



LUU: Working with External Organisations Policy - June 2020

This paper replaces any previous policy which determined partnerships of both LUU and LUU Societies and Clubs.

This paper is inclusive of:

- Clubs and Societies partners and sponsors **[Note: 1]**
- LUU sponsors and partners
- Advertisers
- Tenants and leaseholders
- Recruiters.

Permanent Restrictions

There is a ban on attaining transactions with the aforementioned partners from the following types of companies.

Based on welfare and ethical concerns LUU has a duty of care to make sure we do not allow the following industries, companies, groups or products to advertise in or engage with LUU:

- Tobacco or nicotine companies
- Casinos and gambling companies/websites to include e.g. bingo and lottery
- Housing agents and landlords that do not adhere to Unipol's Codes for better student housing **[2]**
- Finance companies where financial credit or money lending is the primary business; including: **[3]**
 - Quick credit / payday loan companies
 - Credit cards
 - Private companies promoting student loans
- Arms companies
- Companies involved in the sex industry, including topless bars and online sex services
- Companies that test on animals for non-medical purposes unless such testing is mandated by legislation.
- Companies that want to promote incentivised medical testing
- Jobs that are paid on a commission only basis
- All essay proofreading, checking and writing services e.g. Studypool



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Restrictions based on student-led policy

As part of LUU's democratic process, policies are amended after ideas proposed in the 'Better LUU' student forum. Restrictions relating to this process include:

- Groups that fall out of line with our no platform policy
- Advertising bookings for Freshers' Week/Welcome activity are restricted from companies on the annual 'Five unethical companies' list, published by the Ethical Consumer [4]
- Advertising bookings are restricted from companies specialising in luxury accommodation [5]

Further notes

- Clubs seeking alcohol manufacturer company (e.g. Smirnoff or Tetleys) sponsorship must discuss this with the Activities Officer first.
- There is no ban on subsidiary companies or charitable trusts linked to the above companies.
- There is no blanket ban on commercial companies – including restaurants, bars, pubs and shops – except for when the company comprises the above categories.
- Activities that are not permitted in any type of partnership include passing of any contact details for example, Club members or Alumni to external companies/groups/individuals without the express permission of the individuals as per data regulations.
- External organisations should also meet the expectations set out in the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion policy.
- Where potential partnerships for either LUU and LUU Societies and Clubs meet the above criteria, but where concerns have been raised about a partners ethical stance, LUU reserves the right to approve such partnerships. Approval would only be issued following consultations with student members, LUU officers, LUU staff and with the support of a majority of the Student Executive.

Notes

[1] Guidance for clubs and societies:

This policy recognises the constant change of club leadership on a year-on-year basis, and that those leading their club may have no experience of sponsorship policies. Therefore, it should be the responsibility of LUU – primarily the Activities Officer, Student Activities and other relevant teams – to support the clubs in their efforts.



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Support is currently provided through:

1. 1-2-1's with the Student Activities Support team to discuss fundraising opportunities
2. Relevant training each year to the incoming club committee members through events such as the Skills Conference and Fundraising Conference
3. The Fundraising League which has financial incentives for achieving fundraising targets.

LUU encourages all clubs and societies to find sponsorship to increase their capacity and develop their activities. The primary responsibility for finding and drawing up sponsorship deals is on the club or society itself. There will be no overall sponsor for LUU, as this would severely limit the efforts of clubs to maximise their sponsorship potential. All Clubs receiving sponsorship need to have their contracts reviewed and signed by the appropriate LUU staff member.

[2] Unipol Codes

More information about the Unipol codes can be found at: <https://www.unipol.org.uk/the-code/>

[3] Finance Companies

The exclusion above relates to companies where money lending or providing credit is the primary focus; a financial company with a diverse range of services like a retail bank is not excluded, but the advertising should not include promotions relating to credit/loans.

[4] Ethical Consumer Index

To check whether a booking shall be taken, the currently available list at (<https://www.ethicalconsumer.org/retailers/five-unethical-companies>) will be checked at the time of booking. If the company is not on the list at that point, the booking for freshers' week/welcome period will be confirmed.

[5] Luxury Accommodation Providers

To implement this policy, luxury accommodation is considered to be 200% of the average rent per week (£) identified in Unipol surveys. For the 2018 survey, the average cost of student rents in off-street properties (exclusive of bills) in Leeds is £81.79 and £95.94 (inclusive of bills). So luxury private student accommodation would start from £163.58/week (£191.88 inc. bills)

<https://www.unipol.org.uk/advice/students/everything-you-need-to-know/market-conditions>



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If a provider only offers accommodation at (or around) the luxury price point, LUU will not engage with that company. Where a provider offers a range of housing at different price points, the policy will be reflected by ensuring advertising does not include facilities only available in the luxury priced option.