

Overview of what other Student Unions are doing in relation to student sex work

Note – the vast majority of activity has been from student unions with some universities discussing more formal approaches (York, Goldsmiths) but currently (May 2020) there is no official university policy on student sex work.

University of York Student Union passed a policy in 2017 which aimed at:

<https://yusu.org/advice-support/support-a-z/supporting-student-sex-workers>

1. Supporting sex workers by raising awareness.
2. Offering advice and information.

University College London Student Union introduced a policy in 2018 which wanted to: <http://studentsunionucl.org/policy/up1717/supporting-students-in-sex-work>

1. To support sex worker led organisations, such as the ECP, SWARM etc.
2. Campaign against any attempt to introduce the Nordic Model in the UK.
3. Support student sex workers being threatened with disciplinary action owing to their status as a sex worker.
4. Support sex workers who are victims of discrimination, harassment in the university.

Goldsmiths University Student Union introduced a policy in 2015 which outlines the unions commitment to:

<https://www.goldsmithssu.org/pageassets/yourunion/governance/policies/Student-sex-workers.pdf>

1. Support the full decriminalisation of sex work.
2. Resist and campaign against proposals to introduce the Nordic Model in the UK.
3. Provide students with information about where they can seek help.
4. Support the efforts of sex worker-led organisations.

Royal Holloway Student Union- no date. <https://www.su.rhul.ac.uk/referenda/motion/31/45/>

1. Support and campaign for the decriminalisation of sex work.
2. Campaign against any attempt to introduce the Nordic Model to the UK.

3. Support the work of sex worker-led organisations.
4. Challenge any disciplinary action taken against student sex workers on the basis of their job.
5. Listen to and include student sex workers as part of the student community.

Sheffield Hallam Student Union introduced a policy in 2018 that called for: <https://www.hallamstudentsunion.com/representation/democracy/currentpolicies/>

1. Supporting the decriminalisation of sex work.
2. Supporting sex worker-led organisations.
3. Campaigning against the introduction of the Nordic Model in the UK.

Edinburgh University SU 2014:

https://www.eusa.ed.ac.uk/eusapolicy/liberation/sex_workers/

What will we do?

1. EUSA will put out a statement calling for the decriminalisation of sex work.
2. EUSA will contact sex workers' rights organisations such as SCOT-PEP and Sex Workers' Open University and offer their support.
3. EUSA will take a zero-tolerance attitude towards whorephobia, and place whorephobia in its safe space policy.
4. EUSA will explore what support it can offer the university's student sex workers.
5. EUSA will condemn anti-sex worker campaigns at other universities.

University of Manchester - <https://manchesterstudentsunion.com/wellbeing-advice/sex-workers>

- Information on working safely and signposting.

Oxford University Student Union created a survey in 2019 which aimed to assess how student sex workers were supported by their university (if at all), but they have no policy which formalises any commitment to this.

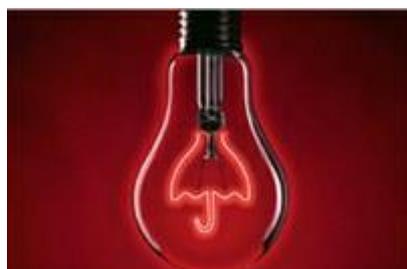
University of Leicester

<https://www2.le.ac.uk/students/announcements/university-and-students2019-union-statement-student-sex-workers-campaign>

University and Students' Union statement: student sex workers campaign

Posted by [bv39](#) at Dec 11, 2019 11:50 AM | [Permalink](#)

The Students' Union Executive and University's Executive Board want to ensure that the University is a supportive environment for all our students. This includes our students who are in sex work, as we recognise diversity and the right for people to make the choices they want.



Both the Students' Union and University unconditionally support students who are sex workers. We want students to know that they can come forward with any concerns relating to their studies, safety or wellbeing, in an environment that is non-judgemental and wholeheartedly supportive.

We recognise a societal stigma remains attached to sex workers. However, we want all our students to know that we stand in solidarity with our students in sex work and we will stand up for anyone in the face of this prejudice and discrimination.

If you experience any hate, hostility, or abuse when you're working, and you would like support from the University, please get in touch via [Report & Support](#) and one of our Wellbeing Case Workers will be in touch.

Gareth Oughton, Chief Executive of the Students' Union said:

“The Students' Union has been proud to lead on the Student Sex Workers' campaign. Our community is made up a diverse range of lived experiences and no student should have to face the societal stigma that students in sex work do. As a Union, we want you to know that your Union is always here for you and will always provide a safe, non-judgemental environment. “

Professor Nishan Canagarajah, Vice-Chancellor said:

“We are proud to work with the Student's Union on the Student Sex Workers' campaign. The University community is vibrant and diverse and it is important that everyone is treated with dignity and respect. We are committed to ensuring that any students who are sex workers feel supported and valued as part of the Leicester community.”

University of Plymouth

Following on from standing up for Student Sex Workers Policy Proposal – support page

<https://www.upsu.com/advice/wellbeing/studentsexworkers/>

Supporting Student Sex Workers

In December 2015, the University of Plymouth Student Union's Executive Committee voted in favour of the decriminalization of prostitution and in favour of supporting student sex workers. As part of that policy, this document has been put together by sex workers attending Plymouth University.

Screening & Safety

<https://uknswp.org/um/> - If you work in person and advertise online, you can sign up to join the Ugly Mugs scheme. This will enable you to receive warnings about dangerous individuals, and lets you check numbers against a database of reported dangerous individuals. Ugly Mugs can also help you file a complaint and report incidents to the police anonymously.

<http://www.saafe.info/main/index.php> - The SAAFE forum also allows you to search for reported numbers. Input the number into the search box with an asterisk replacing the last two digits, e.g. 012345678**. As well as this, the forum is a place where you can seek support and advice related mainly to indoors escorting. There is also a section for webcam workers.

<http://www.saafe.info/> - The SAAFE main page has a wealth of basic information for indoors workers on screening and general business.

<https://www.truecaller.com/> - This app/website allows you to check phone numbers

Sex Worker Organisations - Know Your Rights

<http://prostitutescollective.net/know-your-rights/> - This link includes a download which was written by sex workers and legal professionals to explain the prostitution laws in accessible terms. It aims to help you know the law, how to protect yourself from arrest, how to defend yourself if charged, and where to get help. It is available in English, Bulgarian, Chinese, Italian, Portuguese, Romanian, Spanish and Thai.

<http://prostitutescollective.net/> - The English Collective of Prostitutes are a current sex worker-led organisation based in London. They support and campaign for the decriminalization of prostitution.

<https://www.swarmcollective.org/> - Sex Workers Advocacy and Resistance Movement are a current sex worker-led organisation based in London, with another branch in Glasgow, and links with sex workers around the country - including Plymouth. They campaign for decriminalization and are focussed on public education.

<http://www.scot-pep.org.uk/> - SCOT-PEP are a Scottish sex-worker led charity engaged primarily with policy and legislation.

<http://www.nswp.org/> - The Global Network of Sex Work Projects is a membership organisation comprising sex-worker led organisations around the world.

Last updated: November 2019

Newcastle University

<https://www.ncl.ac.uk/wellbeing/mentalandphysicalwellbeing/physicalwellbeing/sexualhealth/>

Support for Student Sex Workers

Newcastle University recognises the reality that some students may be sex workers or may be considering taking up sex work. While respecting individual choice, the University also recognises that some students undertake sex work or consider undertaking sex work because of financial, emotional or relational vulnerability.

Any student who is a sex worker or is considering taking up sex work due to vulnerability factors can contact the student wellbeing consultancy service on 0191 208 3366. The service will work confidentially to help to put in place the practical, emotional and safeguarding support you may require.

The University has no desire to criminalise or discipline vulnerable students and we would encourage all students and those concerned about our students to come forward and receive this support.