



**Memorandum
and
Articles of Association
of
Reading University Students' Union**



Memorandum of Association of Reading University Students' Union

Each subscriber to this Memorandum of Association wishes to form a company under the Companies Act 2006 and agrees to become a Company Law Member of the company.

Name of each subscriber

Authentication by each subscriber

Sophie Davies

John Cryne

Dated: 10th January 2014



Table of Contents and Comments

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Key Constitutional Provisions | Page 1 |
| This section describes the organisation, its purpose, the activities it can engage in and the boundaries of its work. It describes what happens if the organisation was to be dissolved and how the memorandum and articles can be amended. | |
| Membership | Page 9 |
| This section describes who the members of the students' union are. | |
| Referenda | Page 10 |
| This section describes how a referendum may be called. | |
| Meetings | Page 11 |
| This section describes how Student Members' meetings are called and what business will take place within them and how Company Law Meetings are called. | |
| Trustees | Page 14 |
| This section describes who the trustees are, how they are appointed, how they can be removed and their powers. | |
| Committees | Page 19 |
| This section describes how the Trustee Board sets up and delegates areas of work to sub committees. | |
| Decision Making By Trustees | Page 20 |
| This section lays out how trustee meetings will be called and run and how trustees can make decisions. | |
| Student Fora | Page 25 |
| This section deals with the powers and responsibilities of student fora. | |
| Administrative Arrangements and Miscellaneous Provisions | Page 26 |
| This section deals with miscellaneous questions and a table of definitions and interpretations. | |

Company Limited by Guarantee and not having a Share Capital

Articles of Association of Reading University Students' Union

BACKGROUND

- A. Reading University Students' Union (RUSU) is a students' union within the meaning of the Education Act 1994. RUSU is devoted to the educational interests and welfare of its Student Members.
- B. RUSU will seek at all times to:
- (i) ensure that the diversity of its Student Membership is recognised and that equal access is available to all Student Members of whatever origin or orientation;
 - (ii) pursue its aims and objectives independent of any political party or religious group; and
 - (iii) pursue equal opportunities by taking positive action within the law to facilitate participation of groups discriminated against by society.
- C. These Articles have been structured to give the Board of Trustees reasonable authority to manage the affairs of RUSU in a professional manner. The Student Members enjoy the right, which must be exercised in accordance with charity law, to elect a proportion of the Trustees and to dismiss all of the Trustees. The Board of Trustees will give the utmost consideration to the views of Student Members.
- D. Under the Education Act 1994, the University of Reading has a statutory duty to ensure that RUSU operates in a fair and democratic manner and is held to proper account for its finances. RUSU therefore works alongside the University of Reading in ensuring that the affairs of RUSU are properly conducted and that the educational and welfare needs of RUSU's Student Members are met.

PART 1

KEY CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS

1. Definitions and Interpretation

The meanings of any defined terms used in these Articles are set out in Article 58. If any dispute arises in relation to the interpretation of these Articles or any of the Bye-Laws, it shall be resolved by the Board of Trustees.

2. Name

The name of the company is Reading University Students' Union. In these Articles it is called "RUSU".

3. Registered office

The registered office of RUSU is situated in England and Wales.

4. Objects

The objects of RUSU are the advancement of education of Students at University of Reading for the public benefit by:

- 4.1 promoting the interests and welfare of Students at the University of Reading during their course of study and representing, supporting and advising Students;
- 4.2 being the recognised representative channel between Students and the University of Reading and any other external bodies; and
- 4.3 providing social, cultural, sporting and recreational activities and forums for discussions and debate for the personal development of its Students.

5. Powers

To further its objects, but not to further any other purpose, RUSU may:

- 5.1 provide services and facilities for Student Members;
- 5.2 establish, support, promote and operate a network of student activities for Student Members;
- 5.3 support any RAG or similar fundraising activities carried out by its Student Members for charitable causes, including the provision of administrative support, banking facilities and acting as a holding trustee of any funds raised;
- 5.4 alone or with other organisations:
 - (a) carry out campaigning activities;
 - (b) seek to influence public opinion; and

- (c) make representations to and seek to influence governmental and other bodies and institutions

regarding the reform, development and implementation of appropriate policies, legislation and regulations, provided that all such activities shall be confined to the activities which an English and Welsh charity may properly undertake and provided that RUSU complies with the Education Act and any guidance published by the Charity Commission;

- 5.5 write, make, commission, print, publish or distribute materials or information or assist in these activities;
- 5.6 promote, initiate, develop or carry out education and training and arrange, provide or assist with exhibitions, lectures, meetings, seminars, displays or classes;
- 5.7 promote, encourage, carry out or commission research, surveys, studies or other work and publish the useful results;
- 5.8 provide or appoint others to provide advice, guidance, representation and advocacy;
- 5.9 co-operate with other charities and bodies and exchange information and advice with them;
- 5.10 become a member, affiliate or associate of other charities and bodies;
- 5.11 support, set up or amalgamate with other charities with objects identical or similar to RUSU's objects, and act as or appoint trustees, agents, nominees or delegates to control and manage such charities (including without limitation to act as trustee of any charitable trust of permanent endowment property held for any of the charitable purposes included in RUSU's objects);
- 5.12 purchase or acquire all or any of the property, assets, liabilities and engagements of any charity with objects similar to RUSU's objects;
- 5.13 pay out of the funds of RUSU the costs of forming and registering RUSU;
- 5.14 raise funds and invite and receive contributions from any person provided that RUSU shall not carry out any taxable trading activities in raising funds;
- 5.15 borrow and raise money on such terms and security as RUSU may think suitable including for the purposes of investment or of raising funds (but only in accordance with the restrictions imposed by the Charities Act 2011);
- 5.16 purchase, lease, hire or receive property of any kind including land, buildings and equipment and maintain and equip it for use;
- 5.17 sell, manage, lease, mortgage, exchange, dispose of or deal with all or any of its property (but only in accordance with the restrictions imposed by the Charities Act 2011);
- 5.18 make grants or loans of money and give guarantees;

- 5.19 set aside funds for special purposes or as reserves against future expenditure;
- 5.20 invest and deal with RUSU's money not immediately required for its objects in or upon any investments, securities, or property;
- 5.21 delegate the management of investments to an appropriately experienced and qualified financial expert provided that:
 - (a) the investment policy is set down in writing for the financial expert by the Trustees;
 - (b) every transaction is reported promptly to the Trustees;
 - (c) the performance of the investments is reviewed regularly by the Trustees;
 - (d) the Trustees are entitled to cancel the delegation at any time;
 - (e) the investment policy and the delegation arrangements are reviewed at least once a year;
 - (f) all payments due to the financial expert are on a scale or at a level which is agreed in advance and are notified promptly to the Trustees on receipt; and
 - (g) the financial expert may not do anything outside the powers of the Trustees;
- 5.22 arrange for investments or other property of RUSU to be held in the name of a nominee (being a company or a limited liability partnership registered or having an established place of business in England and Wales) under the control of the Trustees or a financial expert acting under their instructions and to pay any reasonable fee required;
- 5.23 lend money and give credit to, take security for such loans or credit and guarantee or give security for the performance of contracts by any person or company;
- 5.24 open and operate banking accounts and other facilities for banking and draw, accept, endorse, negotiate, discount, issue or execute negotiable instruments such as promissory notes or bills of exchange;
- 5.25 trade in the course of carrying out any of its objects and carry on any other trade which is not expected to give rise to taxable profits;
- 5.26 establish or acquire subsidiary companies to carry on any taxable trade;
- 5.27 subject to Article 6 (Limitation on private benefits), employ and pay employees and professionals or other advisors;
- 5.28 grant pensions and retirement benefits to employees of RUSU and to their dependants and subscribe to funds or schemes for providing pensions and retirement benefits for employees of RUSU and their dependants;
- 5.29 pay out of the funds of RUSU the cost of any premium in respect of any indemnity insurance to cover the liability of the Trustees (or any of them) which by virtue of any

rule of law would otherwise attach to them in respect of any negligence, default, breach of trust or breach of duty of which they may be guilty in relation to RUSU, including without limitation any liability to make a contribution to RUSU's assets as specified in section 214 of the Insolvency Act 1986 (wrongful trading), provided that no such insurance shall extend to:

- (a) any claim arising from any liability incurred by the Trustees to pay a fine imposed in criminal proceedings or a sum payable to a regulatory authority by way of a penalty in respect of non-compliance with any requirement of a regulatory nature (however arising);
- (b) any liability incurred by the Trustees in defending any criminal proceedings in which the Trustees are convicted of an offence arising out of any fraud or dishonesty, or wilful or reckless misconduct;
- (c) any liability incurred by the Trustees to RUSU that arises out of any conduct which the Trustees knew (or must reasonably be assumed to have known) was not in the interests of RUSU or in the case of which they did not care whether it was in the best interests of RUSU or not; or
- (d) in relation to any liability to make a contribution to RUSU's assets as specified in section 214 of the Insolvency Act 1986, any liability to make such a contribution where the basis of the Trustee's liability is his or her knowledge prior to the insolvent liquidation of RUSU (or reckless failure to acquire that knowledge) that there was no reasonable prospect that RUSU would avoid going into insolvent liquidation; and

5.30 do all such other lawful things as shall further RUSU's objects.

6. Limitation on private benefits

6.1 The income and property of RUSU shall be applied solely towards the promotion of its objects.

6.2 Except as provided below no part of the income and property of RUSU may be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividend, bonus or otherwise by way of profit to any Member of RUSU. This shall not prevent any payment in good faith by RUSU of:

6.2.1 any payments made to any Member in their capacity as a beneficiary of RUSU;

6.2.2 reasonable and proper remuneration to any Member for any goods or services supplied to RUSU provided that if such Member is a Trustee Article 6.3 shall apply;

6.2.3 interest on money lent by any Member to RUSU at a reasonable and proper rate; and

6.2.4 any reasonable and proper rent for premises let by any Member to RUSU.

- 6.3 Except as provided below no Trustee may sell goods, services or any interest in land to RUSU; be employed by, or receive any remuneration from, RUSU; or receive any other financial benefit from RUSU. This shall not prevent any payment in good faith by RUSU of:
- 6.3.1 any payments made to any Trustee or Connected Person in their capacity as a beneficiary of RUSU;
 - 6.3.2 reasonable and proper out of pocket expenses of the Trustees;
 - 6.3.3 reasonable and proper remuneration to any Officer Trustee or Connected Person for any goods or services supplied to RUSU on the instructions of the Trustees provided that:
 - (a) for the avoidance of doubt, the authorisation under this provision shall extend to the remuneration of Officer Trustees and Connected Persons under contracts of employment with RUSU;
 - (b) subject to Article 6.3.3(a), the authorisation under this provision shall not extend to the service of acting as Trustee;
 - (c) if the person being remunerated is a Trustee the procedure described in Article 47 (Conflicts of Interest) must be followed in considering the appointment of the Trustee and in relation to any other decisions regarding the remuneration authorised by this provision;
 - (d) if the person being remunerated is a Connected Person the procedure described in Article 47 (Conflicts of Interest) must be followed by the relevant Trustee in relation to any decisions regarding such Connected Person;
 - (e) subject to Article 6.6, this provision may not apply to more than half of the Trustees in any financial year (and for these purposes such provision shall be treated as applying to a Trustee if it applies to a person who is a Connected Person in relation to that Trustee); and
 - (f) at all times the provisions of the Education Act are complied with;
 - 6.3.4 interest on money lent by any Trustee or Connected Person to RUSU at a reasonable and proper rate;
 - 6.3.5 any reasonable and proper rent for premises let by any Trustee or Connected Person to RUSU;
 - 6.3.6 reasonable and proper premiums in respect of indemnity insurance effected in accordance with Article 5.29;
 - 6.3.7 any payments made to any Trustee or officer under the indemnity provisions set out at Article 57; and
 - 6.3.8 any payments authorised in writing by the Charity Commission.

- 6.4 In Articles 6.2 and 6.3, references to RUSU shall be read as references to RUSU and/or any subsidiary company.
- 6.5 For any transaction authorised by Article 6.3, the Trustee's duty (arising under the Companies Act 2006) to avoid a conflict of interest with RUSU shall be disapplied provided the relevant provisions of Article 6.3 have been complied with.
- 6.6 Where a vacancy arises on the Board of Trustees with the result that Article 6.3.3 applies to more than half of the Trustees, RUSU may continue to pay remuneration to its Officer Trustees and any Connected Persons receiving remuneration in accordance with Article 6.3.3 provided that RUSU uses all reasonable endeavours to fill the vacancy as soon as possible.

7. Liability of Company Law Members

The liability of each Company Law Member is limited to £1, being the amount that each Company Law Member undertakes to contribute to the assets of RUSU in the event of its being wound up while he or she is a Company Law Member or within one year after he or she ceases to be a Company Law Member, for:

- 7.1 payment of RUSU's debts and liabilities contracted before he or she ceases to be a Company Law Member;
- 7.2 payment of the costs, charges and expenses of winding up; and
- 7.3 adjustment of the rights of the contributories among themselves.

8. Dissolution

If any property remains after RUSU has been wound up or dissolved and all debts and liabilities have been satisfied, it shall not be paid to or distributed among the Members of RUSU. It shall instead be given or transferred to some other charitable institution or institutions having similar objects to those of RUSU and which prohibits the distribution of its or their income and property among its or their members to an extent at least as great as these Articles impose upon RUSU. The institution or institutions which are to benefit shall be chosen by the Trustees of RUSU at or before the time of winding up or dissolution.

9. Reviewing and Amending the Articles

- 9.1 The Trustees and the University of Reading shall be required to review the provisions of RUSU's Articles of Association at intervals of not more than five years.
- 9.2 Save where the amendment to the Articles of Association is a consequential amendment due to a change in the Bye-Laws (for example, the number or heading names of Clauses) any amendment to RUSU's Articles of Association shall require the following:
- 9.2.1 A resolution of the Members passed at the Annual General Meeting by a majority of those present and voting; or

- 9.2.2 A resolution passed by a majority of the Members voting in a Referendum provided that at least 1000 Members cast a vote in the Referendum.
- 9.2.3 The approval of the University of Reading.

PART 2
MEMBERSHIP

10. Members of RUSU

10.1 The Members of RUSU shall be as follows:

10.1.1 Student Members; and

10.1.2 The Officer Trustees of RUSU.

10.2 RUSU may also have associate members in accordance with Article 15.

BECOMING AND CEASING TO BE A STUDENT MEMBER

11. Student Members

11.1 The Student Members of RUSU shall be as follows:

11.1.1 each and every Student who has not opted out by notifying the University of Reading of his or her wish not to be a Student Member of RUSU; and

11.1.2 the Officer Trustees of RUSU.

11.2 Student Members of RUSU shall be entitled to the benefits set out in the Students' Union Code of Practice section of the University of Reading Calendar.

12. Termination of Student Membership

Student Membership shall not be transferable and shall cease on death. A Student Member shall cease to be a Student Member of RUSU if:

12.1 he or she ceases to be a Student. For the avoidance of doubt, this will include the situation where a Student Member's Student status with the University of Reading is revoked by the University of Reading;

12.2 he or she ceases to be an Officer Trustee through resignation;

he or she ceases to be an Officer Trustee if a resolution of 'no confidence' is passed in respect of the Officer Trustee by referendum in accordance with Article 26

12.3 he or she opts out of Student Membership by giving written notice to the University of Reading in accordance with the Bye-Laws; or

12.4 a decision is made to remove him or her from Student Membership of RUSU in accordance with RUSU's Code of Conduct.

BECOMING AND CEASING TO BE A COMPANY LAW MEMBER

13. Trustees as Company Law Members

- 13.1 Until and including the Effective Date, the subscribers to the Memorandum shall be the Company Law Members of RUSU. Thereafter, the Trustees shall be the only Company Law Members of RUSU.
- 13.2 A Trustee shall become a Company Law Member on becoming a Trustee.
- 13.3 The names of the Company Law Members of RUSU shall be entered in the register of Company Law Members.

14. Termination of Company Law Membership

- 14.1 A Company Law Member shall cease to be a Company Law Member if he or she ceases to be a Trustee.
- 14.2 Company Law Membership is not transferable and shall cease on death.

15. Honorary and Associate members

The Trustees may establish such classes of associate membership with such description and with such rights and obligations as they think fit and may admit and remove such associate members in accordance with the Bye-Laws provided that no such associate members shall be Members of RUSU for the purposes of the Articles or the Companies Acts.

16. Code of Conduct

- 16.1 The Board of Trustees will establish and monitor a “Code of Conduct” that all Student Members shall be required to adhere to, including when Student Members are involved in activities or at events that are administered or organised by RUSU.
- 16.2 The Code of Conduct may include a range of sanctions for breach of the Code of Conduct by a Student Member, including the suspension or removal of any or all of the rights and privileges of Student Membership, including the holding of office.

REFERENDA

17. Referenda

- 17.1 A Referendum may be called on any issue by:
 - 17.1.1 a resolution of the Trustees;
 - 17.1.2 a majority vote of the Student Fora; or
 - 17.1.3 a Secure Petition signed by at least 400 Student Members.
- 17.2 Subject to Articles 26 and 29.2.1, a resolution may only be passed by Referendum if at least 1000 Student Members cast a vote in the Referendum and a majority of the votes cast are in favour of the resolution.
- 17.3 Referenda shall be conducted in accordance with these Articles and the Bye-Laws.
- 17.4 Subject to Article 31.3, the Student Members may set Policy by Referenda.

STUDENT MEMBERS' MEETINGS

18. Student Members' meetings

- 18.1 RUSU shall hold an annual Student Members' meeting once in each Academic Year which shall be called and held in accordance with the Bye-Laws. Not more than 18 months shall pass between the date of one annual general meeting and the next.
- 18.2 The annual Student Members' meeting shall be held at such time and place as the Trustees shall think suitable to allow the maximum potential number of Student Members to attend.
- 18.3 The notice of the annual Student Members' meeting must state the business to be transacted which shall include:
 - 18.3.1 ratification of minutes of the previous annual Student Members' meeting;
 - 18.3.2 receiving the report of the Trustees on RUSU's activities since the previous annual Student Members' meeting;
 - 18.3.3 receiving the accounts of RUSU for the previous financial year;
 - 18.3.4 appointment of the auditors;
 - 18.3.5 approving the list of affiliations of RUSU; and
 - 18.3.6 open questions to the Trustees by the Student Members.
- 18.4 RUSU may hold other Student Members' meetings in addition to the annual Student Members' meeting. Such meetings shall be called and held in accordance with the Bye-Laws.
- 18.5 For the avoidance of doubt, any Student Members' meeting held under this Article 18 shall not be a Company Law Meeting of RUSU for the purposes of the Companies Acts.

COMPANY LAW MEETINGS

19. Company Law Meetings

- 19.1 The Trustees may call a Company Law Meeting at any time.
- 19.2 Such meetings must be held in accordance with the provisions regarding such meetings in the Companies Acts.
- 19.3 A Company Law Meeting will only be required where RUSU wishes to pass a company law resolution (other than by way of written resolution) in accordance with the Articles and/or the Companies Acts, for example a resolution to amend RUSU's Articles of Association.

WRITTEN RESOLUTIONS

20. Written Resolutions

- 20.1 Subject to this Article 20, a written resolution agreed by:
- 20.1.1 Company Law Members representing a simple majority; or
 - 20.1.2 (in the case of a special resolution) Company Law Members representing not less than 75%;
- of the total voting rights of eligible Company Law Members shall be effective.
- 20.2 On a written resolution each Company Law Member shall have one vote.
- 20.3 A written resolution is not a special resolution unless it stated that it was proposed as a special resolution.

Circulation

- 20.4 A copy of the proposed written resolution must be sent to every eligible Company Law Member together with a statement informing the Company Law Member how to signify his or her agreement and the date by which the resolution must be passed if it is not to lapse.
- 20.5 In relation to a resolution proposed as a written resolution of RUSU the eligible Company Law Members are the Company Law Members who would have been entitled to vote on the resolution on the Circulation Date of the resolution.
- 20.6 The required majority of eligible Company Law Members must signify their agreement to the written resolution within the period of 28 days beginning with the Circulation Date.
- 20.7 Communications in relation to written resolutions must be sent to RUSU's auditors in accordance with the Companies Acts.

Signifying agreement

- 20.8 A Company Law Member signifies his or her agreement to a proposed written resolution when RUSU receives from him or her (or from someone acting on his or her behalf) an authenticated document:
- 20.8.1 identifying the resolution to which it relates; and
 - 20.8.2 indicating the Company Law Member's agreement to the resolution.
- 20.9 For the purposes of Article 20.8:
- 20.9.1 a document sent or supplied in Hard Copy Form is sufficiently authenticated if it is signed by the person sending or supplying it; and
 - 20.9.2 a document sent or supplied in Electronic Form is sufficiently authenticated if:
 - (a) the identity of the sender is confirmed in a manner specified by RUSU;
 - or

- (b) where no such manner has been specified by RUSU, if the communication contains or is accompanied by a statement of the identity of the sender and RUSU has no reason to doubt the truth of that statement.

20.10 If RUSU gives an electronic address in any document containing or accompanying a written resolution, it will be deemed to have agreed that any document or information relating to that resolution may be sent by Electronic Means to that address (subject to any conditions or limitations specified in the document).

PART 3
TRUSTEES

APPOINTMENT AND RETIREMENT OF TRUSTEES

21. Appointment of Trustees

Those persons notified to the Registrar of Companies as the first directors of RUSU shall be the first Trustees until and including the Effective Date. Thereafter, the Trustees shall be made up of the following persons:

- 21.1 not more than 6 Officer Trustees, elected in accordance with Article 22;
- 21.2 not more than 3 Student Trustees, elected in accordance with Article 23;
- 21.3 not more than 3 Student Trustees, appointed in accordance with Article 23;
- 21.4 not more than 4 External Trustees, appointed in accordance with Article 24.

22. Officer Trustees and Student Officers

- 22.1 The Student Officers shall be elected by secret ballot by the Student Members of RUSU at an election to be held in accordance with the Bye-Laws.
- 22.2 Up to 6 Student Officers shall be elected in accordance with Article 22.1 to posts specified in the Bye-Laws and each of these Student Officers shall also hold office as an Officer Trustee until he or she ceases to be a Student Officer in accordance with Article 29 or ceases to be an Officer Trustee in accordance with Articles 25 or 26. Except where otherwise indicated, references in these Articles to “Officer Trustees” are to individuals acting solely in their capacity as Officer Trustees. Other Student Officers may be elected in accordance with Article 22.1 to such other posts as may be specified in the Bye-Laws from time to time but such Student Officers will not also hold office as Officer Trustees.
- 22.3 The Officer Trustee shall remain in office for a term of one year commencing in accordance with the Bye-Laws. The term of office may be shorter or longer on a transitional basis to coincide with an alteration of the year start or end. Subject to a transitional change in the year of office, an Officer Trustee may be re-elected for a maximum further term of one year by the Student Members of RUSU at an election to be held in accordance with the Bye-Laws. For the avoidance of doubt, a Student Officer’s terms of office may be either consecutive or non-consecutive.
- 22.4 Each Student Officer must be a Student or a Student Officer at the time of his or her election. In accordance with Article 11, each Student Officer shall become a Student Member of RUSU on commencement of his or her appointment or re-appointment as a Student Officer. Such Student Membership shall cease when the Student Officer ceases to be a Student Officer.
- 22.5 The Student Officers shall be deemed to be “major union office holders” for the purposes of Section 22 of the Education Act.

22.6 At the same time as commencing the term of office as a Student Officer, the Student Officer will enter into a contract of employment with RUSU for a term to be determined by the Bye-Laws. The duties and method of remuneration of each Officer Trustee shall be as set out in the Bye-Laws.

23. Student Trustees

23.1 Subject to Article 23.3 below, up to 3 Student Trustees shall be elected by secret ballot by the Student Members at an election to be held in accordance with the Bye-Laws.

23.2 Subject to Article 23.3 below, up to 3 Student Trustees shall be appointed by a simple majority of the Appointments Committee in accordance with the Bye-Laws. For the avoidance of doubt, such appointment shall not take effect until it has been ratified by the Trustee Board.

23.3 Each Student Trustee must be a Student at the time of his or her election/appointment (and shall continue to be a Student for the duration of his or her term as a Student Trustee).

23.4 Student Trustees shall remain in office for a term of 1 year commencing in accordance with the Bye-Laws. The term of office may be shorter or longer on a transitional basis to coincide with the alteration of the year start or end.

23.5 A Student Trustee may serve a maximum of two terms, which may either be consecutive or non-consecutive.

24. External Trustees

24.1 Up to 4 External Trustees shall be appointed by a simple majority vote of the Appointments Committee. For the avoidance of doubt, such appointment shall not take effect until it has been ratified by the Trustee Board.

24.2 Unless their appointment is terminated in accordance with Articles 25, 26 or 28, External Trustees shall remain in office for a term of up to three years commencing in accordance with the Bye-Laws.

24.3 External Trustees may serve for a maximum of two terms which may either be consecutive or non-consecutive.

25. Disqualification, Resignation and Removal of Trustees

The office of a Trustee shall be vacated if:

25.1 that person ceases to be a Trustee by virtue of any provision of the Companies Act 2006 or is prohibited from being a company director by law;

25.2 he or she becomes prohibited by law from being a charity trustee;

25.3 in the case of an Officer Trustee, he or she ceases to be a Student Officer or resigns as an employee of RUSU;

- 25.4 in the case of a Student Trustee, he or she ceases to be a Student;
- 25.5 in the case of a Student Trustee, he or she is removed from Student Membership of RUSU in accordance with RUSU's Code of Conduct;
- 25.6 he or she resigns by notice to RUSU (but only if at least six Trustees will remain in office when the notice of resignation is to take effect);
- 25.7 the Trustees reasonably believe he or she is suffering from mental or physical disorder and is incapable of acting as a trustee and they resolve that he or she be removed from office;
- 25.8 he or she fails to attend two consecutive meetings of the Trustees and in the opinion of the Trustees there are no mitigating circumstances for that failure and the Trustees therefore resolve that he or she be removed for this reason; or
- 25.9 he or she is removed from office under Article 26 or 28.

26. Removal of Trustees by the Student Members

The office of a Trustee shall be vacated if:

a motion of no confidence in the Trustee is passed by a simple majority of the Student Members voting in a Referendum, provided that at least 1000 Student Members cast a vote in the Referendum. Such a motion shall only be triggered by a Secure Petition of no confidence signed by at least 400 Student Members.

27. Rights of Removed Trustees

A resolution to remove a Trustee in accordance with Article 28 shall not be passed unless the Trustee concerned has been given at least 14 clear days' notice in writing that the resolution is to be proposed, specifying the circumstances alleged to justify removal from office, and has been afforded a reasonable opportunity of being heard by or making written representation to the Trustees.

A Trustee removed from office in accordance with Article 28 shall be entitled to appeal the decision to remove him or her to an Appeals Panel within 14 days of the resolution. The Appeals Panel shall be made up of a nominee of the University of Reading, one independent person and a chief executive/general manager and officer of another students' union. The independent person shall be a Member who is not a Trustee. The selection of the members of the Appeals Panel and its procedures shall be set out in the Bye-Laws. The Union may consult with external organisations in relation to the appeals process and in particular the appointment of independent persons to the Appeals Panel.

28. Removal of Trustees by the Board

The office of External Trustee and appointed Student Trustee shall be vacated if a majority resolution of no confidence is passed by the Trustees. For the avoidance of doubt, the Trustee concerned and any Trustee who has a conflict of interest in relation to the matter shall not vote on this resolution and the quorum shall be adjusted accordingly in accordance with Article 43.

29. Removal of Elected Officers

An Elected Officer shall be removed from office if he or she:

29.1 resigns or dies;

29.2 is removed from office as an Elected Officer by:

29.2.1 a motion of no confidence in the Elected Officer passed by a simple majority of the Student Members voting in a Referendum, provided that at least 1000 Student Members cast a vote in the Referendum. Such a motion shall only be triggered by a Secure Petition of no confidence signed by at least 400 Student Members

provided that, in the case of a Student Officer, such removal shall be subject to RUSU having first carried out any steps it is required to take under the Student Officer's contract of employment and/or the applicable disciplinary procedure and otherwise in accordance with good employment practice.

30. Replacement of Trustees

If an Officer Trustee or Student Trustee resigns, is disqualified or is removed from office at any time prior to the end of the first term of the Academic Year, the vacancy that results on the Board of Trustees shall be filled in accordance with the Bye-Laws. Any person elected under this Article may be required to assume the responsibilities of the Officer Trustee.

30.1 If an Officer Trustee or Student Trustee resigns, is disqualified or is removed from office after the first term of the Academic Year the vacancy shall remain until the next elections are held.

30.2 If an External Trustee resigns, is disqualified or is removed from office, an External Trustee as appropriate shall be appointed to the vacancy in accordance with Article 24.1.

TRUSTEES' POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

31. Trustees' General Authority

31.1 The Board of Trustees shall be responsible for the management and administration of RUSU and (subject to the Education Act, these Articles and the Bye-Laws) may exercise all the powers of RUSU. A meeting of the Trustees at which a quorum is present may exercise all powers exercisable by the Trustees.

31.2 The Board's powers under Article 31.1 shall include but not be limited to responsibility for:

31.2.1 the governance of RUSU;

31.2.2 the budget of RUSU; and

31.2.3 the strategy of RUSU.

- 31.3 The Board of Trustees may override any decision or Policy made by the Student Members at an annual Student Members' meeting or at a Student Members' meeting or through student forums or by Referendum which the Trustees consider (in their absolute discretion):
- 31.3.1 has or may have any financial implications for RUSU;
 - 31.3.2 is or may be in breach of, contrary to or otherwise inconsistent with charity or education law or any other legal requirements (including ultra vires);
 - 31.3.3 is not or may not be in the best interests of RUSU or all or any of its charitable objects; or
 - 31.3.4 will or may otherwise affect the discharge of any or all of the responsibilities referred to in Article 31.2.
- 31.4 No alteration of these Articles or the Bye-Laws shall invalidate any prior act of the Trustees which would have been valid if that alteration had not been made.
- 31.5 All acts done by a meeting of Trustees, or of a committee of the Trustees, shall be valid, even if it is later discovered that any Trustee who participated in the vote:
- 31.5.1 was not properly appointed;
 - 31.5.2 was disqualified from holding office;
 - 31.5.3 had vacated office; or
 - 31.5.4 was not entitled to vote.
- 32. Trustees may Delegate**
- 32.1 Subject to the Articles, the Trustees may delegate any of the powers which are conferred on them under the Articles:
- 32.1.1 to such person or committee;
 - 32.1.2 by such means (including by power of attorney);
 - 32.1.3 to such an extent;
 - 32.1.4 in relation to such matters or territories; and
 - 32.1.5 on such terms and conditions
- as they think fit.
- 32.2 If the Trustees so specify, any such delegation may authorise further delegation of the Trustees' powers by any person to whom they are delegated.
- 32.3 The Trustees may revoke any delegation in whole or part, or alter its terms and conditions.

33. Committees

33.1 In the case of delegation to committees:

33.1.1 the resolution making the delegation shall specify those who shall serve or be asked to serve on such committee (although the resolution may allow the committee to make co-options up to a specified number);

33.1.2 subject to Article 33.3, the composition of any such committee shall be entirely in the discretion of the Trustees and may comprise such of their number (if any) as the resolution may specify;

33.1.3 the deliberations of any such committee shall be reported regularly to the Trustees and any resolution passed or decision taken by any such committee shall be reported promptly to the Trustees and for that purpose every committee shall appoint a secretary;

33.1.4 no committee shall knowingly incur expenditure or liability on behalf of RUSU except where authorised by the Trustees or in accordance with a budget which has been approved by the Trustees.

33.2 The Trustees may establish committees in accordance with the Bye-Laws and with their powers under Articles 32 and 33.1.

33.3 For the avoidance of doubt, the Trustees may (in accordance with Articles 32 and 33.1) delegate all financial matters to any committee provided that such committee shall include at least one Trustee. The Trustees may empower such committee to resolve upon the operation of any bank account according to such mandate as it shall think fit provided that the signature of at least one Trustee shall be required for cheques above a certain amount as set out in the Bye-Laws and provided always that no committee shall incur expenditure on behalf of RUSU except in accordance with a budget which has been approved by the Trustees.

33.4 The meetings and proceedings of any committee shall be governed by the Articles regulating the meetings and proceedings of the Trustees so far as applicable and not superseded by any Bye-Laws.

34. Delegation of day-to-day management powers to the Chief Executive

In the case of delegation of the day-to-day management of RUSU to the Chief Executive:

34.1 the delegated power shall be to manage RUSU by implementing the policy and strategy adopted by and within a budget approved by the Trustees and if applicable to advise the Trustees in relation to such policy, strategy and budget;

34.2 the Trustees shall provide the Chief Executive with a description of his or her role and the extent of his or her authority;

34.3 the Chief Executive shall report regularly to the Trustees on the activities undertaken in managing RUSU and provide them regularly with management accounts sufficient to explain the financial position of RUSU; and

34.4 the Trustees shall provide the Chief Executive with a performance management structure to aid his or her work plan and development.

35. The Management Committee

35.1 Unless the Trustees determine otherwise, the Management Committee shall include:

35.1.1 the Student Officers;

35.1.2 the Chief Executive and;

35.1.3 up to six RUSU senior managers appointed by the Chief Executive from time to time, provided that there are more Officer Trustees than senior managers as members of the Management Committee

35.1.4 The Management Committee's responsibility shall not include the duties of the Trustees as set out in Article 31 but shall include the coordination of the Union's operational and political objectives whilst implementing Policy save in so far as these responsibilities have not been delegated to another committee.

35.1.5 The Management Committee shall meet in accordance with the Bye-Laws

DECISION-MAKING BY TRUSTEES

36. Directors to take decisions collectively

Any decision of the Trustees must be either a majority decision at a meeting or a decision taken in accordance with Article 46 (Majority decisions without Trustees' meeting).

37. Trustees' meetings

37.1 The Trustees shall hold a minimum of four meetings in any Academic Year.

37.2 Guests or observers can attend meetings of the Trustees at the discretion of the chair of the meeting.

38. Calling a Trustees' meeting

Three Trustees may, and the Chief Executive at the request of three Trustees shall, call a Trustees' meeting.

39. Length of Notice

A Trustees' meeting shall be called by at least seven clear days' notice unless either:

39.1 all the Trustees agree to shorter notice; or

39.2 urgent circumstances require shorter notice.

40. Contents of Notice

Every notice calling a Trustees' meeting shall specify:

- 40.1 the place, day and time of the meeting;
- 40.2 the general particulars of all business to be considered at such meeting; and
- 40.3 if it is anticipated that Trustees participating in the meeting will not be in the same place, how it is proposed that they should communicate with each other during the meeting.

41. Service of Notice

Notice of Trustees' meetings shall be given to each Trustee, but need not be in writing. Notice of Trustees' meeting may be sent by Electronic Means to an address provided by the Trustee for the purpose.

42. Participation in Trustees' meetings

- 42.1 Subject to the Articles, Trustees participate in a Trustees' meeting, or part of a Trustees' meeting, when:
 - (a) the meeting has been called and takes place in accordance with the Articles; and
 - (b) they can each communicate to the others any information or opinions they have on any particular item of the business of the meeting.
- 42.2 In determining whether Trustees are participating in a Trustees' meeting, it is irrelevant where any Trustee is or how they communicate with each other.
- 42.3 If all the Trustees participating in a meeting are not in the same place, they may decide that the meeting is to be treated as taking place wherever any of them is.

43. Quorum for Trustees' meetings

- 43.1 At a Trustees' meeting, unless a quorum is participating, no proposal is to be voted on, except a proposal to call another meeting.
- 43.2 The quorum for Trustees' meetings until and including the Effective Date shall be two. Thereafter, the quorum for Trustees' meetings may be fixed from time to time by a decision of the Trustees, but it must never be less than six. Unless otherwise fixed, the quorum shall be six and such quorum must include at least four elected Trustees of which at least three should be Officer Trustees. Where the resolution or issue under discussion concerns a matter in respect of which some or all of the Trustees have a conflict of interest, the quorum shall be five.
- 43.3 If the total number of Trustees for the time being is less than the quorum required, the Trustees must not take any decision other than a decision to increase the number of Trustees including by calling an election so as to enable the Student Members to elect further Trustees.

44. Chair and Deputy Chair

- 44.1 The RUSU President shall be the Chair of the Trustees.
- 44.2 The Trustees shall appoint a Trustee to be Deputy Chair of the Trustees in accordance with the Bye-Laws and may at any time remove him or her from office. The role of the Deputy Chair will be to support the Chair.
- 44.3 In the absence of the Chair and the Deputy Chair, another Trustee appointed by the Trustees present shall preside as chair of the meeting.

45. Casting vote

Questions arising at a Trustees' meeting shall be decided by a majority of votes. In the case of an equality of votes, the chair of the meeting shall be entitled to a casting vote in addition to any other vote he or she may have.

46. Majority decisions without Trustees' meeting

- 46.1 The Trustees may, in the circumstances outlined in this Article, make a simple majority decision without holding a Trustees' meeting.

- 46.2 If:

- 46.2.1 a Trustee has become aware of a matter on which the Trustees need to take a decision;

- 46.2.2 that Trustee has taken all reasonable steps to make all the other Trustees aware of the matter and the decision;

- 46.2.3 the Trustees have had a reasonable opportunity to communicate their views on the matter and the decision to each other; and

- 46.2.4 a simple majority of the Trustees vote in favour of a particular decision on that matter

a decision of the Trustees may be taken by a majority and shall be as valid and effectual as if it had been taken at a Trustees' meeting duly convened and held.

- 46.3 Trustees participating in the taking of a majority decision otherwise than at a Trustees' meeting in accordance with this Article:

- 46.3.1 may be in different places, and may participate at different times; and

- 46.3.2 may communicate with each other by any means.

- 46.4 No decision shall be taken by the Trustees in accordance with this Article unless a quorum participates in the decision-making process. The quorum for Trustees' decision-making in accordance with this Article shall be the same as the quorum for Trustees' meetings as set out in Article 43.

- 46.5 The Chair or such other Trustee as shall be appointed by the Trustees shall be the chair of the process of decision-making in accordance with this Article. The process shall include:

- 46.5.1 circulation of the proposed decision with an indication of the time period for discussion and the date by which Trustees are asked to cast their votes;
 - 46.5.2 the nomination of a person to whom all Trustees' votes must be communicated;
 - 46.5.3 if a majority of the Trustees vote in favour of the decision, the nominated person shall communicate the decision to all the Trustees and the date of the decision shall be the date of the communication from the nominated person confirming formal approval; and
 - 46.5.4 the nominated person must prepare a minute of the decision in accordance with Article 53.
- 46.6 In the case of an equality of votes in any decision-making process in accordance with this Article, the chair shall be entitled to a casting vote in addition to any other vote he or she may have but this does not apply if, in accordance with the Articles, the chair or specified Trustee is not to be counted as participating in the decision-making process for quorum, voting or agreement purposes.

47. Trustee interests and management of conflicts of interest

Declaration of interests

- 47.1 Unless Article 47.2 applies, a Trustee must declare the nature and extent of:
- 47.1.1 any direct or indirect interest which he or she has in a proposed transaction or arrangement with RUSU; and
 - 47.1.2 any duty or any direct or indirect interest which he or she has which conflicts or may conflict with the interests of RUSU or his or her duties to RUSU.
- 47.2 There is no need to declare any interest or duty of which the other Trustees are, or ought reasonably to be, already aware.

Participation in decision-making

- 47.3 If a Trustee's interest or duty cannot reasonably be regarded as likely to give rise to a conflict of interest or a conflict of duties with or in respect of RUSU, he or she is entitled to participate in the decision-making process, to be counted in the quorum and to vote in relation to the matter. Any uncertainty about whether a Trustee's interest or duty is likely to give rise to a conflict shall be determined by a majority decision of the other Trustees taking part in the decision-making process.
- 47.4 If a Trustee's interest or duty gives rise (or could reasonably be regarded as likely to give rise) to a conflict of interest or a conflict of duties with or in respect of RUSU, he or she may participate in the decision-making process and may be counted in the quorum and vote unless:
- 47.4.1 the decision could result in the Trustee or any person who is Connected with him or her receiving a benefit other than:

- (a) any benefit received in his, her or its capacity as a beneficiary of RUSU (as permitted under Article 6.3.1) and which is available generally to the beneficiaries of RUSU;
- (b) the payment of premiums in respect of indemnity insurance effected in accordance with Article 5.29;
- (c) payment under the indemnity set out at Article 57; and
- (d) reimbursement of expenses in accordance with Article 6.3.2; or

47.4.2 a majority of the other Trustees participating in the decision-making process decide to the contrary;

in which case he or she must comply with Article 47.5.

47.5 If a Trustee with a conflict of interest or conflict of duties is required to comply with this Article 47.5, he or she must:

47.5.1 take part in the decision-making process only to such extent as in the view of the other Trustees is necessary to inform the debate;

47.5.2 not be counted in the quorum for that part of the process ; and

47.5.3 withdraw during the vote and have no vote on the matter.

47.6 Where a Trustee has a conflict of interest or conflict of duties and the Trustee has complied with his or her obligations under these Articles in respect of that conflict:

47.6.1 the Trustee shall not be in breach of his or her duties to RUSU by withholding confidential information from RUSU if to disclose it would result in a breach of any other duty or obligation of confidence owed by him or her; and

47.6.2 the Trustee shall not be accountable to RUSU for any benefit expressly permitted under these Articles which he or she or any person Connected with him or her derives from any matter or from any office, employment or position.

48. Register of Trustees' interests

The Trustees shall cause a register of Trustees' interests to be kept.

PART 4
STUDENT FORA

49. Student Fora

49.1 The Student Fora shall have the authority to:

49.1.1 represent the voice of the Students;

49.1.2 subject to Article 31.3, set the Policy of the Union and refer Policy to Referenda of the Members (in accordance with the Bye-Laws);

49.1.3 propose recommendations to the Trustee Board to repeal and amend the Bye-Laws in accordance with Article 50;

49.1.4 receive a regular report from the Officer Trustees;

49.1.5 receive an annual reports from the Trustee Board; and

49.1.6 recommend honorary members to the Board in accordance with Article 15 and the Bye-Law.

49.2 The composition and proceedings of the Students Forums meeting shall be set out in the Bye-Laws.

PART 5

ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS AND MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

50. Bye-Laws

The Trustees shall have the power from time to time to jointly make, repeal or amend Bye-Laws as to the management of RUSU and its working practices provided that such Bye-Laws shall not be inconsistent with these Articles.

51. Communications by and to RUSU

Methods of communication

51.1 Subject to the Articles and the Companies Acts, any document or information (including any notice, report or accounts) sent or supplied by RUSU under the Articles or the Companies Acts may be sent or supplied in any way in which the Companies Act 2006 provides for documents or information which are authorised or required by any provision of that Act to be sent or supplied by RUSU, including without limitation:

51.1.1 in Hard Copy Form;

51.1.2 in Electronic Form; or

51.1.3 by making it available on a website.

51.2 Where a document or information which is required or authorised to be sent or supplied by RUSU under the Companies Acts is sent or supplied in Electronic Form or by making it available on a website, the recipient must have agreed that it may be sent or supplied in that form or manner or be deemed to have so agreed under the Companies Acts (and not revoked that agreement). Where any other document or information is sent or supplied in Electronic Form or made available on a website the Trustees may decide what agreement (if any) is required from the recipient.

51.3 Subject to the Articles, any notice or document to be sent or supplied to a Trustee in connection with the taking of decisions by Trustees may also be sent or supplied by the means which that Trustee has asked to be sent or supplied with such notices or documents for the time being.

Deemed delivery

51.4 A Member present in person or by proxy at a meeting of RUSU shall be deemed to have received notice of the meeting and the purposes for which it was called.

51.5 Where any document or information is sent or supplied by RUSU to the Members:

51.5.1 where it is sent by post it is deemed to have been received 48 hours (including Saturdays, Sundays, and Public Holidays) after it was posted;

51.5.2 where it is sent or supplied by Electronic Means, it is deemed to have been received on the same day that it was sent;

51.5.3 where it is sent or supplied by means of a website, it is deemed to have been received:

- (a) when the material was first made available on the website; or
- (b) if later, when the recipient received (or is deemed to have received) notice of the fact that the material was available on the website.

51.6 Subject to the Companies Acts, a Trustee or any other person (other than in their capacity as a Company Law Member) may agree with RUSU that notices or documents sent to that person in a particular way are deemed to have been received within a specified time, and for the specified time to be less than 48 hours.

Failed delivery

51.7 Where any document or information has been sent or supplied by RUSU by Electronic Means and RUSU receives notice that the message is undeliverable:

51.7.1 if the document or information has been sent to a Company Law Member and is notice of a Company Law Meeting of RUSU, RUSU is under no obligation to send a Hard Copy of the document or information to the Company Law Member's postal address as shown in RUSU's register of Company Law Members, but may in its discretion choose to do so;

51.7.2 in all other cases, RUSU shall send a Hard Copy of the document or information to the Member's postal address as shown in RUSU's register of Members (if any), or in the case of a recipient who is not a Member, to the last known postal address for that person (if any); and

51.7.3 the date of service or delivery of the documents or information shall be the date on which the original electronic communication was sent, notwithstanding the subsequent sending of Hard Copies.

Exceptions

51.8 Copies of RUSU's annual accounts and reports need not be sent to a person for whom RUSU does not have a current address.

51.9 Notices of Company Law Meetings need not be sent to a Member who does not register an address with RUSU, or who registers only a postal address outside the United Kingdom, or to a Company Law Member for whom RUSU does not have a current address.

Communications to RUSU

51.10 The provisions of the Companies Acts shall apply to communications to RUSU.

52. Secretary

52.1 A Secretary may be appointed by the Trustees for such term at such remuneration and upon such conditions as they may think fit, and may be removed by them. If there is no Secretary:

- 52.1.1 anything authorised or required to be given or sent to, or served on, RUSU by being sent to its Secretary may be given or sent to, or served on, RUSU itself, and if addressed to the Secretary shall be treated as addressed to RUSU; and
- 52.1.2 anything else required or authorised to be done by or to the Secretary of RUSU may be done by or to a Trustee, or a person authorised generally or specifically in that behalf by the Trustees.

53. Minutes

- 53.1 The Trustees shall cause minutes to be made in electronic books kept for the purpose:
 - 53.1.1 of all appointments of offices made by the Trustees;
 - 53.1.2 of all resolutions of RUSU and of the Trustees; and
 - 53.1.3 of all proceedings at meetings of RUSU and of the Trustees, and of committees of Trustees, including the names of the Trustees present at each such meeting

and any such minute, if purported to be signed (or in the case of minutes of Trustees' meetings signed or authenticated) by the chair of the meeting at which the proceedings were had, or by the chair of the next succeeding meeting, shall, as against any Student Member or Trustee of RUSU, be sufficient evidence of the proceedings.

- 53.2 The minutes referred to in Article 53.1 above must be kept for at least ten years from the date of the meeting, resolution or decision.
- 53.3 The minutes of the meetings referred to in Article 53.1 above shall normally be considered open and shall be available to the Student Members on RUSU's website, except where those minutes relate to any reserved or confidential matters, including without limitation staff-related or disciplinary matters. Copies of the minutes shall also be kept in RUSU's offices.

54. Records and Accounts

- 54.1 The Trustees shall comply with the requirements of the Companies Acts and of the Charities Act 2011 as to maintaining a Company Law Members' register, keeping financial records, the audit or examination of accounts and the preparation and transmission to the Registrar of Companies and the Charity Commission of:
 - 54.1.1 annual reports;
 - 54.1.2 annual returns; and
 - 54.1.3 annual statements of account.

- 54.2 The Student Members of RUSU have the right to ask the Trustees questions in writing about the content of any documents referred to in Article 54.1.

55. Irregularities

The proceedings at any meeting or on the taking of any poll or the passing of a written resolution or the making of any decision shall not be invalidated by reason of any accidental informality or irregularity (including any accidental omission to give or any non-receipt of notice) or any want of qualification in any of the persons present or voting or by reason of any business being considered which is not specified in the notice unless a provision of the Companies Acts specifies that such informality, irregularity or want of qualification shall invalidate it.

56. Exclusion of model articles

The relevant model articles for a company limited by guarantee are hereby expressly excluded.

TRUSTEES' INDEMNITY

57. Indemnity

Without prejudice to any indemnity to which a Trustee may otherwise be entitled, every Trustee shall and every other officer or auditor of RUSU may be indemnified out of the assets of RUSU against any liability incurred by him or her in defending any proceedings, whether civil or criminal, in which judgment is given in his or her favour or in which he or she is acquitted or in connection with any application in which relief is granted to him or her by the court from liability for negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust in relation to the affairs of RUSU, and against all costs, charges, losses, expenses or liabilities incurred by him or her in the execution and discharge of his or her duties or in relation thereto.

DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION

58. Defined terms

58.1 In these Articles, unless the context requires otherwise, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

| Term | Meaning |
|---------------------------------|--|
| 58.1.1 “ Academic Year ” | the period between 1 st September in one year to 31 st August in the next year determined by RUSU as the period during which Students are required to be registered with the University of Reading. Each Academic Year is for the time being divided into three terms; |
| 58.1.2 “ address ” | includes a postal or physical address and a number or address used for the purpose of sending or receiving documents by Electronic Means; |

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| 58.1.3 | “Appointments Committee” | | the committee set up by RUSU in accordance with the Bye-Laws. |
| 58.1.4 | “Articles” | | these articles of association of RUSU; |
| 58.1.5 | “Board of Trustees” or “Board” | | the board of Trustees of RUSU; |
| 58.1.6 | “Bye-Laws” | | the bye-laws setting out the working practices of RUSU made from time to time in accordance with Article 50; |
| 58.1.7 | “Chair” | | the chair of the Board of Trustees, who shall be the President of RUSU in accordance with Article 44.1; |
| 58.1.8 | “chair of the meeting” | | in the case of Trustees’ meetings means the person chairing the meeting in accordance with Article 44; |
| 58.1.9 | “Chief Executive” | | the chief executive of RUSU who is appointed by the Board of Trustees; |
| 58.1.10 | “Circulation Date” | | in relation to a written resolution, has the meaning given to it in the Companies Acts; |
| 58.1.11 | “clear days” | | in relation to the period of a notice, that period excluding the day when the notice is given or deemed to be given and the day for which it is given or on which it is to take effect; |
| 58.1.12 | “Code of Practice” | | the code of practice relating to the University of Reading’s obligations under Section 22 of the Education Act; |
| 58.1.13 | “Companies Acts” | | means the Companies Acts (as defined in Section 2 of the Companies Act 2006), in so far as they apply to RUSU; |
| 58.1.14 | “Company Meeting” | Law | a general meeting of the Company Law Members of RUSU for the purposes of the Companies Acts; |
| 58.1.15 | “Company Members” | Law | members of RUSU for the purposes of the Companies Acts, as defined in Article 13; |
| 58.1.16 | “Connected Person” | | any person falling within one of the following categories and where payment to that person might result in the Trustee obtaining benefit: (a) any spouse, civil partner, parent, child, brother, sister, grandparent or grandchild of a Trustee; or (b) the spouse or civil partner of any person in (a); or (c) any person living with a Trustee or his or her partner; or (d) any company or LLP or firm |

of which a Trustee is a paid director, member, partner or employee, or shareholder holding more than 1% of the capital;

- 58.1.17“**Deputy Chair**” the deputy chair of the Board of Trustees, who shall be appointed in accordance with Article 44.2.
- 58.1.18“**document**” includes summons, notice, order or other legal process and includes, unless otherwise specified, any document sent or supplied in Electronic Form;
- 58.1.19“**Education Act**” the Education Act 1994;
- 58.1.20“**Elected Officers**” the Student Officers and other elected Officers;
- 58.1.21“**Effective Date**” the date on which the undertaking previously carried on by the unincorporated charity known as Reading University Students’ Union (an unincorporated charity) is transferred to RUSU;
- 58.1.22“**Electronic Form**”
and “**Electronic Means**” have the meanings respectively given to them in Section 1168 of the Companies Act 2006;
- 58.1.23“**External Trustee**” a Trustee appointed in accordance with Article 24.1 who for the avoidance of doubt shall not be deemed to be either a major union office holder or a sabbatical union office holder for the purposes of Section 22 of the Education Act;
- 58.1.24“**financial expert**” an individual, company or firm who is authorised to give investment advice under the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000;
- 58.1.25“**Hard Copy**” and
“**Hard Copy Form**” have the meanings respectively given to them in the Companies Act 2006;
- 58.1.26“**Members**” the Student Members and the Company Law Members;
- 58.1.27“**NUS**” National Union of Students;
- 58.1.28“**Officer Trustee**” a Trustee elected in accordance with Article 22;
- 58.1.29“**Policy**” representative and campaigning policy set by Referenda in accordance with Article 17 and

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| | Article 49 or by the Student Members at an annual Student Members' meeting or a Student Members' meeting; |
| 58.1.30“ President ” | the president of RUSU, as elected by the Student Members in accordance with the Bye-Laws; |
| 58.1.31“ RAG ” | the raise and give society which develops students by providing them with an opportunity to raise funds for charitable causes; |
| 58.1.32“ Referendum ” | a ballot in which all Student Members of RUSU are entitled to cast a vote, the protocol for which shall be set out in the Bye-Laws; |
| 58.1.33“ Secure Petition ” | a written request to RUSU which shall be fixed in a pre-arranged place or places or held securely on-line; |
| 58.1.34“ Student ” | any individual who is formally registered for an approved programme of study provided by the University of Reading. For the avoidance of doubt, the University of Reading shall determine whether or not an individual has student status; |
| 58.1.35“ Student Officers ” | the individuals elected in accordance with Article 22 (each of whom is a “major union office holder” for the purposes of section 22 of the Education Act); |
| 58.1.36“ Student Trustee ” | a Trustee elected or appointed in accordance with Article 23 who is a Student and who, for the avoidance of doubt, shall not be a major union office holder for the purposes of Section 22 of the Education Act; |
| 58.1.37“ Student Members ” | student members of RUSU as defined in Article 11 and being from the Effective Date Students at the University of Reading as further defined in Article 11.1.1 and the Student Officers; |
| 58.1.38“ Subsidiary Company ” | any company in which RUSU holds more than 50% of the shares, controls more than 50% of the voting rights attached to the shares or has the right to appoint a majority of the board of the company; |
| 58.1.39“ Trustee ” “ Trustees ” | and the directors of RUSU as defined in Article 21 and being from the Effective Date the Officer Trustees, the Student Trustees and the External |

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|---------|-----------------------------|--|
| 58.1.40 | “Union” | Trustees; Reading University Students’ Union; |
| 58.1.41 | “writing” | the representation or reproduction of words, symbols or other information in a visible form by any method or combination of methods, whether sent or supplied in Electronic Form or otherwise; and |
| 58.1.42 | “University Reading” | of University of Reading, incorporated by Royal Charter in 1926. |

- 58.2 Words importing the singular shall include the plural and vice versa and words importing the masculine shall include the feminine and vice versa.
- 58.3 Subject to Article 58.4, any reference in these Articles to an enactment includes a reference to that enactment as re-enacted or amended from time to time and to any subordinate legislation made under it.
- 58.4 Unless the context otherwise requires, other words or expressions contained in these Articles bear the same meaning as in the Companies Act 2006 as in force on the date when these Articles become binding on RUSU.