

# Motion to Increase to Powers of Hall Committees

**Proposed by** - James White (CGCU Education Chair)

**Seconded by** - Lloyd James (Union President), Hayley Wong (CGCU President), Rea Tresa (UG Engineering Council Rep.)

## Union Notes:

1. Under the current rules, Hall Committees have some critical constraints on the types of events that they can run for students especially when compared to how CSPs organise and run their events.
  - a. For example, Hall Committees are not allowed to organise and run overnight events while CSPs can.
2. Additionally, Hall Committees are limited in their powers in terms of requesting help, support and information from the College such as when requesting better amenities and facilities.
  - a. This could be seen during lockdowns in 2020 and 2021.
3. Hall Committees and wardening teams tend to get little consultation and very late notice of upcoming major changes to the College's halls portfolio.
  - a. This was the case after the "Estates Strategy Presentation" given to Council on the 30<sup>th</sup> of November 2021 was shared to the Wilson Wardening and Hall Senior teams.
  - b. They were surprised to see how Wilson House and the other halls were assessed in the graphs as they were not approached on their production.
  - c. Some halls such as Pembridge and Parsons House are classic examples of getting late notice such as being informed of their closure only to be brought back at the last minute before the start of the next academic year which only causes confusion for the Hall Committees and the Wardening and Hall Senior teams.

## Union Believes:

1. In order to provide an inclusive array of events while helping freshers settle into Imperial, Hall Committees should have the highest amount of flexibility possible with their event planning.
  - a. In regards to overnight events, there may be a safeguarding element here for the relatively few under-18 students living in halls which needs to be accounted for.

## Union Resolves:

1. To request an update to any improvements on the facilities and amenities as passed on Council in the 20-21 academic year.
2. To mandate the Union (DPW and DPCS) to start a review on improving the management and increasing the powers of the Hall Committees and lobby the College accordingly.
  - a. Specifically, these powers should allow the Hall Committees to run events in a similar fashion to CSPs. In regards to safeguarding with under-18 residents, procedures should be in place in order to foster inclusivity.
3. To mandate the Union (DPW and DPCS) to set up a dedicated communication channel between the Hall Committees and heads of estates in regards to updates on the accommodation portfolio such that big changes are communicated quickly and efficiently to those who are most impacted by such decisions (e.g. Wardening and Hall Senior Teams).

## Sources:

Paper presented to Council and passed in the 20-21 academic year on the 1<sup>st</sup> of December 2020: "A Paper to improve the Facilities and Amenities in Halls".

Estates Strategy Presentation given to Union Council on the 30<sup>th</sup> of November 2021.