

Introduction of a Democratic Procedures Committee to the Students' Union

The Union Knows

- Tampons and towels are currently taxed by the Government at a rate of 5% as a 'luxury, non-essential item' and are hence subject to Value Added Tax (VAT).
- Many products are free from VAT as they are viewed as fundamental: food, prescriptions and children's clothes; but not sanitary products.
- Sanitary items are necessary for health and hygiene.
- There is a Student Union Shop on Frenchay, Glenside and Bower Ashton 5. In some of these Student Union Shops, for example Frenchay, sanitary products are sold.
- Several Student Unions offer sanitary products tax free, profit free or completely free. (Newcastle, Sussex, University of the Arts London, University of East Anglia).

The Unions Believes

- The Government should not be taxing natural bodily functions.
- Sanitary products should be as a principle free.
- The cost of sanitary products is an unfair burden and it disproportionately affects women.

The Union Resolves

- To offer sanitary products tax or profit free by September 2015 2. To work towards the long term goal of offering some basic sanitary products completely free to raise awareness of this campaign by for example spending a certain amount of money on sanitary items to be given away on a first come first served basis.
- To work with the NUS Women's Campaign to lobby the government on this issue.
- For a member of the SU exec to write a statement affirming the Union's position on this issue.

The Union Chooses: President

Proposer: Chelsea McNulty

