**NUS Disaffiliation Referendum- Campaigning Rules**

There is no outlined process in the SU Bye-Laws for campaigning during a referendum debate. This document aims to provide guidelines so that there is no unfair advantage during referendum campaigning, and that any campaigning funding can be spent appropriately.

**Funding:**

The Students’ Union Management and Executive Committee met on 29th May 2019 to discuss the level of funding allowed for the NUS Disaffiliation Referendum campaigns. Each side of the debate will have £50 to spend on their campaigns. This will do done on a pay and reclaim basis. Heads of Campaigning must collect receipts, which can be refunded in cash at the end of the period.

Below are the campaigning regulations that will be applied (which mirror those of the main SU Executive Committee Elections)

1. Heads of Campaingning (HoC) are to declare all online material to the Deputy Returning Officer via email.
2. Ensure that their campaigns are factual where possible.
3. Abide by:
	* SU Constitution and Bye-Laws
	* University Regulations
	* The Law
4. Do not endanger others when campaigning
5. If assembling a campaigning team, ensure that a list of those campaigning and their student numbers are submitted to the Deputy Returning Officer.
6. Bring receipts to me after election
7. DO NOT spend your own money. The referendum campaigning is limited to £50 on each side of the debate.
8. Do not use SU logo on campaign material, without the expressed permission of the Executive Committee
9. Candidates can use other brand assets where they have obtained endorsement from that organisation.
10. Brief your own campaign team, they are responsible for following referendum rules also.
11. Do not use the SU website to campaign
12. No accessing halls of residence
13. Adhere to the exclusion zones at Waterside and Avenue Campus when campaigning.
	* Waterside- Do not campaign above the ground floor of any academic building
	* Avenue- Do not campaign inside classrooms when they are being used for teaching. (This includes immediately before and after academic contact)
14. No canvassing for votes in any SU meetings
15. Canvassing is permitted at SU Student Group training/events/meetings
16. No adhering flyers of posters to walls/doors on campus
17. Remove your campaign materials and recycle them where possible.
18. Returning Officer (member of University staff) makes

final decision based on their interpretation

1. Requests for explanations on decisions must be made via the Deputy Returning Officer
2. Investigation will be completed by the Returning Officer
3. DRO can impose the following sanctions
	* Verbal/Written warning
	* Fine on campaigning budget
	* Restrict publicity allowance
	* Take any other action they see fit
4. Appealing the decision of the DRO Decision
	* Must do so within 48 hours/1 hour of ballot opening (whichever is sooner)
	* Appeals must be directed to the RO
	* All rulings will be posted to the SU website, please consult this regularly.
5. Appealing the validity of the referendum
	* 72 hours after polling closes (Sunday 9th June, 5pm)