

## Glossary of Useful Words

### **Ideas**

Thoughts and suggestions for change in the Guild, University and/or local community, that UoB students submit on the Guild of Students website.

### **Policy Proposals**

Thoughts and suggestions for a stance and/or belief that UoB students want the Guild to support (e.g. supporting action against climate change, supporting decolonisation).

You can find out more here:

<https://www.guildofstudents.com/representation/submissionform/>

<https://www.guildofstudents.com/pageassets/representation/campaigns/useful-documents/Beliefs-and-Commitments-May-2019.pdf>

### **Quorum (*Noun/Naming Word*)**

The number of people needed for decisions and votes at committee meetings, All Student Meeting and the All Student Vote to be counted and valid. The quorum is 1% of all current UoB students, which, for the 2020/21 academic year, was 340 students. The quorum is calculated at the start of each academic year, as the number of students might change each year, according to the number of students there are.

### **Quorate (*Adjective/Describing Word*)**

Quorate is when there are enough people to reach quorum (or enough votes needed for votes to be counted/be valid).

For example:

- The All Student Vote needs to reach the quorum of 340 UoB students (340 UoB students to vote) for the vote to be quorate.
- The All Student Meeting needs to reach the quorum of 340 UoB students (340 UoB students attending) to be quorate.
- As only 2 committee members were able to come to the Education Committee meeting, and the quorum is 7, the meeting was not quorate.

### **Liberation**

Liberation refers to equality, diversity and inclusion of minority groups and underrepresented groups. The Guild should be representative and inclusive of all students.

## **Consensus Decision-Making**

An approach to decision-making used in meetings for the decision-making committees and All Student Meeting, which involves taking into account all of the possible issues that could arise from an idea, policy proposal, campaign or topic, instead of just having a “yes”/“no” vote.

*For example, if a vote were to take place for a campaign for banning plastic straws on campus to increase sustainability, and the majority of UoB students voted yes (agree), that would exclude a minority of disabled students who have to use plastic straws for accessibility reasons. Therefore, if this decision was made by consensus, both the issues of sustainability and accessibility can be taken into account.*

## **Byelaws**

Rules that govern different areas of the Guild (e.g. elections, democracy, student groups, Officers). There are 10 sections in the byelaws, and you can read them here: [Guild-Byelaws-July-2020-CLEAN.pdf \(guildofstudents.com\)](#)

You can read Byelaws 5 & 6 for the All Student Vote, All Student Meeting, ideas and policy proposals, and democracy at the Guild in general. There is a glossary in Byelaw 1, which may be useful to you.