



Cardiff Students' Union
Undeb Myfyrwyr Caerdydd

CUSU Referendum Regulations NUS Referendum 2026

Context

At the Annual General Meeting on Thursday 20th November 2025, students did not confirm Cardiff Students' Union's affiliation to the National Union of Students. Following this decision and in line with the Union's governing documents, the Board of Trustees has resolved for a referendum to take place to either confirm or end the Students' Union affiliation with NUS UK.

The question to be asked is:

Should Cardiff Students' Union remain affiliated to the National Union of Students UK (NUS UK)

- Yes (*this means Cardiff Students' Union should remain affiliated to NUS UK*)
- No (*this means Cardiff Students' Union should disaffiliate from NUS UK*)

Campaign Teams

Students will have the opportunity to put themselves forward to formally join the campaign team for either side of the debate. These campaign teams are not considered definitive, and the Students' Union acknowledges that students might want to get involved and express their views without formally joining a campaign team. However, campaign teams will have access to a certain number of resources provided by the Union, as outlined below, and will be formally recognised as the lead campaigners for both sides of the debate.

To join a campaign team, students must email Democracy@cardiff.ac.uk no later than 16th February outlining their request. Membership of campaign teams is by way of registration. Each campaign team shall appoint two lead points of contact to ensure smooth communication with the Students' Union.

Rules & Conduct

All Students of Cardiff University and members of campaign teams are bound by Cardiff Students' Union and Cardiff University policies and procedures as well as any Referendum specific rules and regulations. Campaign activity that is deemed to have breached Union, University or legal rules shall be considered by the appropriate complaints or discipline process. For this referendum there shall be three principles which campaigners are required to follow:

1. Students should be free to cast their vote in the referendum without undue influence or pressure.
2. Campaign teams should focus on their own campaign and thus avoid interfering with the campaigning activity of the other side.



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3. Campaign teams must ensure they act with integrity and that any information shared is factually correct and accurate.

Campaign Team Resources

Printed Materials

The Students' Union will use factual information to produce promotional materials that will be shared online and placed around the Students' Union building.

Campaign teams will also have the opportunity to produce posters which will be printed by the Students' Union. Posters must be emailed to the Students' Union prior to the given deadline to ensure they can be returned to campaign teams before the start of the voting period. The number of printed materials/copies of posters provided by the Students' Union will be confirmed following the deadline to join a campaign team.

Additional Resources

Campaign teams will also be provided with the following resources:

- Plain White T-Shirts
- Bed sheets
- Pillowcases
- Fabric pens/paint

The number of printed materials/copies of posters provided by the Students' Union will be confirmed following the deadline to join a campaign team.

Campaign Allowance

Campaign teams will be allocated an additional allowance of up to £200 to produce and develop campaign resources.

Candidate Q&A Event

Campaign teams will be invited to attend the SU Leadership Elections candidate Q&A event to answer questions on the referendum debate.

Additional Guidance

From time-to-time the Student Voice team, including the Returning Officer or Deputy Returning Officer, may issue further referendum guidance. This guidance can cover any elements of the referendum conduct and should be abided by in the same way as these regulations. Any such guidance will be communicated to campaign teams via email to the lead point of contact.

Results

The referendum result is expected on Friday 13th March 2026.

As per the Union's bye-laws, in the event of a tie, the motion will be deemed to have fallen, and therefore the conclusion will be drawn that the Students' Union will remain affiliated to NUS.



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Summary of Key Dates

Key Event	Date	Additional Information
Deadline to join a campaign team	Monday 16 th February, 6pm	Email Democracy@cardiff.ac.uk .
Poster/printed materials deadline	Monday 2 nd March, 10am	Submitted via email to Democracy@cardiff.ac.uk .
SU Leadership Elections Candidate Q&A Event	Thursday 5 th March, 6-9pm	
Voting Opens	Monday 9 th March, 10am	
Voting Closes	Thursday 12 th March, 6pm	
Results Expected	Friday 13 th March	

Contact Information

If you have any questions about the referendum, please contact Democracy@cardiff.ac.uk.



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