



Your Students' Union

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# STRATEGIC PLAN

## 2013-2017



**uwe students' union**  
making a difference to students' lives

# UWE Students' Union Strategic Plan 2013 -17

## Introduction

Our strategy sets out a challenging, but positive future for UWE Students' Union. Based on extensive feedback from our members, this strategy identifies three core aims and key strategic foundations which will enable us to successfully achieve our vision.

As UWE Students' Union and its members move forward, we want to make sure that students get the most out of their time at The University of the West of England. We want to represent the student voice, give exciting opportunities and build a community that our members are proud of. This plan shows how we will develop to support our ambition, whilst supporting, maintaining and improving the strong services we currently provide.

Our strategy is intended to be a flexible, evolving and developing plan to reflect what our members want and need. We will consult our members annually to confirm we are on the right journey and we are having a positive impact on the student experience. There is real drive, excitement and commitment at UWE Students' Union to maximise all that we do for our members. We are proud to lead this proactive union with confidence for a positive future.

**Charlie Roper**  
President & Chair of the Board of Trustees

**Hugh Boyes**  
General Manager



## Our Consultation

We consulted with you our members and other stakeholders by some surveys run in October and November 2012.

We had responses from 2,278 Students and 50 other stakeholders. Some of the key findings are on this page, the full results are at: [www.uwesu.org/studentsurvey12](http://www.uwesu.org/studentsurvey12)

Using those results and workshops involving both students and staff we have developed this plan.

## Your top 6 priorities for us were;



Listening & responding to what students want from their union;



Providing help & advice to students;



Representing the views of students to the university;



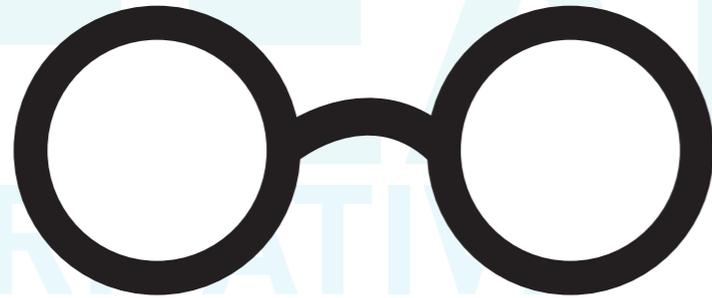
Supporting sports clubs, networks & societies;



Putting on more events & live entertainment;



Providing employment & volunteer opportunities;



**Our Vision:** We will be recognised as a leading students' union that all our students are proud of.



**Our Mission:** Making a difference to students' lives



Student Led



Inclusive



Our Values



Creative & Fun



Open to Change



Relentlessly Ambitious

Giving You  
Opportunities

Representing  
Your Voice

Building Your  
Community

# Representing Your Voice

Ensuring that we are listening to you, taking action and effecting change

## Goals:

- To ensure your elected representatives are recognised as the voice for students;
- To have an outstanding academic student representative structure;
- To be the first port of call for evidence based student feedback;
- To demonstrate the impact your student voice has made;

## What is Success?

- Evidence of change that has benefited students;
- Highly valued by the university;
- NSS score over 72%;
- All Student elections contested
- Students are aware of what the SU does and how to get involved

**75% of students said:  
Representing students'  
needs and opinions  
was the main purpose  
of a Students' Union**



# Giving You Opportunities

Creating opportunities for you to maximise your experiences & development whilst at university

## Goals:

- Increase opportunities for you to participate in a wide range of activities
- Nurture your enthusiasm, making it easier for you to participate in and enjoy new experiences
- Develop your skills & leadership to enhance your employability

## What Success is?

- Increased recognition by HEAR of SU based activities
- Students having fun;
- Increased participation in SU activities;
- Increased recognition of student successes;

“

**64% of students said:  
It was important that  
the SU provided  
extra-curricular  
opportunities for them**

”



# Building Your Community

Supporting & creating a diverse range of communities both on and off campus

## Goals:

- We will bring people together, embracing and encouraging a wide range of communities on campus and actively celebrate unity & diversity;
- We will work with local communities to ensure student partnerships are active and recognised;
- We will focus on improving our offer to international students;
- We will create a fun environment and sense of community in your new building;

## What Success is?

- Social engagement & events
- Thriving memberships of networks
- Increased volunteer numbers
- Active community partnerships
- Equally high satisfaction levels across all campuses



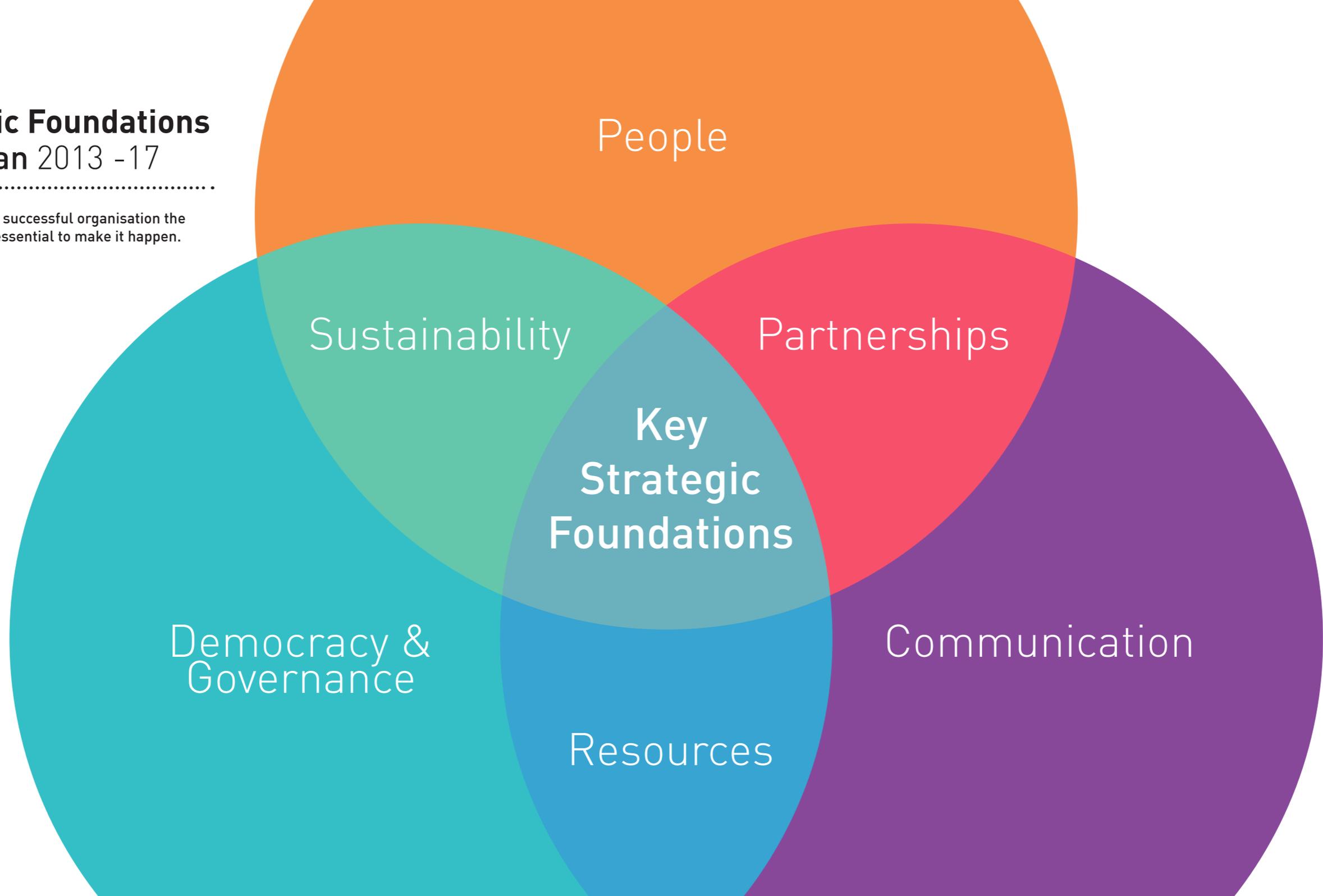
**50% of you said:  
The SU should  
provide a safe,  
comfortable place to  
relax and socialise.**



# Key Strategic Foundations Strategic Plan 2013 -17

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In order for UWESU to be a successful organisation the following foundations are essential to make it happen.



## Key Strategic Foundations Strategic Plan 2013 -17

## Working Together: UWE Bristol Strategy 2020 Strategic Plan 2013 -17

### Sustainability

- To minimise the impact we have on the environment
- To be flexible, not afraid of change, willing to take risks

### Resources

- Ensuring we have enough money, both now & for the next 3 years
- To adopt to changes in technology
- To ensure the new SU building is welcoming & fun

### Democracy & Governance

- To ensure the governance structures support our democratic principles and is relevant to students
- To have a constitution that is alive and works
- For all trustee positions to be filled and for trustees to be actively engaged

### People

- To invest in all our staff, volunteers and partners to help them develop
- To ensure that our staff feel valued and rewarded

### Communication

- We will communicate clearly, regularly and consistently;
- We will listen, hearing the views of students and takeholders is vital to our work;

### Partnerships

- Working in partnerships is key to our success
- Key Partners:
- UWE
  - The local community
  - University of Bristol Union

### Outstanding Learning

The SU will ensure that academic student reps are well trained and engaged to give the feedback to inform decisions around academic issues.

Ensure that other representative structures ensure feedback around services, so issues are raised and resolved.

### Ready & Able Graduates

The SU will provide a range of opportunities for the development of key nonacademic skills through participation.

We will provide real work experience within the SU ranging from part-time jobs to year long placements.

### Strategic Partnerships

We will enable students to take up volunteering opportunities or projects within the local community, building bridges with local schools

### Recognised & Celebrate Student Contributions

In conjunction with the University we will celebrate the contributions of students to university life at a number of events throughout the year.

## Key Objectives & Achievements at 2017 Strategic Plan 2013 -17

**1** ◀ We will build on the current academic representation and drive forward national best practice to ensure we are empowering students to give increasing feedback to the university on their experiences.

We will have a new building that will provide us with a unique and exciting opportunity to celebrate student diversity and create a physical community. ▶

**2**

**3** ◀ We will achieve an NSS score of 72% or higher.

We will continue to drive and increase student participation in all that we do. ▶

**4**

**5** ◀ We will ensure that we are engaging with the local community so they see the value that students and the university add to Bristol.

# Making a difference to Students' lives.

## Trustees

**Students' Union President:** Charlie Roper  
**Vice President Education:** Megan Edmunds  
**Vice President Sport & Health:** Chris White  
**Vice President Community & Welfare:** Tom Renhard  
**Vice President Societies & Communications:** Hannah Khan

## External Trustees

James Clune  
Peter Brasted  
Craig Pocock

## Student Trustees

Holly Manners  
Chris Nicholls / Anthony Harding

🖱 [www.uwesu.org/trustees](http://www.uwesu.org/trustees)

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