

J21-03 A proposal to waive the law that previous “Officially Supported Charities” are ineligible for two years to be nominated

In-effect from: Immediately

Review date: N/A

Owner: Amy Feakes, SSC Charities Convenor

It is noted that:

1. The Charities Campaign supports a local, national and international charity each academic year. These charities are nominated by students and voted by students.
2. This year the Campaign has supported FRASAC, SAMH and Choose Love/Help Refugees.
3. The current raised total for this academic year is considerably lower than it has been at this stage of other academic years (See Appendix A).
4. By the end of this academic year the amount raised for each charity will be lower than in previous years, refer to Appendix A for previous totals for each charity. The current amount raised by the campaign for this academic year is around £4500.
5. The two largest fundraising events for the campaign; Race2 and CATWALK, have not been able to run due to COVID-19.

It is believed that:

1. By waiving law 5.3.1.1 the Charities which are currently the official charities will automatically be considered by the shortlisting panel as a nominated charity.
2. By waiving this law, through the new system, the shortlisting panel will get to make the decision whether the charity will make it through to the election.
3. The shortlisting panel will have the opportunity to decide if supporting these charities again is in the best interests of the student body and the campaign.
4. By waiving this law, through the new system, if the shortlisting panel selects these charities the general student body will be able to vote for or against them, alongside four other charities per category.

It is resolved to:

1. To waive Chapter 13 Section 5.3.1.1 of the Laws to allow the nominated charities supported in 2020/21 to be automatically considered by the shortlisting panel when they are shortlisting which charities will go to the voting stage (highlighted in Appendix B).

Proposer

Amy Feakes – SSC Charities Officer

Seconder

Gavin Sandford – DoSDA

Avery Kitchens – SSC Societies Officer

Joe Horsnell - Arts & Divinity Faculty President

Supported by the Charities Campaign Executive committee

Appendix A: Previous totals raised for nominated charities by the Campaign

Year	Amount raised 3 charities
2019/20	£68,331.68
2018/19	£65,420.48
2017/18	£87,029.79
2016/15	£73,726.35
2015/14	£63,522.78
2014/15	£49,800.27

Appendix B: Current Laws from Section 5 of Chapter 13

5. Charities supported by the Campaign

- 5.1. The election of these charities shall not take place at the AGM, but instead at a specially arranged time. There shall be one Fife charity, one UK charity, and one international charity elected according to selection process laid out below.
- 5.2. Nomination process
 - 5.2.1. Any matriculate student is allowed to nominate charities which they deem to be beneficial for the student body to support, over a week long period in Semester 2. As part of nominating the charity an amicus brief must be submitted.
 - 5.2.1.1. The amicus brief should argue why supporting the nominated charity is in the best interest of the student body.
- 5.3. Application process
 - 5.3.1. As Charities are nominated the Campaign will check that they meet the following criteria.
 - 5.3.1.1. Any nominated charity holding the title of 'Official Supported Charity' of the Charities Campaign in the previous two year will be ineligible.
 - 5.3.1.2. Charities must have a UK registered charity number
 - 5.3.1.3. A UK office address
 - 5.3.1.4. Have no explicit religious or political affiliations.
 - 5.3.1.5. They must not be third party charities.
 - 5.3.2. If they have met the criteria, an application form will be sent to the charities to collect further information.
 - 5.3.2.1. The charities must reply in a timely manner, within a two week period to allow shortlisting to go ahead without delay.
- 5.4. Shortlisting
 - 5.4.1. Charities will then be shortlisted to a maximum of five charities in each category (local, national and international) by the Shortlisting Panel, to create an accessible voting process.
 - 5.4.1.1. Shortlisting will be conducted by a panel of both mediatory and functionary members.
 - 5.4.1.1.1. The members who serve in a mediatory capacity will be the Campaign convenor and secretary.
 - 5.4.1.1.2. The members who serve a functionary role will include: the DoSDA, the DoWell, three co-opting members of the Campaign Executive committee and two ordinary co-opted members (one honours and one sub-honours).
 - 5.4.2. The functionary members have to choose charities without bias in the best interests of the student body and the campaign.
 - 5.4.3. Members of the shortlisting panel cannot nominate charities.
 - 5.4.4. The shortlisting panel should make their decision based on the following criteria
 - 5.4.4.1. Charities should be in the interest of the student body

- 5.4.4.2. Select the final shortlisted charities that cover a variety of causes
- 5.4.4.3. Past actions and beliefs of the charities should be considered to safeguard from backlash to the Campaign and the Student's Association.

5.5. Elections

- 5.5.1. Voting of the shortlisted charities will be open to the student body during the Student Association Elections.

5.6. Other Charities

- 5.6.1. Executive committee reserves the right to disallow nominations for charities that they do not deem appropriate to raise funds for. E.g. Charities which distribute grants to other causes for whom we could be raising funds for directly, charities that do not provide sufficient public information and charities that do not adhere to the policies held by the Students' Association.