



BRISTOL SU
the best student life

The Richmond Building
105 Queens Road, Clifton, Bristol BS8
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Tel (0117) 331 8600

www.bristolsu.org.uk

Student Council Meeting **05/06/2017**

Motion Name: Keep Bristol Venues Open

Background:

A recent change in Bristol University policy has meant that venues such as Goldney Hall can no longer be rented out without paying the university for catering.

Prior to this change, charities, local organisations and not-for-profits have used this venue (such as Amnesty International, local Clifton organisations etc) for fundraising, leasing the venue but doing cake sales etc.

Organisations which have been using Goldney annually for 30-40 years are now being told that they can no longer rent the premises without getting catering, and are not allowed to sell their own food/tea/drinks etc, thus meaning they are effectively priced out and unable to use the venue to fundraise.

An event I have been attending annually for over a decade have said this year will likely be the last event they can have, after over 40 years of using the same venue every year.

I know people that have become aware of Goldney Hall as a venue through these annual fundraisers and have gone on to host parties and weddings at Goldney, clearly a good return for the University.

Purpose:

The University of Bristol should reverse the blanket policy that requires any food/drinks etc to be purchased from University catering. They should have exemptions in this policy to allow existing and future non-profits and local community organisations to continue to use the University facilities. These links with the local community are very important for the Universities reputation and help us give something back to the local community.

It is shameful that the University has effectively priced out local organisations and non profits through this inflexible policy change. At the very least exceptions should be

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made for organisations which have been using the venues, Goldney in particular, for years prior to this change in policy.

Action:

Bristol SU should call on the University to reverse this decision and allow community organisations (charities, non profit organisations and or Bristol SU student groups) to continue to benefit from arrangements that have worked well since the 1970s and 80s. The University will then continue to be seen as open and welcoming to those who live in Bristol.

Proposed by: Jack Patterson

Seconded by: Elly Hodges

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