Anti-Racism/discrimination /hate crime

POLICY RESPONSIBILITY: Women’s Officer
CONTACT: womens.officer@sheffield.ac.uk

The Students' Union notes:

1. An inclusive nature and respect for and the celebration of diversity is at the heart of the Students’ Union.
2. A large number of our students come from ethnic minority backgrounds.
3. A hate crime or incident is any behaviour perceived by the victim to be motivated by hostility, prejudice or hatred of their race, ethnicity or nationality; religion, faith or belief, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or any combination of these factors.
4. Racism and hate crimes must be taken seriously as they pose a threat to Sheffield students.

The Students' Union believes:

1. Every student has the right to live in an atmosphere that is free of discrimination, harassment and intimidation.
2. Hate crimes and racism should not be tolerated by the Students’ Union, and those who commit acts of hate crime or racism should be stopped and disciplined.
3. Social and cultural diversity should be celebrated.

The Students' Union resolves:

1. To ensure equal access to all aspects of University life for all students.
2. To adopt a ‘zero tolerance’ approach to racism, discrimination and hate crime.
3. To campaign locally and nationally to mobilise students against racism and xenophobia.
4. To use the NUS Hate Crime Report (2011) to prevent racism and hate crime on campus.

POLICY HISTORY:

The original anti-racism policy was passed by referendum in March 2003 (4502 votes for; 203 against, 377 abstentions) and was renewed without amendment by Students’ Union Council on several occasions until March 2012. The amended policy (above) was passed by referendum in March 2012 (5,657 votes for, 186 votes against and 420 abstentions) replacing the previous policy. The above revised policy was agreed by SU Council in December 2014.

This policy is next due for review in November 2017.