

Bye Law 7 - Junior Common Rooms (JCRs)

To be read in conjunction with:

- 1) Each JCR Committee's Constitution
- 2) The JCR Behavioral Policy

This bye-law sets out the mission, structure, governance and finances surrounding Junior Common Rooms (JCRs).

Mission

A JCR committee exists to ensure welfare, social and recreational provision of a Hall of Residence. It works to represent the interests of all of its members and to promote a community spirit inside the Hall of Residence. JCR exist to encourage all members, regardless of background or self-definition to take part in a variety of activities. They also work to liaise with the local community on issues that concern its membership and work to ensure their students are seen as an active part of the community.

Governance

The JCR Committee is responsible to JCR membership and to the RUSU Trustee Board (with delegated responsibility to the RUSU Welfare Officer). Details and guidance on how to uphold this responsibility are set out in each of the JCRs constitutions.

JCR Forum

A JCR forum shall be convened to discuss the work of JCRs, monitor their progress and to share best practice. The membership of this working group is as below:

Welfare Officer (Chair)
Community and Development Officer
One member per committee each JCR committee (usually the President or equivalent)
JCR Coordinator (in attendance)
Other RUSU staff members (by invitation)

This committee shall meet up to 3 times per academic term at the discretion of the chair

Finance

JCRs will be funded through the redistribution of fees collected from students of the University of Reading who are either a resident of a hall with a JCR or an attached member to a hall with a JCR. The RUSU Welfare Officer and the Chair of the University of Reading Residences Committee will have joint responsibility in setting the JCR fees and developing criteria against what JCR fees will be spent. JCRs are not allowed to hold their own private bank accounts and shall not incur unauthorised debts or liabilities.

Elections

Elections for a new committee must be held during the last three weeks of the Spring Term through the RUSU website using the Single Transferable Vote. The RUSU Welfare

Officer shall be the Returning Officer in all elections. The day-to-day running of the election shall be delegated to an appointed member of RUSU staff. Any complaints on the elections shall be made to the RUSU President, in writing, no later than 24 hours after the end of an election. There shall be a hustings for each committee member position. Rules of the hustings will be created with the agreement of RUSU and the JCR committee. A by-election may be called, if a position becomes vacant for any reason. If the position becomes vacant in the Spring Term, a committee may opt to forgo a by-election for a position. Details on the rules for elections are found in the JCR constitution.

Committee Positions

JCR committees must have a minimum of 9 committee members; as listed below. The final composition of JCR committees including further roles are set out in each JCR constitution and new committees roles will be discussed with the RUSU Welfare Officer

President
Vice President
Treasurer
Secretary
Welfare
Social
Sports
International
Charity/RAG/Volunteering