

**DE MONTFORT UNIVERSITY AND  
DE MONTFORT UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' UNION**

**CODE OF PRACTICE**

**1 Preamble**

The De Montfort University Students' Union ("DSU"), which is governed by a constitution approved by the Board of Governors of the University, exists and is recognised by virtue of the prior establishment of De Montfort University ("the University"). The University has a public statutory obligation to establish and/or recognise an association of individuals drawn from and representing its whole student body. The University is placed under further formal responsibilities for the activities of DSU. Arising from those responsibilities and the totality of the environment in which the University conducts its affairs, the University properly expects that DSU will display in all its activities the conspicuous and continuing probity, accountability and transparency which is expected of the whole University community of which DSU forms part.

Within this context, the University recognises the spirit of its public statutory obligations in wishing to cede to DSU as much autonomy and self-regulation in its activities as will be consistent with the need for the responsible representation of the interests of the whole student body (whether or not members of the union). At the same time, the University wishes to provide DSU with appropriate assistance in fulfilling its strategy to enrich the experience of all registered students of the University. To this end, the Vice-Chancellor of the University normally designates a member of the Executive Committee of the University to be responsible for the implementation of University policies relating to DSU.

**2 Freedom of speech**

The Code of Practice on Freedom of Speech within De Montfort University (Ref Board of Governors 99-00/08) applies to all members and staff of DSU.

**3 Voluntary membership in the DSU**

The University will advise all students of their right not to be a member of DSU during the registration process.

If exercised, the right to opt out will remain applicable for the whole of the academic year to prevent frivolous or tactical opting out.

Opted out students will have the following rights:

All DSU clubs and societies will be open to all DMU University students and will be non-discriminatory in their aims and objectives. Different levels of membership fee may be determined for students who are members of DSU and for opted out members. An opted out student may not hold any office in DSU, its clubs or societies.

DSU shops and catering facilities will be open to all students. Other DSU services or facilities will be available to all students with DSU members being given priority.

Opted out students will not be eligible to stand for office or to vote in any DSU election.

An opted out student will only be entitled to enter DSU bar areas if signed in as a guest by a bona fide member.

An opted out student will only be entitled to enter any DSU social event if signed in as a guest

**5.12** Prepare audited annual accounts in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles no more than two months from the end of the financial year and submit them to the University for consideration by its Finance Committee and Board of Governors.

Failure to comply with this Code of Practice or any statutory requirements may require the