

Schedules review – Schedule 8: Freedom of speech

PURPOSE OF PAPER	To approve the proposed Schedule 8: Freedom of speech
AUTHOR	Colina Wright, Interim Student Voice Manager
ACTION REQUIRED	To approve
LENGTH OF PAPER	This report contains 1 page

Background

The paper is to outline the proposed schedule relating to freedom of speech. This is a new schedule so there are no comparisons to a prior document.

Schedule 8: Freedom of speech

The Students' Association supports the principle of freedom of speech and expression within the law. The University of the Highlands and Islands (UHI) and its Academic Partners will ensure that students, staff and visiting speakers/lecturers have freedom to question, test and to put forward new ideas and controversial or unpopular opinions, without placing themselves at risk. Whilst the Union will defend this freedom, we also expect that challenge, critical debate and the exploration of such ideas will be conducted within a spirit of dignity and respect.

1.2 The Association has a duty to ensure that all members and student groups (Schedule 5: Student Groups) have the right to the freedom of speech within the law and they shall not be denied any facilities or entitlement on the grounds of their beliefs.

1.3 The Association recognises the [UHI's Principles and Code of Practice](#) to ensure the freedom of speech within the law. [Details of Freedom of Speech](#) can be found at [XXX](#)

1.4 The Association, after conducting an inquiry, shall deny the use of its premises, facilities, entitlements and services to any member or group of members if it considers that such use is contrary to criminal law, make the Association, UHI or its Academic Partners liable to penalties under civil law.

1.5 The Association's Board of Trustees shall be informed in writing of the Executive Committee's (Schedule 3: Governance of the Association) decision to deny the right to the Association's premises, facilities, entitlements and services to any member or group of members