NUS Zone Conference	23/11/17 Zone conference was where we consulted with the membership about how we would go about the Budget for Better campaign. We had workshops on the Charter for Rights on Mental Health and Brexit and Fees.
Budget for Better Campaign Launch	04/12/17 Edinburgh College hosted the launch of our Budget for Better campaign.
Meeting with SeeMe	04/12/17 We shared our knowledge of good practice around mental health issues in this meeting.



Meeting with Liz Smith MSP	06/12/17 Liz Smith is the education spokesperson for the Scottish Greens, we explained our ask ahead of the Draft Budget.
Race Equity Training Pt Two	12/12/17 I attended the mandatory Race Equity Training being rolled out across NUS in response to the Institutional Racism Review. I learned how to be more aware of racist incidents and how to challenge them.
Scottish Funding Council Board	22/12/17 SFC is developing its Strategic plan, we are going to be consulted. I have been invited to attend SFCs Research and Knowledge Exchange Committee in future. Student support hasn't needed to be topped up this year. We may be able to include mental health as part of outcome agreements.
Scottish Student Sport	08/01/18 Discussed how to embed physical activity within existing work that colleges and College SAs may already be doing and what partners may be able to help us achieve this. The link between mental health and physical health being a key driver of this.
Universities Scotland & University and College Union	09/01/18 Discussed the year ahead and shared priorities. We had worked on a joint letter to be submitted to protect Teaching grant in the budget which was successful. UCU explained their position on a pensions dispute in Pre-92 universities.

## Plans before the next meeting

Action/work area	What I hope to achieve
Student Mental Health	Continue to write up charter.
Student Support Review	Budget for Better campaign will continue until the final budget in February and beyond if necessary.
Union Development	A number of member visits are planned to see how they can be better supported.
Brexit: All Students welcome	I will be giving evidence to the Culture, Tourism, Europe and External Relations Committee on Thursday this week about the benefits of Erasmus+.

## Membership Engagement

Member Union	Purpose and anything to report on
Royal Conservatoire of Scotland Students' Union	17/11/17 Discussed NUS Scotlands' Brexit consultation response, Students of the World campaign and UK governance review.
City of Glasgow Students' Association	06/12/17 Budget for Better campaign visit
Glasgow Clyde College Students' Association	08/12/17 Budget for Better campaign visit
Forth Valley Student Association	13/12/17 Budget for Better campaign visit, discussed NUS Scotlands' progress on mental health, the college SA development project and student partnership agreements.

Ayrshire College Student Association	18/12/17 Discussed Disabled Students Committee campaign, College SA sustainability and SA structure.
Scotland's Rural College Students' Association	18/12/17 Discussed SA sustainability.
Glasgow Kelvin College Students' Association	21/12/17 Discussed SA sustainability and Budget for Better campaign with SA and Principal Alan Sherry.

## Media engagement and external relations

Member Union	Purpose and anything to report on
The Herald	19/11/17 Asking that the Scottish Government consider the recommendations of the SSR <a href="http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/15670144.Campaigners_demand_generous_grants_system_for_students/">http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/15670144.Campaigners_demand_generous_grants_system_for_students/</a>
BBC, STV & Kingdom FM	20/11/17 Pre-recorded response to SSR for TV and Radio
Independent, BBC, TES, Holyrood, Evening Express	20/11/17 Our response to the SSR <a href="http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/15672249.Serious_investment_required_to_make_major_shake_up_of_student_support_a_reality/">http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/15672249.Serious_investment_required_to_make_major_shake_up_of_student_support_a_reality/</a> <a href="http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/scottish-students-income-minimum-8100-pounds-year-finance-loans-bursaries-government-investment-a8065821.html">http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/scottish-students-income-minimum-8100-pounds-year-finance-loans-bursaries-government-investment-a8065821.html</a> <a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-42051512">http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-42051512</a> <a href="https://www.tes.com/news/further-education/breaking-news/minimum-student-income-proposed-scottish-college-students">https://www.tes.com/news/further-education/breaking-news/minimum-student-income-proposed-scottish-college-students</a> <a href="https://www.holyrood.com/articles/news/%E2%80%98student-basic-income%E2%80%99-proposed-finance-review">https://www.holyrood.com/articles/news/%E2%80%98student-basic-income%E2%80%99-proposed-finance-review</a> <a href="https://www.eveningexpress.co.uk/news/scotland/review-calls-for-scottish-students-to-have-minimum-8100-yearly-income/">https://www.eveningexpress.co.uk/news/scotland/review-calls-for-scottish-students-to-have-minimum-8100-yearly-income/</a>
The Ferret	20/11/17 Asking institutions to invest ethically <a href="https://theferret.scot/edinburgh-university-investment-russian-bank/">https://theferret.scot/edinburgh-university-investment-russian-bank/</a>
The Times	21/11/17 Referring to changes to EMA in light of SSR <a href="https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/student-finance-report-mired-in-confusion-hours-after-its-launch-m6blffbb">https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/student-finance-report-mired-in-confusion-hours-after-its-launch-m6blffbb</a>
TES	01/12/17 Reaffirming our response to SSR in the context of other UK arrangements <a href="https://www.tes.com/news/tes-magazine/tes-magazine/fe-students-support-must-be-fit-purpose">https://www.tes.com/news/tes-magazine/tes-magazine/fe-students-support-must-be-fit-purpose</a>
The Herald	06/12/17 In support of the EIS dispute being partly resolved <a href="http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/15704208.Fears_for_students_as_9_pay_rise_imposed_on_colleges/">http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/15704208.Fears_for_students_as_9_pay_rise_imposed_on_colleges/</a>
The Herald	14/12/17 To welcome increasing numbers of widening access students getting in to university <a href="http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/15771286.Record_numbers_of_disadvantaged_students_secure_a_Scottish_university_place/">http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/15771286.Record_numbers_of_disadvantaged_students_secure_a_Scottish_university_place/</a>
The Herald	15/12/17 Our response to the draft budget <a href="http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/15774426.Extra_5m_to_support_poorest_students_39_not_enough_39_/">http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/15774426.Extra_5m_to_support_poorest_students_39_not_enough_39_/</a>
The Herald	04/01/17 Condemning the pressures students feel under to then feel the need to use these services

	<a href="http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/15804914.Scottish_universities_attack_immoral_essay_cheat_companies/">http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/15804914.Scottish universities attack immoral essay cheat companies/</a>
TES, The Herald	05/01/17 Attacking charging of fees for HE students dropping out of College <a href="https://www.tes.com/news/tes-magazine/tes-magazine/colleges-hit-drop-outs-appalling-charges">https://www.tes.com/news/tes-magazine/tes-magazine/colleges-hit-drop-outs-appalling-charges</a> <a href="http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/15811224.Students_who_drop_out_early_being_fined_by_Scottish_colleges/">http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/15811224.Students who drop out early being fined by Scottish colleges/</a>
The Herald	06/01/17 Supporting our no platform policy <a href="http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/15811433.Bishop_warns_against_stifling_freedom_of_speech_at_Scottish_universities/">http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/15811433.Bishop warns against stifling freedom of speech at Scottish universities/</a>

## Declaration of gifts, hospitality and interests

Declaration	Further comment