

Election to Executive Committee

A note by the President

Introduction

- a) As per the current Executive Committee Standing Orders, Council is required to elect 4 representatives to sit on Executive Committee.

Points to note

- a) The following Council members are already on Executive Committee:
 - All of the Sabbatical Officers
 - All of the Constituent Union Presidents
- b) Due to a need for more vigorous financial procedures, Exec no longer considers financial decisions; these are now considered at the Board of Trustees Finance & Risk Committee, or by the Deputy President (Finance & Services). Other responsibilities of Executive Committee (as outlined in Executive Committees 'Aims & Objectives' and 'Powers') are generally covered by other bodies, as follows:
 - 4.1- is accomplished by Council and Board of Trustees,
 - 4.2 - could remain the primary function of Exec
 - 4.3 - is accomplished by Council
 - 5.1- is accomplished by CSPB
 - 5.2, 5.3 - are accomplished by Finance & Risk
 - 5.4 - could still be a function of Exec, however can now also be accomplished through an Email Vote.
- c) Therefore it would be worth noting that Executive Committee's functions are limited, and that physical meetings will be sporadic. Demand on time will generally be in the form of decisions being made over email.
- d) Council has the ability to amend the Executive Committees Standing Orders independently without further ratification, if it so wishes.

Discussion Points

- a) Should Council consider formally removing Exec's responsibilities, given the points above?
- b) Should Council elect members into the Executive Committee?
- c) Should Council action itself to remove Exec as part of the upcoming Democracy Review?

Appendix 1 – Excerpt from the Sub Committees of Council Standing Orders

Executive Committee Standing Orders

The Executive Committee shall function in accordance with the Union Constitution, Bye-Laws and, additionally these Standing Orders.

Membership

1. The Membership shall be:
 - 1.1. The Officer Trustees
 - 1.2. The Constituent Union Presidents
 - 1.3. Four other members of Union Council elected by Union Council

Structure

2. The President shall chair the committee.
3. Each member shall have one vote, with the exception of the chair, who shall have only the casting vote in the event of a tie.

Aims & Objectives

4. The Aims & Objectives shall be:
 - 4.1. Advancing the aims and objectives of the whole Union.
 - 4.2. Implementing policy set by the Council save in so far as these responsibilities have not been delegated to another sub-committee of the Council.
 - 4.3. Receiving the reports of the Officer Trustees.

Powers

5. The Committee's powers shall be:
 - 5.1. Allocating funding to the Constituent Unions to continue their operations up to a value set by the Trustee Board in the Union's yearly budget.
 - 5.2. Allocating reserve funding up to a value set by the Trustee Board in the Union's yearly budget.
 - 5.3. Authorising funding in line with the Union's Financial Procedures.
 - 5.4. The Executive Committee may, in matters of urgency, act on behalf of the Union Council in any matter except those requiring a two-thirds majority, provided all such actions are reported to and approved by the Union Council at its next meeting.

Status, interpretation and amendment of these standing orders

6. Formal interpretations of these standing orders shall be made by the Chair.
7. The Council may amend these Standing Orders.