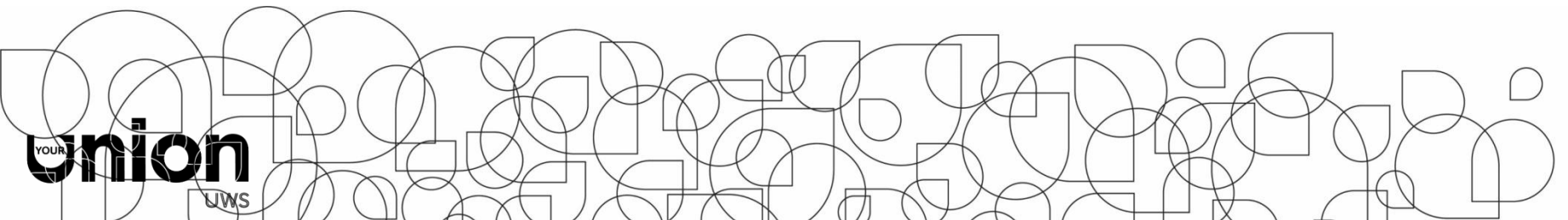




2026/27 Societies Council 1

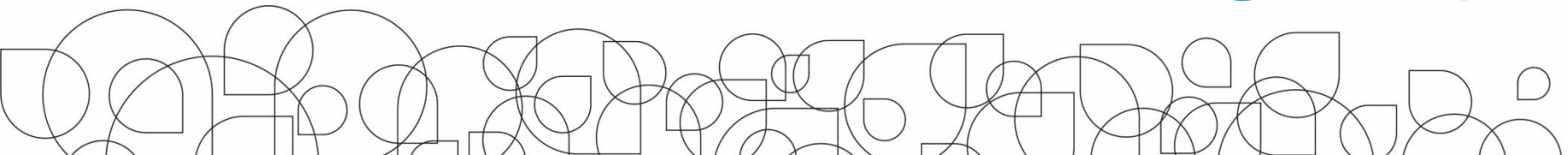
Freshers' and the New Term



Societies Council/Freshers' Training

Agenda

1.00 - 1.10pm	Welcome and register of societies present
1.10 – 1.20pm	Introduction to Student Presidents and staff
1.20 – 1.45pm	Freshers' 2026: Preparing for the fairs
1.45 – 1.50pm	Break
1.50 – 2.20pm	Freshers' 2026: Welcome events and beyond
2.20 – 2.30pm	Society training: Updates on how to run your society
2.30 – 2.40pm	2026/27 Societies Leadership Team
2.40 – 3.00pm	Open discussion for any other questions and feedback



Your Student Presidents



Student President

Solution



VP Education

Akriti



- Elected by students
- Work Full-time
- Paid
- Represent your voice at the highest levels of UWS



Freshers' Fairs 2027

Before the fairs

- Book your place using <https://forms.gle/549iMV7jG2qM5ftg7>

Posters

- We can print posters for you to decorate your stall
- Email your poster designs to societies@uwsunion.org.uk
- You must send these by **Wednesday 2nd Sep**
- You can create posters for free using <https://www.canva.com/>

Decorations

- You can decorate your table however you like
- Tablecloths and matching clothing can help you stand out
- Games, competitions and freebies will help you interact with students and encourage them to join

Your Society Webpage

- Make sure your page on the website is up to date with contact details and plans for the year: [Find and join Societies \(uwsunion.org.uk\)](https://uwsunion.org.uk)
- Any updates to societies@uwsunion.org.uk

Book a Welcome Event

- Joe or Jamie will email you asking when you would like to host your event. **Funding will be allocated to you for this!**
- We will then be able to help with promoting and organising it
- Planning this in advance of the fairs means you'll be able to invite students, which makes it easier for them to get involved!
- Create a draft invite ready to send after the fairs

Mon 7th: **Paisley**, 11am-3pm
Tues 8th: **Lanarkshire**, 11am-3pm
Wed 9th: **Ayr**, 11am-3pm
Thur 10th: **Paisley**, 11am-3pm
Fri 11th: **Lanarkshire**, 11am-3pm



Freshers' Fairs 2027

During the fairs

When you arrive

- You can arrive from 10.15am onwards to decorate your table
- You will be provided with a table, QR codes which link to your welcome event, paper sign up sheets and any posters you have sent us to be printed

How to engage with students

- Make it clear who you are and what students can expect if they join your society
- If possible, stand either in front of or behind your table
- Use simple and clear language
- Make conversation to find out people's interests
- Be enthusiastic and enjoy sharing your interests with others!
- Invite people to your first event
- Have fun!

Support for you

- Each fair has an area where you can have a break and some free teas, coffees and snacks
- Students' Union staff, Student Officers and volunteers will be in attendance to help promote societies

Mon 7th: **Paisley**, 11am-3pm
Tues 8th: **Lanarkshire**, 11am-3pm
Wed 9th: **Ayr**, 11am-3pm
Thur 10th: **Paisley**, 11am-3pm
Fri 11th: **Lanarkshire**, 11am-3pm



Freshers' Fairs 2027

After the fairs

- Give any paper sign up sheets to a Students' Union staff member
- Take posters that can be used again
- Use the expenses form to claim back and society money you have used to decorate your table: [Resources for your Society \(uwsunion.org.uk\)](https://uwsunion.org.uk)

Send an email to everyone who has signed up as soon as possible

- The longer you leave this, the less likely people are to engage with the society
- Provide a summary of who you are and what activities you have planned
- Give full invite details for your first event
- Jamie will give admin rights for your webpage and membership list to all society presidents (you need to join first)
- Send invite links to any group chats or social media pages you have

First event and ongoing plans

- Hold your first event/activity!
- Jamie will send you a calendar to book your committee's training session
- We will use this to explain what support is available and help plan your activities for the rest of the year
- Keep up to date with societies support by joining our **Whatsapp Group**

Mon 7th: **Paisley**, 11am-3pm
Tues 8th: **Lanarkshire**, 11am-3pm
Wed 9th: **Ayr**, 11am-3pm
Thur 10th: **Paisley**, 11am-3pm
Fri 11th: **Lanarkshire**, 11am-3pm



Great
exposure for
your society!

Freshers' Stalls

**CATCH'M IF
YOU CAN**



GAMES

DECORATIONS

















Your Society Welcome Event

This is important!

- Hopefully you will gain lots of interest and sign ups for your society at the Freshers' Fairs
- The most important step is to turn this interest into actual involvement in your society
- The best way to achieve this is to have a confirmed date, time and location for your Welcome Event, so you can invite everyone to attend
- This is where you will bring people together to get to know each other, create a connection with your society and decide to be a part of it

Get it booked!

- If you have still to book your Welcome Event, send us an email and we will arrange this with you: societies@uwsunion.org.uk
- Once you have it booked:
 - The Students' Union will be able to help with promoting it
 - You will automatically be allocated funding to support the event
 - You will be provided with snacks and drinks for the event



Roadmap to Your Welcome Event

- Welcoming Students
- Presenting your society
- Gaining Members
- Having Fun

Aim

Logistics

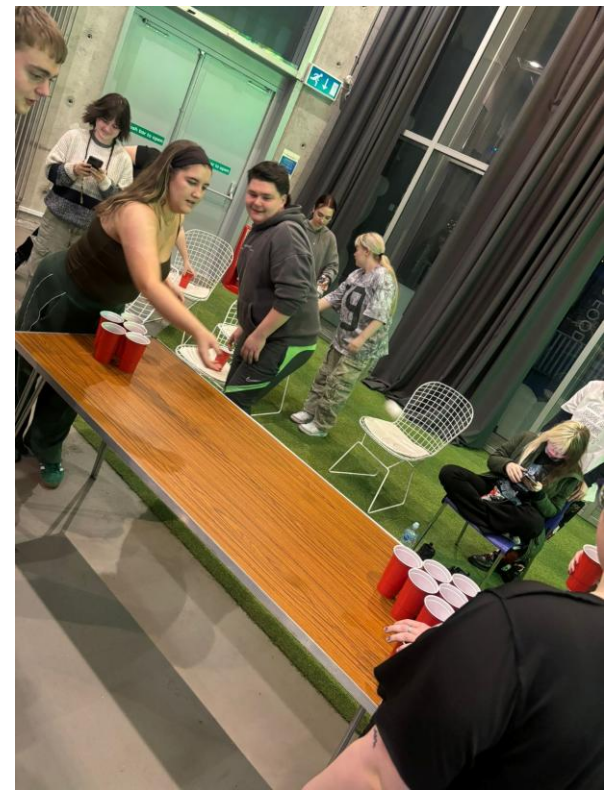
- Pick a date
- Book a room
- Find helpers
- Promotions:
 - Freshers' Fair Stall
 - Posters/Flyers
 - Social Media Channel
 - Union's channels

- Snacks & drinks are sponsored
- Instead think of fun things or investments:
 - merchandise
 - decorations
 - banners
 - giveaways
 - games etc.

Finances

Activities

- Think about what your society stands for
- start with a general introduction / icebreaker
- snacks & drinks will give people something to do
- present your ideas/plans for the new academic year
 - ask for opinions
- play some games, watch a movie, put music in the background, paint Tshirts -
 - > be creative, think outside the box







Events Society Example



Actively include

Have extroverts lead an event

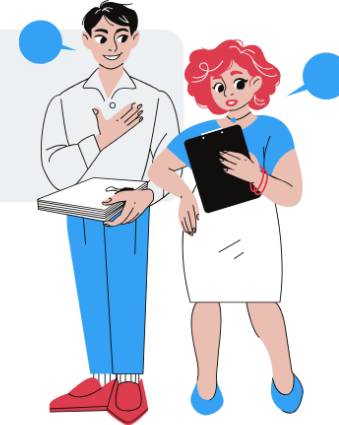
How To

Food & Chill

Engage new society members?

Ask for thoughts & ideas

Get to know



Find similarities

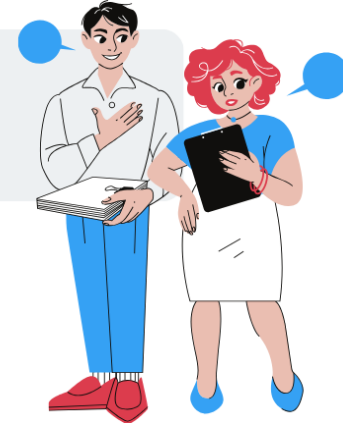
Brainstorming

How To

Have a look at their activities

Collaborate with other societies?

Just ask



Societies Council/Workshops

Aims of Societies Council Meetings

- Peer support
- Share ideas
- Work together
- Give feedback

Aims of Societies Workshops:

- Provide additional training for running your society
 - Event planning - September
 - Social media - November
 - Fundraising - December
 - Volunteer Recognition Award - February
 - Societies Succession planning - March

Challenge Week

- 1st – 5th February



Societies Leadership Team

What is it?

As a Societies Leadership Team Member, you can support all UWS Students' Union Societies by:

- Ensuring the Students' Union acts on ideas and issues raised at Societies Council meetings
- Working with VP Student Development to plan and coordinate joint society events and activities
- Approving new society affiliations and society funding decisions
- It's open to any society member to join
- **Please let us know if you'd like to be part of this!**

What does it involve?

- Attending 4 Societies Council Meetings throughout the academic year
- Attending 4 Societies Leadership Team Meetings throughout the academic year
- Regular communication with societies to enable their engagement in events and activities
- One member will represent all societies on Students' Union Executive Committee

Keep in touch!

Keep us up to date on your plans and let us know how we can help

- Any **emails** can be sent to: societies@uwsunion.org.uk
- You're welcome to message Jamie on **Whatsapp** (remember to add your name so he knows who you are): 07737237111

Societies Committee Members WhatsApp Group

- Join here to be kept up to date on what support is available
- See emails for link to join

Societies staff contact details:

If you forget who we are, you can find our faces at the bottom of the societies page of our website: [Societies and Volunteering](#)

