



UL STUDENTS' UNION
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Representation, Participation, Inspiration

UNIVERSITY OF LINCOLN STUDENTS' UNION
Motion 8th February 2013
Student Accommodation, beyond compliance

Proposed by: Andrew Twagira, **Seconded by:** Wesley Wells

The Union Notes:

1. There is an Accommodation accreditation scheme in operation in Lincoln.
2. The Accommodation Accreditation Scheme is a partnership between The City Council, County Council, Bishop Grosseteste University, The University of Lincoln, the local Police Service and the Fire Service.
3. The accreditation scheme accredits the bricks and mortar of the house
4. The accreditation scheme were not comfortable with student representation to join in it, preventing the union from fulfilling policy passed in 2009

The Union Believes:

1. The current accreditation system does not take into account the service students receive
2. Many students will at some time experience a routine maintenance or other non-routine difficulty with their accommodation.
3. The existing accommodation scheme does not cover student experience factors including:
 - a. When looking for accommodation
 - b. Maintenance repairs
 - c. Moving in, moving out
 - d. Deposits
 - e. Housemate conflict/resolution
 - f. Value for money or perception of
 - g. Additional services
4. Students currently believe that their welfare and health are not being looked after adequately by the accreditation and the Union
5. Students believe that the Union could do more to ensure students are treated fairly by private accommodation companies.
6. The Students' Union is opposed to any increase in University accommodation rents above the Retail Price Index X (RPIX) rate of inflation unless for agreed improvements

The Union Resolves:

1. To mandate the VP Welfare, to supplement the existing accreditation scheme with a Landlord rating system that will rate the service students receive from their landlords
2. To change the portfolio of Welfare and Diversity to Welfare and Community to reflect the focus students desire on accommodation issues.
3. That the Students' Union develop this on an evidence base provided by an annual student questionnaire that looks at;
 - a. When looking for accommodation
 - b. Maintenance repairs
 - c. Moving in, moving out
 - d. Deposits
 - e. Housemate conflict/resolution
 - f. Value for money or perception of
 - g. Additional services