

1745 Show me the money!

Passed 15 October 15

Proposer: Connor Rand (Undergraduate Education officer)

Seconder: Theo Antoniou-Phillips (LGBT+ Officer)

Amended by C Jarvis (Campaigns and Democracy Officer)

Union Notes

1. Maintenance grants opened the door to many students entering HE.
2. When grants were last raised by £1,000, this led to a 3.5% increase in participation to University.
3. NUS research shows that 71% of students consider their grant absolutely essential or very important in enabling them to study at the institution of their choice.

Union Believes:

1. That maintenance grants are vital to improving access and social mobility.
2. That any cuts to maintenance grants will disproportionately hit the poor and most disadvantaged
3. Removing grants is going to disproportionately affect LGBT students who have been estranged from their parents forcing them into ridiculous amounts of debt
4. The current maintenance grants system is fundamentally flawed due to means testing and fails to recognise the multitude of reasons why a student's parental income will not be a reflection on their ability to fund their studies, including the estrangement of LGBT+ people from their families.
5. That a system of universal living grants is what the student union needs to campaign for, so that no student should face financial stress while at University and that the Higher Education funding package should cover the full cost of living.

Union Resolves:

1. To campaign rigorously against the scrapping of maintenance grants.
2. To build alliances with local and national partners campaigning against the scrapping of maintenance grants.
3. To make the cases against these cuts to local MP's for Norwich north and Norwich south.
4. To campaign for the introduction of Universal Living Grants for all.