

Huddersfield
Students' Union.

Impact Report.

2024-25



HSU Staff Team: 2024 Welcome Festival

Huddersfield Students' Union.

2024-2027

Our Strategic Plan for making student life better.

We add value, beyond the academic learning, that makes a difference to the lives of our students.
We deliver skills and experiences that benefit students individually and as part of a community.



Help students be their best,
authentic selves.

➤ Equity is at the heart of everything we do. 100% of staff will agree that "I believe that HSU has a positive impact on the lives of students" and we'll deliver our Equity and Inclusion Plan.

➤ Invest in and Celebrate Student Leaders: Kirklees Volunteering Award: 1000 students will receive a Volunteer Transcript, and we'll tell 100 Student Stories by 2027.

Build a vibrant student community
on campus.

➤ Inclusive and fun programme of events and activity for all students (Intercultural, PGR and non-standard start dates). 95% of students will connect with the Students' Union.

➤ Student-led opportunities for students to meet and build friendships: 25% of students will join the Students' Union Community.

Speak up for students to transform
their education.

➤ Provide responsive and expert advice: we will achieve The Advice Quality Standard.

➤ Empowering and accessible democracy and representation, with student leadership at its core: we'll be in the top Quartile for NSS.

Influence the world
around us.

➤ Supporting all our students to have a great accommodation experience in Huddersfield. Our HudLets Business Plan will mean that HudLets will be the number one accommodation provider for students, providing an outstanding service.

➤ Actively challenge the climate crisis to create a more sustainable future. Our Sustainability Action Plan will create a Union that is ethical, environmentally friendly and sustainable, and is able to demonstrate through the actions we take the positive impact we are having.



By 2027 we will achieve 'Excellent' in all areas of the Quality Students' Union Framework.

This impact report celebrates everything the Students' Union has done to make student life better in 2024-2025.



The Officer's Year in a Snapshot.

The elected Officers set objectives in line with the first year of the strategy, some of their achievements include:

- Ensuring that all international students can pay their tuition fee in instalments.
- Enabling more women to get involved in sport, de-stigmatising barriers and raising awareness of how to take part.
- Putting on a Men's Mental Health Fair, with services around Kirklees.
- Gathering feedback for a designated women's gym and fitness space, as well as new women's only fitness classes.
- Submitting evidence to the APPG for Students, working with the national student movement to remove the need for student guarantors.
- Responding to the EHRC consultation.
- Meeting with local MP's in response to the Government white paper on immigration and international students.



Running a successful AI Campaign, helping students understand how AI can safely be used to support their time at University.



Delivering a sexual violence awareness campaign, encouraging several hundred students to sign up to the white ribbon allyship campaign.

Strategy Theme 1:

Help students be their best, authentic selves

Equity is at the heart of everything we do.

100% core staff (agree or strongly agree) that HSU has a positive impact on the lives of students (Staff Survey 2025).

100% of core staff (agree or strongly agree) that I am treated with fairness, dignity and respect at work (Staff Survey 2025).

93% of core staff (agree or strongly agree) that HSU values all staff equally (Staff Survey 2025).

Invest in and celebrate Student Leaders.

To help celebrate and recognise the achievements of our student leaders we gave out 951 UGT and PGT transcripts, as well as 25 PGR transcripts.

Quote from Student: “I am truly honoured to receive the Student Leader Award certificate from the Student Union. It means a lot to me to be recognized for my contributions to student life, and I sincerely appreciate this acknowledgment. Thank you for the certificate—it greatly motivates me to continue making a positive impact.

Additionally, I am excited about the workshop opportunity you have shared. I believe it will be valuable in enhancing my skills.

Once again, thank you for this recognition and for providing such wonderful opportunities for students. I look forward to staying engaged and contributing further.”



The Student Liberation Networks.

The Student Liberation Networks are volunteer students who join communities led by student staff to make targeted change for:

- Women
- B.A.M.E. Students
- Disabled Students
- Global Citizens
- The Social and Class Mobility community
- LGBT+ Students

Key Campaigns

Some of their key campaigns have been:

B.A.M.E. Ambassadors:

- Delivered Black History Month, from Caribbean cuisines, drummers and dance performances to film screenings, plays, and workshops.
- Finalised the statement for the reopening of the Ramsden building acknowledging the history of the building.

Global Citizen's Network:

- Social events bringing the community together, with over 200 students attending the inaugural Global Social.



Network Assistants (2024-25)



Global Social 2024



Women's Network:

- Implemented new menstruation and menopause guidance across the University, alongside an allyship guide.
- Giving out hundreds of free period products to students who needed them.
- Campaigned for International Women's Day, supporting the Dance and Cheerleading Societies to raise over £200 for charity.

Disabled Students' Network:

- Provided individualised guidance and signposting to students in need of support.
- Supported National awareness days including sign language week, epilepsy awareness, a walk for autism and Disability History Month.
- Ran an awareness campaign around sunflower lanyards.

Class and Social Mobility Network:

- Ran a series of events bringing local connections onto campus focused on: safety, travel, child and family support, and money saving.

LGBT+ Network:

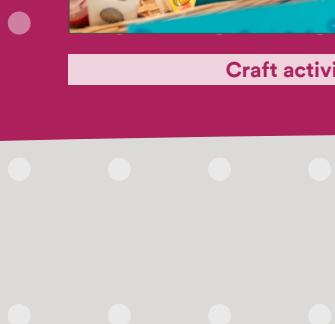
- Celebrated Pride Month with events including social nights and awareness stalls, culminating in Kirklees Pride.
- Enabled safe community space for members through regular Network meetings and stalls.
- Attended National Day of Action to enable effective campaigning following the change in the law relating to Trans definition.



Craft activities: Welcome Fair (2024)



Left: LGBT+ Network Assistant, Right: Disabled Network Assistant



Strategy Theme 2:

Speak up for students to transform their education

Provide responsive and expert advice.

Inclusive and accessible democracy and representation, with student leadership at its core.

Our talented advice team completed their interim self-assessment for the Advice Quality Standard.

Review Complete.

Representation

22 Reps took place in a facilitated workshop reviewing current practice and reimagining structures.

NSS Positivity Score: 75%

6% of students created change on campus.

2,082 students cast over 7,000 votes in our Officer Elections, which equates to a 18% turnout. The turnout was lower than 2023-24 mainly down to the lack of NUS Delegates Election this year.

Our Advice Centre supported over 7,300 students with enquiries and appointments. In addition to the regular academic, housing and finance appointments, the team have formed new relationships with The Royal College of Nursing (RCN) to support nursing students with complex fitness to practice cases, and Invictus Wellbeing who will be supporting students throughout the new academic year with their wellbeing using a social prescribing model.



Advice Centre Outreach

The advice centre also worked with a Health and Social Care degree student on a placement, with responsibility to provide a regular outreach service using our peer support offering. This proved successful and has given us a sustainable model to move forward with.



Academic Rep Assistants (2024-25)

Our Academic Reps have worked hard against the backdrop of a challenging Higher Education Sector. Some changes they've successfully implemented include:

- Ran an inclusivity checklist workshop at the University Teaching and Learning Conference with university Academics.
- Started a software review across campus.
- Campaigned to change the building access hours for students in Arts and Humanities.
- Contributed to the launch of a new feedback tool, UNITU, in Computing and Engineering.

Strategy Theme 3:

Build a vibrant student community on campus

Inclusive and fun programme of events and activities for all students

5 PGR only events delivered.
4 Family Friendly events delivered.

Student-led opportunities for students to meet and build friendships.

75% of students connected with the Students' Union.

29% of students joined the Students' Union community

We gave 6,187 students a free membership to their academic society, enabling them to take part in guest lectures, trips and activities. Highlights include: Bioscience trips to The Deep, Huddersfield Acting and Theatre Society (HATSoc) putting on performances, Pharmacy society taking the lead on the BSPA Pennine Area Spring Conference and the Marketing Society running an alumni event where they invited back marketing alumni to talk with current students.

Our student-led trips and events were diverse and wide-ranging, catering for the needs of our 1,196 Society Members and 469 Global Society Members. From the Qawwali Night with the Pakistan Students Society, to the Grand Iftar event with ISoc. We had showcases from Musical Theatre, our Dance Society and the Wrestling Appreciation Society. We supported the University Brass Band and ensured that they could continue to perform at University and local events as well as competing in UniBrass.



Varsity Men's Basketball: Huddersfield vs Bradford

Our Sports Teams continued to go from strength to strength. Highlights from the year include: Basketball men winning Tier 3B with 9 wins and 1 loss all season, Football men 1st team finishing 2nd in Tier 5B, Volleyball women tied 3rd place in Tier 3B following a winless 23/24 season. As well as competitive success our clubs raised money for charity, including Rugby Union raising over £1000 for Movember.



Varsity Victory (2025)

Climbing & Mountaineering were awarded 'Sports Club of Year' with a huge membership of over 70 students and having two excellent weekend trips away. Finally, we continued our success in Varsity, winning again, 12-1, to keep the trophy in Huddersfield for the 3rd successive year.

Strategy Theme 4:

Influence the world around us

Support all our students to have a great accommodation experience in Huddersfield

Actively challenge the climate crisis to create a more sustainable future.

HudLets became the University's Approved Accommodation Service, reaching more students and establishing trusted relationships with university staff.

10 students have signed up to the new Sustainability Society.

Sustainability now referenced in all staff's new Job Profiles, and the staff team volunteered over 60 hours across the year.



SU Staff Tree Planting (2024)



HudLets Clearing (2025)



Craft activities: Welcome Fair (2024)

Students' Union Awards.

A total of 34 awards were presented to various individual students, academic and non-academic societies. Entertainment was provided by the University Brass Band, as well as The Voice UK's Hannah Rowe and her band.

Most Engaged Academic Rep of the Year.

Amara Nadeem

For undertaking the most conversations with the School of Business, Education, and Law, creating change and feeding back to students.

Academic Society of the Year.

Occupational Therapy Society

For their enthusiasm, organisation, communication, achieving multiple ACE awards over the year.

Individual Values Awards.

Faith Swindell, Mohammad Haroon, Zoya Khan and Ellie Gathy

For contribution to our four core values-empowerment, engagement, inclusion and integrity.

We also handed out awards to our **Network Volunteers**, our **Sports Clubs** and our **Global Societies**.



Wamick and Bethany hosting SU Awards 2025



Daniel Stapleton receiving the Great Student Volunteer Award



Academic Rep Award for Innovation.

Harry Broadbent, Ahmad Hassan, Alexander Webster, Joel Black, Anuska Chakraborty, Somnath Thirukkami Senthil Kumar, Elijah Olorundamisi, Luke Davies, and Stanley Witkowski

For being active across platforms like UNITU and managing all the conversations and ensuring that student voices are heard, and issues are escalated to the university staff.

Outstanding Contribution to Student Life.

Luke Widdowson (Men's Football), Gabriel Belibi (Tennis) and Diana Sirnikova (Bioscience Society and Former Education Officer)

For students who have made student life better.

Society Values Awards.

The society of contemporary music, the Bioscience society, the British Sign Language society and the Freedom of Palestine society

For contribution to our four core values- empowerment, engagement, inclusion and integrity.



Diana Sirnikova receiving the Outstanding Contribution to Student Life Award



The Contemporary Music Society receiving the Society Values Award



Finally...

As we concluded the 2024-25 academic year, we said goodbye to our outgoing officer team. We would like to thank them for their hard work, dedication, and commitment to representing and supporting students throughout the year. Their leadership has made a lasting impact on our community, and we are grateful for the progress achieved under their guidance.



Incoming Officers

We welcomed the incoming officer team for 2025–26. Bethany and Irfan will continue in their roles as Activities Officer and Education Officer, providing continuity and experience within the team. Freya has transitioned from her previous role as Equity Officer to serve as the new SU President, and we are pleased to welcome Dobby as the incoming Equity Officer. We look forward to seeing the positive impact this team will make in the year ahead.



Keep up to date with us...

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