

**Leeds Trinity Students’ Union Policy: Sexual Consent, Harassment and Assault.**

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**Background to this policy:**

* In 2010 NUS released a report named Hidden Marks, a study of women students’ experiences of harassment, stalking, violence and sexual assault. It found that of over 2000 women, 68% had experienced some form of harassment in and around their institution.
* A 2014 NUS report found that a quarter of students had experience unwelcome sexual advances, as well as over a quarter having suffered unwelcome physical advances such as groping. Almost two thirds of students also said that they had heard rape and sexual assault jokes on their campus.

**What the Students’ Union hopes to achieve with this policy:**

* To ensure that Leeds Trinity’s campus is a safe place to be, and that students feel as though this is the case.
* To ensure that activities endorsed by the Students’ Union, such as attending events by a specific partner company, are a safe place for students, and that students feel as though this is the case.
* To raise awareness amongst the Leeds Trinity community, both on and off campus, of sexual consent, harassment and assault.
* To combat current social stigmas which relate to sexual consent, harassment and assault including gender bias, and false allegation claims.
* To educate the Leeds Trinity community, including students and staff, about the true meaning of consent.
* To place an emphasis on preventative measures in regards to sexual harassment and assault.

**How the Students’ Union will achieve these things:**

* Campaign to increase knowledge on campus surrounding sexual consent, harassment and assault, including a wristband campaign during Freshers’ Week.
* Lobby the University’s Student Support department to support the Union’s campaign around consent, harassment and assault.
* Approach external partners, including Voodoo and Pryzm, about ensuring there are preventative measures in place around sexual harassment and assault.
* Approach Arrow Taxis regarding a scheme whereby students could exchange their student card for a free taxi journey in order to ensure they are able to get home safely.
* Put forward amendments and updates to the University and LTSU’s joint policy on ‘Zero Tolerance to Sexual Harrassment’, initially via LTSU’s Council and the University’s Student Experience and Engagement Committee.
* Amend Students’ Union’s bye-law(s) so that as soon as a student comes under investigation for any disciplinary matter of a sexual nature, they are banned from all society and club activities, including BUCS and socials, for the duration of the disciplinary procedure.
* Investigate and implement incentives for societies and sports clubs to engage with education surrounding sexual consent, harassment and assault.

**Review date:**

December 2017