



**YORK ST JOHN
STUDENTS' UNION**

BYELAW 3: REFERENDA

REVIEWED AND REVISED AUGUST 2018

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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 Sabbatical Officers 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 Officer 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 for a period of 3 to 5 days (at the discretion of the Elections Committee).
- 2.4 However, if it is felt that physical ballot boxes are required polling shall be held over 3 to 5 days during the working week for at least 10 hours per day (at the discretion of the Elections Committee).
- 2.5 The Referendum shall be conducted in accordance with the general regulations covering cross-campus ballots, as laid down in the Articles of Association.
- 2.6 A referendum will take place over no more than a five day period.

3. Referendum Proposals

- 3.1 The Executive Council shall put forward for voting on a referendum any proposal submitted in line with Article 14 of the Union's Articles of Association.