

**PRESS RELEASE
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Glasgow University students question management following announcement of fee levels for English, Welsh and Northern Irish students.

Following the announcement that the University have chosen to set fees at £6750 per year for the majority of Rest-of-UK [RUK] students, Glasgow University Students' Representative Council [GUSRC] made clear that whilst they are pleased that the University has shown a degree of responsibility in setting the fee level, they must now provide further details of support packages which will be introduced for students.

GUSRC praised the introduction of a £1,000 bursary for all RUK first year students, and the notion of further fee waivers and bursaries for low income households, however GUSRC President Stuart Ritchie, who was part of the sub-committee's discussions, called for the University to reveal details on how these measures will be implemented. He said:

"GUSRC welcome the University's decision of a fee level below £9,000 per year but are fully aware that the total cost of a University of Glasgow degree will be £27,000 excluding bursaries. We now ask the University to provide further details of how this cost will be subsidised, particularly for those from low-income households."

"We worked constructively to lobby the University to ensure that a commitment would be made to keep the University of Glasgow open and inclusive. Whilst the initiatives mentioned in today's announcement take a step toward this, further information is needed to prove that the finance packages are not merely tokenistic and that the desire to widen access remains a long term vision for the University."

"We will be working with both students and the University going forward in order to ensure that those choosing Glasgow understand that the offer made by Glasgow is a distinct one compared with rival institutions in Scotland and the Russell Group, and how to take advantage of the offers made."

Ritchie went on to say that the avoidance of the £9,000 and £36,000 maximum levels for the majority of students was a sign that the University has been realistic in setting the fee level for Glasgow.

"GUSRC are an anti-fees organisation, and we therefore condemn the fee increase at a base level, however we recognise that the position the University finds itself in is not one of its own choosing, and that neither the Scottish nor Westminster governments should escape blame following the removal of the teaching grant for RUK students."

"We are, however, pleased that the University has chosen to show restraint in setting the fee level below the £36,000 maximum. The University of Glasgow is a world class institution, and the choice to set fees below the maximum means that the University will continue to be a realistic option for students from the rest of the UK who want to study at a University offering a one of the best student experiences in Britain."

NOTES TO EDITOR

Glasgow University Students' Representative Council represents the interests of students registered at the University of Glasgow to the University and on a national level. The representative function is augmented by the delivery of services aimed at enhancing the student experience while at Glasgow. Council comprises up to 43 elected students who meet throughout the year.

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