

OPEN UNIVERSITY STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

Central Executive Committee (CEC)

25 - 27 January 2019

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT STANDARD

The CEC is asked to:-

- i) **note** the report on the Student Engagement Standard Pilot and the recommendations of the pilot team
- ii) **approve** the continuation of the project and the actions listed in Paragraph 5

1. The Student Engagement Standard project (working title 'Kitemark') was commissioned in 2017 as part of the Listen and Raise Awareness strands of the Association's 2017-20 Strategy. After approval by the [Central Executive Committee](#) (CEC) a pilot study was launched in Autumn 2018. This paper reports on the findings of the pilot and suggests recommendations for future work. A detailed timeline of work to date can be found in Appendix A.
2. The Pilot Team drew up criteria for assessment and these were approved with minor amendments by the Project Advisory Group (Appendix B). A call for interested parties to submit projects was made alongside an information leaflet advertising the project (Appendix C). Four projects were assessed according to the criteria and decisions made by majority vote of the Pilot Team. All submitted projects were considered to meet the standard but there was significant variation of opinion within the pilot team.
3. After the exercise was completed the Pilot Team provided feedback and recommendations. Feedback was also requested from the University and the teams submitting the projects for assessment. This feedback forms the basis for the recommendations for future work on the project should CEC approve its continuation. Full details of the feedback are in Appendix D.
4. The recommendations are:
 - That the project be continued with the original Pilot Team supplemented by two more student volunteers acting as the awarding body for the immediate future.

- Templates be drawn up identifying the criteria to assist University departments design projects with student engagement built in as part of phase 2.
 - At this stage a simple awarded / not awarded result be applied. The prospect of Gold/Silver/Bronze standard should be left as a possible future development.
5. In line with the feedback received it is proposed that the next stage of the project be a development and raising awareness exercise with the next assessment and award process commencing in Autumn 2019. This will allow the development of the template as well as promoting the standard and need for effective student engagement in projects. The Pilot results can be used as part of this exercise as examples of good practice.
 - 6.
 7. We would like to take the time to thank everyone involved in the project. Please see Appendix E

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Appendix A – Background and work to date on the Project
Appendix B – Criteria identifying good student engagement
Appendix C – Information sheet on the Project for University staff
Appendix D – Full outcomes and feedback document
Appendix E – Project members