

POLICY PROPOSAL

TITLE: FOR OUR FUTURE'S SAKE (#FFS)

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SECONDED BY: EVE ALCOCK (EA432)

REASON FOR CHANGE

1. On 23rd June 2016, the referendum on EU Membership was won by the Leave Campaign, however young people and students overwhelmingly voted Remain (by many estimates around 75%). The SU Bath held a referendum over the issue, and 88% of students who voted wanted The SU Bath to support the Remain Campaign.
2. Article 50 was triggered in March 2017. This means we will formally leave the European Union in March 2019, according to current timelines.
3. Since the EU referendum result, a number of promises which were made by the official Leave Campaign (members of which are now very senior members of Government), have at best been made to have seemed foolish, or at worst outright lies. In a democracy, people have the opportunity to change their minds once presented with new information, and so students and young people have a right and a duty to stand up and campaign against something they believe is going to negatively impact their futures.
4. This policy proposal is particularly applicable to students due to the detrimental effects Brexit could have on Higher Education in the UK. It is vital that we protect programs such as Erasmus, as well as research funding, and the ability for our students to undertake work and study placements abroad. Leaving the EU would also lead to EU students paying international fees and this could deter them from applying to a UK university.

PROPOSAL

1. The SU Bath should call on the government for a referendum on the terms of the Brexit deal and once gained, campaign to Remain in the European Union.
2. To support the creation of a #FFS group within the Politics and Activism subgroup of the SU.
3. To lobby the National Union of Students to call for a referendum on remaining in the European Union, in order to influence the meaningful vote in Parliament in autumn 2018.
4. The SU Bath to coordinate and lead these efforts, providing support to students throughout their campaign.

RATIONALE

1. This policy proposal contributes to The SU Bath's mission as it promotes the interests of our student membership, both now and long-term.
2. This policy proposal embodies The SU Bath's value to be student-led, as it reflects the opinion put forward by students in the before mentioned SU Referendum.

IMPLICATIONS

1. The largest implication of this policy are the resource and time required by The SU Bath's Student Voice Coordinator and SU President, in supporting students to lead this campaign.
2. Potential cost from the Campaigns Budget towards #FFS group activity and campaigning.