



# **EUIHIS**

INTRODUCTION 4
PLAN A(LICE) 5
MY GOALS? 6
• RE-ALICE: THE POTENTIAL - STRENGTHENING THE CORE 7
AFFORDABILITY FIRST: COST OF LIVING & HOUSING
POWER TO YOU: REPRESENTATION & RIGHTS 9
• COMMUNITY & CARE: INCLUSION, SAFETY & WELLBEING10
YOUR POSTGRADUATE EXPERIENCE11
• DEFEND OUR FUTURE: HIGHER EDUCATION & CLIMATE ACTION 12
• SUPPORTING OFFICERS13
FINAL WORD14
LINKS15

# WHY VOTE ALICE FOR UNION AFFAIRS?

The best way to begin is with the Freshers' Week pitch:

"Hi, I'm Alice, a final-year Philosophy student (favouring epistemology and ethics, for all those who ask), and I'm from Gloucestershire! Phew, now I can reflect...

My time at St Andrews has been anchored by the clubs, societies, and local communities that have welcomed me. From STAR Radio, Families First and The Wave Project, to being part of the Uni Hall Committee in first year (#CondomRep) all of which have shaped my university experience with purpose and laughter.

My experience in representation began when I became an ambassador in the World Class Schools Quality Mark Competition on behalf of my school. Later, I took a gap year to serve as a Future Me Youth Representative for Gloucestershire, advocating for young voices in local policy and communications. Now, I've had the opportunity to be the Union Affairs Intern, a role that has given me a deeprooted sense of purpose as I have worked behind the scenes on governance, events such as the One Union Awards, and student representation. I've managed projects, been present in meetings, supported policy implementation, created social media graphics and compiled information for the weekly email to keep you informed and involved. A huge part of that is thanks to Cam and Holly, who made every day of this role meaningful. Working alongside them reminded me how powerful collaboration can be. My involvement with our Union transformed my university experience, and I've grown to care massively about it.

This is why this new and very exciting role is my idea of the perfect next step for both me and our Union. I want to be a compassionate, proactive, and relentless voice for all of you. I'd be honoured to be your caretaker in this role and I will prove that passion needs action, trust needs proof and growth needs change.

#### Hiya,

# PLAN-A



I'm running to be your President of Union Affairs because I've seen how this Union could work when you are at the centre. That means no more vague promises, no more closed-door decisions. Just real, measurable change, driven by you. Here's Plan-A(lice), we won't need any back-ups:

#### 1. Transparency You Can Trust

Every decision will start with you. Open consultations, live updates, and interactive communications will show exactly how your input shapes outcomes. No secrets, no surprises–just a Union that's truly yours.

#### 2. Fighting for Affordability

Free breakfast trials. Sustainable funding for the Campus Larder. Holding the uni accountable on housing costs. No student should skip meals or stress about rent to get an education.

#### 3. Power in Your Hands

Stronger rights, better representation. I'll push for a Student Justice Charter, expand support for campaigns, and make sure the Rector can hear you loud and clear.

#### 4. Wellbeing That Works

From SafeZone, safety nets to Wellbeing Wednesdays, we'll build a Union that cares for your mental health, your safety, and our communities.

#### 5. A Postgraduate Experience That Matters

Spaces, events & opportunities just for PGs.A voice in every room: I'll ensure postgraduate perspectives are essential to decisions, not an afterthought.

#### 6. A Union That Fights for Our Future

Relentless pressure for divestment, a greener union, and Saving Our Scottish Universities. The stakes are high, and we won't stay silent.

#### 7. Backing Our Leaders & Volunteers

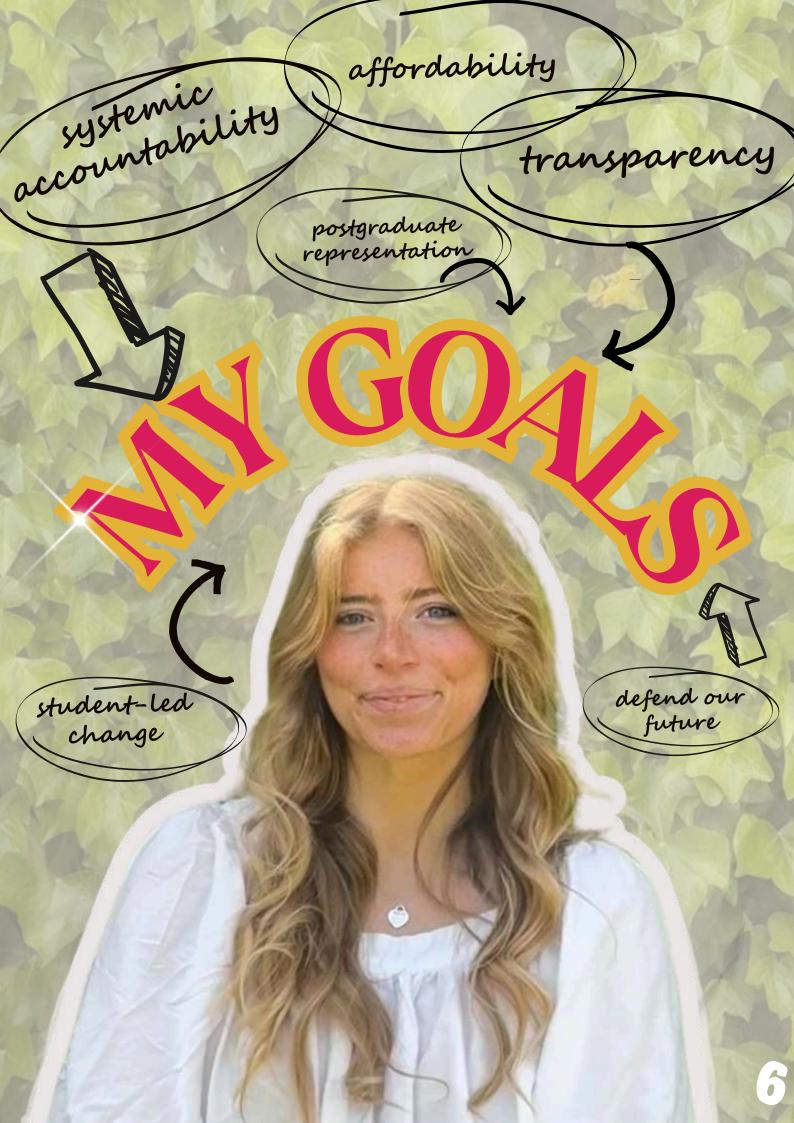
Exec Team collaboration. Volunteer recognition that matters.

Support for Part-Time Officers to smash their goals. Together, we can achieve all of this.

This isn't just a plan, it's a pledge. To listen, to act, and to put you at the heart of everything. Let's build a Union that's accountable, compassionate, and unapologetically yours.

With gratitude always,







### Re-Alice The Potential: Strengthening the Core

## THE CHANGE PROGRAMME

The Change Programme is now in its final phase, with funding secured and operational plans in place to reshape how support, services, and representation are delivered. While the direction has been set, your voices should be steering the process from here.

To ensure it works FOR you, not just around you, I want to ensure it is completed *transparently*. To do this I will:

- Reject closed-door decisions by mandating open consultations at every stage, from policy drafts to final rollouts. Ensuring visible student input.
- Build new democratic structures like student working groups, paired with training and resources so everyone can participate meaningfully.
- Embed transparency through monthly progress reports, live feedback channels, and a public-facing portal showing exactly how student input shapes outcomes.

As your President of Union Affairs, I'll work alongside the CEO to guarantee the Strategic Plan reflects your priorities, not just in vague promises, but in measurable results. This is how we turn "student-centered" from a slogan into a standard.



# Affordability First: Cost of Living & Housing

### CAMPUSLARDER

I will continue supporting the vital work of the Campus Larder by ensuring its smooth operation, backing the Campus Larder intern, and securing sustainable long-term funding. Additionally, I will work to expand access to resources by embedding "Larder on Tour", bringing the service directly to you.

### FROMBREAKFAST...

I will push to trial free breakfasts with inclusive, student-designed menus, addressing the shocking reality that, as highlighted by our current Association President, Cam Brown, 28% of students have skipped meals due to the cost-of-living crisis, while 63% are cutting back on food and essentials. This <u>WILL</u> change.

### ...TO HOUSING

Holding the university accountable to its Albany Park affordability commitment is a priority of mine - I'll demand consistency by publishing rent benchmarking data. I will also further campaign for part-time work to be recognised as an extenuating circumstance. Working with the Careers Centre, I'll advocate for a platform that highlights flexible job opportunities compatible with studies while working with your President of Wellbeing to develop a resource that will help advice students who are balancing work, academics, and mental health.



### Power To You: Representation & Rights

### STUDENT PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

I will take direct action to ensure the Student Partnership Agreement creates meaningful change by implementing monthly progress reports, hosting termly feedback forums with decision-makers, and establishing public scorecards to track the university's performance on key commitments. My focus will be on converting dialogue into deadlines and promises into measurable outcomes that you can see and benefit from.

# SUPPORTING THE RECTOR AS A LIAISON FOR STUDENT VOICES

One of my key priorities will be to maintain a strong, collaborative relationship with the Rector. I will act as an effective liaison, ensuring consistent communication between the student body and the Rector's office. This means: Regular meetings to discuss shared student concerns and priorities. Regular updates on key decisions and policies affecting students in order to create a reliable channel for your voice to be heard at the highest levels of university leadership.

#### STUDENT ACTION HUB

I will establish a Student Action Hub to provide comprehensive support for student campaign funding, training, and mentorship. Additionally, I will ensure the President's Fund remains sustainable, with clear criteria and timely disbursements.



# Community & Care: Inclusion, Safety & Wellbeing

# IMPLEMENT SAFEZONE AS PART OF A HOLISTIC SAFETY PACKAGE

I will work with your President of Wellbeing to ensure that the SafeZone rollout is integrated into a broader Student Safety Plan, including night-time transport, consent workshops, and crisis support so safety measures work together, not in isolation.

#### INSTITUTIONALISE WELLBEING WEDNESDAYS

By coordinating with clubs, societies, and the Athletics Union, I'll make Wellbeing Wednesdays a permanent fixture, featuring decompression spaces, fitness classes, and peer support to combat burnout.

#### INTRODUCE A STUDENT JUSTICE CHARTER

This living document will enshrine student rights, from fair academic appeals to protections for international students, and hold the university accountable to equitable policies.



# YOUR POSTGRADUATE EXPERIENCE

#### **POSTGRADUATE VOICES MATTER**

Too many decisions in the union are made without considering the postgraduate experience. As your President of Union Affairs, I will ensure that PG voices are not just in the room but valued as essential and irreplaceable parts of our community.

# MORE SPACES, EVENTS, AND OPPORTUNITIES JUST FOR PGS

Postgraduates deserve more than just an afterthought, you need more PG-exclusive spaces, events and opportunities to connect. Right now during breaks, it is easy to disengage from the union, spending money to build communities elsewhere. Let's change that by creating a PG Hub in your union. Postgraduates shouldn't have to adapt to an undergrad-dominated union. As your President, I will push for a permanent, well-resourced space where postgraduates can study, socialise, and shape their own union experience, If you are building your communities outside the union. I want to give you a reason to stay and make the union work for all of us.

# A PRESIDENT WHO FIGHTS FOR POSTGRADUATE INCLUSION...

You deserve a President of Union Affairs that will advocate for postgraduate involvement wherever possible. As the smaller educational cohort, It is vital that more is done to ensure that postgraduates are involved in all of the key conversations. I will be a relentless advocate for PG involvement at every level - workig ensuring you are heard in decisions and beyond.



# Defend Our Future: Higher Education & Climate Action

#### BETUNGH SUNE ORBEOLUSH

#### UNIVERSITIES (SOSU)

I'll reboot SOSU as a grassroots campaign linking our Union to nationwide efforts - mobilising students, staff, and policymakers to defend accessible, well-funded higher education in Scotland. I will also continue to push for a meeting with the Minister for Higher and Further Education of Scotland.

#### PUSHFOR DIVESTMENT

Through University Court, I will champion the ethical realignment of our institution's investments. I stand with student groups in demanding divestment from companies that harm our environment, or contradict our shared values of sustainability and social responsibility. Together, we'll hold the University accountable to its moral and ecological commitments.

#### EMBED GREEN PRACTICES IN UNION PRACTICE

From expanding water refill stations to funding eco-friendly society events, I'll partner with environmental groups to make sustainability effortless and visible across your union.





### **SUPPORTING OFFICERS**

# EXEC TEAM

I will champion a more connected and empowered Exec Team by introducing structured shared planning sessions and regular informal check-ins to improve collaboration across all portfolios. I'll expand the successful Union Affairs Intern model to provide dedicated support for every Exec Officer, ensuring mutual growth and support. Most importantly, I'll lead by example to foster an open, inclusive team culture where every voice is valued and wellbeing comes first. I'l implement weekly progress dashboards and termly 'Ask the Exec' forums so students can track our work, while streamlining end-of-semester reports into clear, impactful showcases of our achievements.

### FROM VOLUNTEERS...

I'm committed to revolutionising our volunteer experience by implementing comprehensive training programs and establishing clear communication channels so every volunteer feels equipped and supported. Beyond the annual One Union Awards, I'll introduce monthly recognition initiatives to properly celebrate our volunteers' incredible contributions year-round. My new volunteer development framework will provide certified skills recognition, professional references, and clear progression routes - because our volunteers deserve tangible rewards for their dedication.

### ...TOPART-TIME OFFICERS

For our Part-Time Officers, I'll create tailored support packages including rolespecific training and streamlined communication systems to help them maximise their impact. I'll adapt the One Union Awards to better highlight achievements while introducing semesterly appreciation events to maintain motivation.



VOZE 2ND-3RD OF JUNE

**AskAlice:** 



aeh30



alice4unionaffairs.sta

In this manifesto, I have referenced key elements of YOUR Union to highlight principles, goals, and initiatives. For easy access and further reading on the topics discussed, please see the below:

**The Change Programme Save Our Scottish Unis Campus Larder**