

DURHAM SU BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON 24 SEPTEMBER 2025

Members present: Graeme Osborn (Chair), Helen Cutting (online), Ellie Dinsdale, Emma Clarke, Caleb Ross, Fran Brandon-Higgs.

In attendance: Gareth Hughes.

Apologies received: Liam Isaac, Abi Taylor, Olivia Hong, Rob Drury.

Usual business

1. Opening of the meeting

NOTED: apologies, and no conflicts of interests.

2. Call of Referendum

APPROVED: proposed Articles of Association for Durham SU.

AGREED: a call of referendum.

The trustees had requested feedback on draft Articles of Association from members. There had been no feedback received after an email had been sent to all members and posted on the Durham SU website. Some minor amendments to numbering had been made after proofreading.

The trustees were satisfied that the process for amending the Articles as in current Article 38 had been followed and agreed to put the proposal to referendum.

The Chief Executive confirmed that the Charity Commission was unlikely to have concerns about the proposal because of the use of Model Articles (with some minor changes to make the document align to the Durham context) which had been 'approved in principle', and there had been no changes to protected clauses. He also confirmed that Durham University had been consulted and the Governance and Nominations Committee of Council were satisfied with the proposal and the process.

The Chair confirmed that his experience in respect of the use of Model Articles had made this a relatively smooth process in other students' unions.

Helen Cutting added that, in her professional experience, she was satisfied with the process and the proposed Articles.