

### **033 - SU to ban single-use plastics (Freebie Policy)**

*Proposer: Chris Dow*

#### **Union Notes**

1. It is estimated that between 4.8 and 12.7 million tonnes of plastic enter the ocean each year, therefore killing or injuring marine wildlife<sup>1</sup>
2. The Students' Union hand out freebies each year, particularly during Freshers' Week, to engage with new students
3. Students feedback that free items during Freshers are not always useful or sustainable<sup>2</sup>

#### **Union Believes**

1. The Students' Union should take steps to reduce plastic waste by considering which free items are given away to students, through a formal process or reviewing and monitoring
2. A move towards more 'ethical' freebies is encouraged but the waste produced by these must be considered as well
3. Single-use plastic items are particularly wasteful and should be banned in line with the Students' Union's overall approach to limiting single-use plastic

#### **Union Resolves**

1. To mandate the Vice President to author a 'Freebie Policy' which guides the Students' Union to ban single-use plastic giveaways and freebies
2. For the Vice President to bring this policy to the Trustee Board for approval
3. For the Students' Union to review other items that are given away as freebies and prizes

---

<sup>1</sup> Gov UK Press Release, <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/start-of-ban-on-plastic-straws-stirrers-and-cotton-buds>

<sup>2</sup> Green Impact (SOS-UK)