



**YORK ST JOHN  
STUDENTS' UNION**

## **BYELAW 12: REFERENDA**

REVIEWED AND REVISED JULY 2017

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### **1. General Arrangements**

- 1.1 Any decision or petition for a Referendum shall specify a single proposal or separate proposals each of which shall not exceed 100 words, except in the case of Constitution or Bye-Law amendments.
- 1.2 In the case of proposed amendments to the Constitution or Bye-Laws the full wording of the amendments shall be clearly displayed adjacent to the Polling Station in advance of the referendum.
- 1.3 Prior to the Referendum, it shall be the responsibility of the Executive Committee to organise at least one meeting, open to all Full Members, to debate the proposal.
- 1.4 The Returning Officer shall actively seek statements for and against referenda proposals to assist those voting to consider the issues involved. If more than one statement is submitted, the Returning Officers shall decide upon which one is published, or may prepare a new statement combining different statements.

### **2. Conduct of the Referendum**

- 2.1 Official notice of a Referendum shall be given twenty-eight days before the closure of the Vote.
- 2.2 The Referendum shall be conducted by means of a ballot open to all Full Members.
- 2.3 The preferred method for conducting a Referendum shall be through a secure online vote.
- 2.4 However, if it is felt that physical ballot boxes are required polling shall be held over at least two days during the working week for at least 10 hours in the Union Building, and at least 2 hours in such academic areas and halls of residence as may be determined by Student Council.
- 2.5 The Referendum shall be conducted in accordance with the general regulations covering cross-campus ballots, as laid down in the Memorandum and Articles of Association.
- 2.6 A referendum will take place over no more than a five day period.

### **3. Referendum Proposals**

- 3.1 Senate shall consider any proposals for referenda submitted by petition of 150 Full Members shall be considered in line with Article 14.