

31 July 2021

Dear Adi,

Students' Union Block Grant 2021–22

The Students' Union has a key role in helping to ensure that the education and learning experience we provide is co-created and that our students join a vibrant and cohesive education environment where they are supported to achieve their full potential. We have achieved a great deal together over the past year, in particular by ensuring that the needs and concerns of students are at the heart of our response to the coronavirus pandemic. All of us in the University leadership look forward to continuing to work together constructively and building on these achievements with you and the other sabbatical officers.

Block grant allocation

We are pleased to confirm the block grant value in 2021–22 is £2,518k. This comprises:

- a) £2,419k carried forward from 2020–21, including the following restricted funds—
- £20k for campaigns to support inclusion across all student groups;
 - £30k to support wider engagement with sporting activities and the sport development degree apprentice scheme;
 - £80k to support volunteering, student employability, community building and the international student experience;
 - £205k for six full-time sabbatical officer roles, including three to strengthen engagement within the faculties;
- b) £99k of additional restricted funds for—
- a 1.5% cost of living uplift for staff and student workers in line with the final pay offer from higher education employers;
 - An additional £25k restricted funding within student engagement to cover:
 - a postgraduate research student intern to improve representation and engagement with the postgraduate research student community;
 - a student intern to support wider engagement with students across the University;
 - a student intern to support the delivery of the arts and culture strategy.

As detailed in the block grant letter for 2020/21, changes in pension contributions should be managed from within the existing budget allocation.

The £99k of additional restricted funds is for 2021–22 only. We expect that over the next 12 months you will implement measures to reduce back-office costs while maintaining front-line services. Progress made in promoting greater economy, efficiency and effectiveness will be considered when deciding the value of any future investment.

The total allocations are presented in summary below, including the specifically identified areas of key focus which remain as restricted grants within the area of funding.

	Restricted £'000	Unrestricted £'000	Total £'000
Governance		500	500
Campaigns	20		20
Student engagement	105	140	245
Customer service and wellbeing		200	200
Representation & Democracy		19	19
Sport	30	300	330
Administration		70	70
QMSU Services		174	174
General allocation		961	961
	155	2,363	2,518

Conditions of the block grant

Our purpose in giving the block grant is to support you in working with us to enhance the overall experience of our students. In this context, and as a charity that is accountable to regulators, students and the public, it is appropriate that we place certain conditions on your acceptance and use of the block grant. By accepting the block grant therefore you also undertake to provide assurance to us as follows.

<i>Assurance</i>	<i>Mechanism</i>
Ongoing compliance with the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Queen Mary Students' Union and our joint Code of Practice in Compliance with the Education Act 1994.	Reporting to the University Council and the MoA Panel biannually, using a format agreed with the Chief Governance Officer and University Secretary.
The financial affairs of the Students' Union are properly conducted and appropriate arrangements are in place for setting the budget and monitoring expenditure. Appropriate and adequate steps are taken and plans in place to build reserves and strengthen the balance sheet. The principles of economy, efficiency and effectiveness are applied to maximise the value that is created for all students. Restricted funds are used only for the specified purpose, the block grant is used only in ways that support the charitable objects, Strategy and Values of the University, and the block grant is not used to support political activities of any kind.	Presenting financial accounts, five-year forecasts and commentaries biannually to the Chief Financial Officer and annually to the MoA Panel and the University's Finance and Investment Committee.
Activities supported through the block grant are accessible to all students at the University to promote greater inclusion across all student groups, campuses and faculties in line with the University Values. Appropriate and adequate steps are taken and plans in place to widen student engagement in Students' Union activities and to enable the Students' Union to be the voice of the entire student body.	Reporting to the University Council and the MoA Panel biannually, using a format agreed with the Chief Governance Officer and University Secretary.

<p>To ensure that all students feel included as part of one University, and in line with our values, QMSU activities and facilities should only be branded as Queen Mary Students' Union rather than any individual faculty, school, institute or other grouping.</p>	<p>Reporting to the University Council and the MoA Panel biannually, using a format agreed with the Chief Governance Officer and University Secretary.</p>
<p>The Students' Union acts as an ethical employer in relation to staff and student workers in line with the University values.</p>	<p>Reporting to the University Council and the MoA Panel biannually, using a format agreed with the Chief Governance Officer and University Secretary.</p>
<p>3.All sports clubs and society grants will be restricted to activities that are truly accessible to all Queen Mary students. There should be participation, representation and membership from students across all faculties, promoting cohesion within the Queen Mary community. Opportunities to access QMSU activities and facilities must be promoted across all campuses and social media forums.</p> <p>Use of formal British Universities and Colleges (BUCS) competitive names, which must be Queen Mary University of London, in all activities. Please note, that there should be no variation to the university's official name 'Queen Mary University of London'.</p> <p>The Merger Cup should not be funded through the block grant.</p>	<p>Reporting to the University Council and the MoA Panel biannually, using a format agreed with the Chief Governance Officer and University Secretary</p>

In accepting this grant the Students' Union agrees to work with the University in the best interest of the Queen Mary students and the University working in harmony and collaboration to ensure long term sustainability.

Yours sincerely,



Colin Bailey

President and Principal, on behalf of the Senior Executive Team

cc.

Mike Wojcik, Chief Executive Officer, Queen Mary University of London Students' Union

Karen Kröger, Chief Financial Officer

Jonathan Morgan, Chief Governance Officer and University Secretary

Professor Stephanie Marshall, Vice Principal (Education)

Dr Philippa Lloyd, Vice-Principal, Policy and Strategic Partnerships and Chair of MOA Panel