

Advice/Housing Development Oversight Board (An Amendment to the Bye Laws)

Proposer Georgina Burchell (Welfare, Community, and Diversity Officer)

Seconded Sophie Atherton (Campaigns and Democracy Officer)

Summary

Over the last 2 years the Advice/Housing Oversight Boards have seen no student engagement and this raises the question of effectiveness. This motion removes the Oversight Board but ensures that student feedback will still be sought and improvements will be made as a result.

Council Notes

1. The Development and Oversight Boards (DOBs) are in place so that the work of subsidiary companies can be overseen and ensure that SU strategy is implemented.
2. In addition to Advice/ Housing, there are DOBs for Retail/ Catering, Bars/ Licensed Trade, and Venues/ Live.
3. The advice and housing service is not a service in the same sense as the shop or the bars for example.
4. The UEA(SU) governance webpages do not list advice & housing in the DOB section.
5. After 2 years of Advice/ Housing DOBs no students have nominated themselves for these elected positions.
6. Ideas to improve and introduce new initiatives are sought from student staff and volunteers who feedback.

Council Believes

1. The question of effectiveness has been raised, since no students are nominating themselves for the positions on Advice/Housing DOBs.
2. We should always be listening to student feedback on how we can improve our services, which does not happen through the DOBs.
3. We seek input on service improvements/ideas/questions/new initiatives and development points from students via different routes; training and student staff which have seen demonstrable changes made based on this feedback which fulfils the role of DOBs in a different capacity.
4. The Advice/Housing Oversight Boards do not function as they should due to a lack of student feedback.

Council Resolves

1. Change bye-law 1.37 from "The Campaigns and Democracy Officer (or the Welfare Community and Diversity Officer in the case of the Advice/Housing DOB);" to "The Campaigns and Democracy Officer;"
2. Change bye-law 1.36 from "There will be four Development and Oversight Boards (Retail/ Catering, Bars/ Licensed Trade, Venues/ Live, Advice/ Housing)" to "There will be three Development and Oversight Boards (Retail/ Catering, Bars/ Licensed Trade, Venues/ Live)

