



Voting Guidance for Parliament Motions

When a motion is submitted to Student Parliament, it is debated and voted on by members of Parliament. All students are welcome to attend parliament and vote. The Democracy & Policy Officer (DPO), who chairs Parliament, will update members about the progress of each motion as it happens.

Speeches & Voting

Every motion will have speeches 'for' and 'against' the motion. The speech for the motion will come from the Proposer of the motion. The speech against will be offered to the members of Parliament.

The speeches should explain why members of Parliament should vote for or against a motion; there's no need to repeat everything in the motion and they should be concise.

All members of Parliament have a vote. You can vote for a motion, against the motion, or you can abstain. Abstaining means that you don't wish to cast a vote on the debated issue. Voting will be done electronically, so remember to bring a smart device.

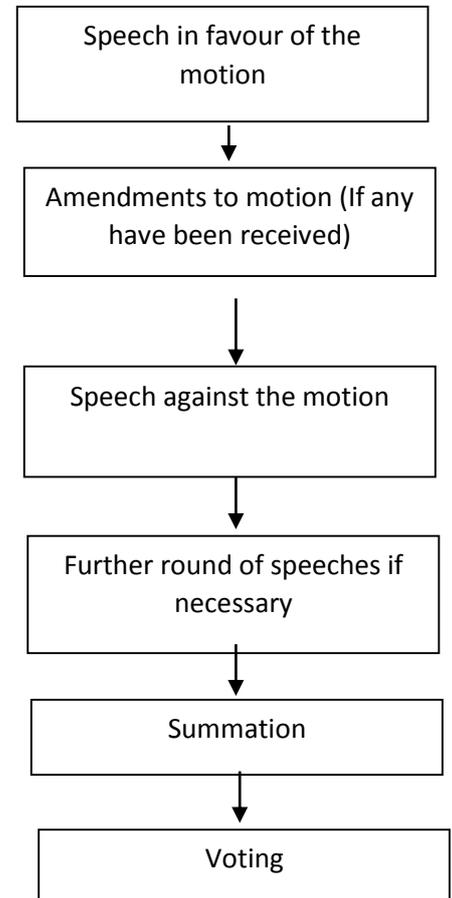
Amendments

Amendments are when members want to change a motion in part. This could include removing parts of the policy or adding sections to policy. These must be submitted before the Parliament meeting. The DPO will inform Parliament if amendments have been submitted. The process for debating these is laid out under 'Order of Proceedings'.

Procedural motions

Procedural motions are motions which affect the running of Parliament and how motions are discussed. These take precedence over all other agenda items except for points of order. Each procedural motion will have a speech for and against, then a vote will be cast –there must be a **two thirds majority** for a procedural motion to be passed. Below is a list of procedural motions in order of priority.

- a) The meeting wishes to overturn a ruling or decision of the Chair of the Meeting. If passed such a motion shall not be treated as a motion of "no confidence" in the Chair
- b) Re-ordering the agenda
- c) The question specified shall now be put
 - If passed, this means that all debate on a motion shall stop except for a summing speech and a vote on motion;
- d) The question shall not be put.





- If passed, then no decision shall be taken on the motion in question and the meeting shall proceed to the next item of business;
- e) The question as specified be remitted to an all student referendum.
- f) The question be remitted to another meeting.
 - Any motion shall specify the meeting concerned and if known the time and place of that meeting;
- g) The question as specified shall be moved in parts;
- h) A vote be taken by secret ballot;
- i) A vote be taken by roll call;
- j) A guillotine be set for the meeting

Order of Proceedings

Below is an overview of how a motion is debated. The DPO will explain where we are with each step of the process.

- a) A speech in favour of the motion by proposer or their nominee
- b) The Chair will then inform the meeting of any amendments submitted
- c) Each amendment shall be debated in turn
- d) A speech in favour of the amendment
- e) A debate of the amendment alternating between for and against, starting with against
- f) Then there will be a vote
 - If the amendment is passed it shall become part of the motion, which in its amended form shall be called the Substantive
- g) If there are any further amendments the debate shall return to **b**
- h) There will be a debate on the Substantive, alternating between for and against
- i) The proposer or their nominee shall have the right to summate at the end of the debate
- j) There will be a vote on the Substantive – you can either vote for, against, or abstain