

In house training

Subscriber SUs are entitled to a day's "in house" training. It's aimed at officers (although we welcome staff to take part) and can be taken over the summer during (or adjacent to) officer induction, or later in the year as part of "taking stock / review and action planning" activity.

No two days are the same, and we try to shape the content around needs and your particular induction programme. The sessions below are indicative and we are happy to run additional events as required (for a charge!) – just [contact the team](#).

We make materials available after the event so that staff can follow up with additional support.

Hell in a handcart: In this session we share the latest expertise on what is going on in the policy sphere for students and students' unions and what could be coming down the track.

Problem leadership: What are the problems at your university and how might they be solved? What sort of leadership should you expect from your university in solving them? This session pulls it all apart and reveals leadership secrets to solve problems for people.

Equality and Equality: Thinking about the winners and losers on campus – and why some students have a better experience than others – is crucial to understanding how to make a fairer university. This session gives the tools to make that difference.

Influencing collective behaviour: A lot of student representation is about trying to influence collective behaviour – students, academics, landlords and so on. This session looks at the policy tactics and techniques used to deliver effective change.

Righting the wrongs: What is the difference between a student moaning and an effective policy intervention from a sophisticated policy actor? This session explains and discusses how to make both individual students and the student body more powerful.

Irrationally rational: Worried about NSS Q26? How can SUs become more effective when representing students? In this session participants gain an understanding of rationality theory, understanding the different frames in which policy and politics can be situated.

Understanding policy choices: All policy comes down to a secret sauce of four choices that those who develop it make. This session reveals the secrets and gives participants a toolkit to evaluate any policy from a handy perspective.

From wins to rights: What's the difference between a win for students and a permanent policy change? What should SUs be arguing for and why? This session looks at the options SUs have when trying to make things better for their members.

Communicating with students: Are there ways for officers to improve their profile and purpose with students that mark them out as people to be rooted for rather than to be resented? There are, and this session reveals how.

Student apathy doesn't exist: How does student apathy get created, does it exist, and how do you make students care? This session reveals the secrets and gets participants in the habit of motivating others to reflect on and agitate for change.

How to be an assertive SU: We talk about working in partnership with universities, but how do we escape the clichés of passive and aggressive? In this session we find out.

Power play: In a simulation game participants interact with each other to understand to understand power and leadership.

The public sphere: This session gives participants an opportunity to understand a key piece of political theory, and consider how they may analyse and influence the spheres relevant to their role and goals.

We also offer (chargeable) a one day Public Speaking masterclass:

Purposeful public speaking

There are lots of companies and consultants that offer training on speaking in public. Most of it follows a well trodden path – focussed on the basics of breathing and effective preparation.

But what if a one day masterclass was shaped specifically around the role that SU officers play in influencing policy, inspiring students and winning the confidence of university audiences?

This masterclass isn't about presenting, it's about persuading – giving participants the tools and ability to mobilise ideas, appeal to values and inspire action.

There are many different “skills” involved in speaking well, but ultimately officers need to know how to choose and organise words - they need to be able to write. This masterclass teaches how.

It will also help officers to develop a unique style and a unique command of their subject, with techniques that have worked for some of the greatest speakers in history.

The session has a five participant maximum, runs for a full day and involves exercises, writing and intensive coaching.