

Committee Title	Student Voice
Date of Meeting	10 February 2020
Item Number and Title/Subject	Motion Proposal for NUS Scotland Conference
Paper Presenter	David Grimm, Care Experienced Officer
Brief Summary of Issues/Topic	<p><i>Members of NUS may submit policy proposal for consideration at NUS Scotland Conference. Submissions are done by Students Association/Unions and should go through their democratic bodies for approval before submitting. Thus I would like to submit the following proposal for consideration.</i></p> <p>Context</p> <p>Only 4% of Care Experienced individuals enter higher education after leaving care compared with 39% of all school leavers. Moreover, they are more likely than non-Care Leaver's to drop out. This indicates that Care Experienced students have unique challenges to studying in Higher Education. While more and more is being done to support Care Leaver's entering higher education including Scotland's guarantee of an undergraduate place to all care experienced applicants meeting minimum entry requirements, it is painfully clear that more also needs to be done to support them while at university. Further, most university has a member of staff dedicated to supporting Care Leavers. this staff member often is not from a care experienced background so may not understand the myriad of challenges care experienced individuals can face during their study. Representation from student Care Leavers is therefore important as while Care experienced students are accustomed to continually telling their life story to varied professionals, having a person who shares some of their experiences and can advocate for them would benefit both the students and the university and allow the authentic voice of care leavers to be heard.</p> <p>NUS Scotland Believes:</p> <p>That Care Experienced students have the right to representation. That all Scottish higher education institutions should have a Care Experienced Officer who comes from a care experienced background to look after the rights of care experienced students at their university. This should be put into by-laws of each Higher Education Student Association/Union in Scotland and staff member should be allocated as support.</p>

	<p>Sources:</p> <p>http://www.sfc.ac.uk/publications-statistics/corporate-publications/2020/SFCCP012020.aspx</p> <p>https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/politicsandpolicy/care-leavers-in-higher-education/</p> <p>http://www.nnecl.org/resources/moving-on-up-report?topic=guides-and-toolkits</p> <p>https://www.universitiesuk.ac.uk/blog/Pages/supporting-care-experienced-students-through-university.aspx</p>					
Recommendation(s)	Information		Discussion		Approval	X
	<p>Any member can ask a question by raising their voting card and being recognised by the Chair to speak.</p> <p>Student Voice are asked to approve the motion proposal for submission to NUS Scotland Conference</p>					
Who have you consulted when developing the paper?	<p>Full Time Officer</p> <p>Student Voice Team Leader</p>					
Staff/Student Protocol	Yes		No	X	N/A	
Will any decision approved directly affect the work of staff?						
<p>Should the paper be submitted to any other committee following its consideration/approval at this meeting?</p> <p>If yes, please state the committee and proposed date of submission.</p>	<p>Executive Committee</p>					