**Study Visit Proposal & Business Case**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Proposed visit:** | **Various Student Organisations in Denmark, Sweden and Norway** |
| **Proposed date:** |  |

|  |
| --- |
| **1. How does the visit fit in with the general principles and objectives of the SU?**  |
|  |
| **2. What are the goals and tasks of the study visit?**  |
| * To gather examples of effective student campaign and activism practice for use in the SU
* To record multiple alternative models for representative and leadership student democracy for evaluation in the UK context
* To identify methods for collaboration between SUs in the campaigning and student activities space
* To gather examples of practice in supporting, funding and coordinating student led activities, socoieties and sporting activity
* To build a network of Northern European SU contacts to work on collaborative projects
 |
| **3. What are the main benefits the participant hopes to gain from the study visit?**  |
| * To learn more about the areas of focus and gain new knowledge of differeing systems and structures
* To expand our network of contacts as a source of useful feedback, valuable new ideas, and insights into different methodological approaches.
* To establish and maintain collaboration between us and the SUs visited.
* To experience and learn about new cultures and customs.
 |
| **4. What specific themes do you wish to examine during the study visit?** |
| * **SU Democracy and Representation** Models in the UK for SU student leadership have remained quite ingrained but models for democracy are generally in retreat. Are there things we can learn from different systems and traditions for how this could evolve?
* **Services and Social Enterprise** The scandinavians appear to offer some interesting examples for new types of student social enterprise. Are there projects or services that could provide inspiration?
* **Education and Rights** The UK has been moving towards a US market based model of HE but that consensus looks at best shaky given headlines this summer. Are there things we can learn from different HE systems in terms of education and student rights, and the way the “student interest” is represented within those systems?
* **Political Possibility** The political/economic consensus is breaking down around us as we move from minority government to minority government. Are there things that we can learn about Cooperation, Politics, Social Democracy, Austerity etc from the wider politics of a region that appears to have taken social democracy to its heart?
 |

|  |
| --- |
| **5. What are the deliverables?** |
| * 1 x 2,000 word summary report on findings
* Presentation on operations and management
* Presentation on Democracy and Representation at Union Council
* Paper to Student Experience Committee on Education Rights/Advocacy
* Materials Bank placed onto Office 365 for use by whole organisation
* A student-facing article by the officer(s) and student member attended on what they learned and would like to implement.
 |
| **6. Is there added value from the visit?** |
| * Opportunities for collaboration and co-operation that extend beyond the UK
* Alternative management motivation and cultures, esp look at T’s and C’s
* Investigating alternative structures of Academic Year
* Granular detail on how Co-Operative Housing can be made to work
* Identifying how Swedish and Danish universities are coping with the Migrant Situation given the much deeper commitment from their Governments?
* Investigating the Northern European approach to access issues/inspiration
 |
| **7. Please include an example of projected travel and accommodation costs.**  |
|  |