SOCIETY MARK

'Society Mark' has been developed to provide guidance for CCSU societies, **should they want it.** This list provides the criteria of a well-run society and potentially offers ideas on what a society could offer to their members as well as the wider community.

GOVERNANCE

Societies should have an appropriate group of students who are able to oversee long-term sustainable success. The society should be run in an effective manner that enhances the overall student experience for their members.

Committee

- Have a full core committee (President, Vice-President, Treasurer)
- Hold committee meetings at least once a month to discuss society operations and upcoming events.
- The meetings have a standardised agenda and notes are made.
- At least one committee member attends the CCSU events planning training in October.

Finance

- Society accounts are not in deficit.
- The society checks with CCSU before making significant payments and follows CCSU invoicing/reimbursement processes.
- The society forms a partnership/beneficial relationship with an external company

Health & Safety

- Signed CCSU risk assessment and constitution.

COMMUNICATION

Societies should be transparent with their communication with members, staff and externals. They should adhere to democratic processes, and communicate positively and constructively.

Social Media

- The society has one active social media account which produces accurate and engaging content without damaging the reputation of the society or University.

Decision Making & Internal Communication

- The society adopts an effective method to communicate as a whole society and has a separate way to communicate as a committee (e.g. a WhatsApp community/group chat).
- The society has a process of collecting feedback from members and acting on change (e.g. a google form).
- The society confidently deals with internal complaints and/or conflict and communicates effectively with CCSU staff when they require support.
- The society engages with recruitment opportunities (e.g. Welcome Fair)
- The society has a process of introducing new members to the society and retains over 50% or members who attend their first session.

COMMUNITY, WELFARE & IMPACT

Societies should facilitate high-quality activities and provide diverse opportunities. They should demonstrate that they are able to have a positive wider impact on the CCCU community. All members should be able to participate in society activities safely. The society should be mindful of the benefits their activities can have on students' mental health and well-being.

Mental Health

- The society runs/supports at least one mental health awareness campaign throughout the year (i.e. Mental Health Awareness day/month, Movember, Stressless)
- At least 1 committee member attends Bystander Training at the start of the year.
- At least 1 committee member attends Reach Respect Training at the start of the year.
- The society offers events that support members' welfare (e.g. regular sober events, tea/coffee catch ups).

Equality, Diversity & Inclusion and Wider Impact

- The society commits to one University, Students' Union or Nationwide Campaign.
- The society commits to two University, Students' Union or Nationwide Campaigns.
- The society demonstrates good behaviour and represents the CCCU values.
- The society provides opportunities and access for underrepresented groups, which is reflected in their membership.
- The society runs their own charity/fundraising event.

Society Community

- The society run one society takeover per semester, providing a space for all CCSU societies.
- Have a joint social with another CCSU society.

Society Offer

- The society offers regular sessions based around their shared interests/niche.

- Other social opportunities are provided outside of the society's main theme (e.g. a picnic or casual drink).

CCCU Influence

- The society is well regarded on campus and sets a good example.
- They are well integrated within the university community and make consistent efforts to inform students of what their society offers.
- The society encourages members to support other societies (e.g. attending their charity events and society takeovers).
- The society is effectively promoted (i.e. through social media, welcome events and open days).

Sustainability

- The society pledges to be a zero-waste society.
- The society runs an event based around sustainability.
- The society promotes sustainability through a social media campaign.
- Frequent sober socials are held.

Volunteering

- 50% of committee members have an account on the CCSU Volunteering platform.
- 100% of committee members have an account on the CCSU Volunteering platform.
- A minimum of one committee member has achieved a bronze award.
- Two or more committee members have reached a bronze award.

EXAMPLES/SUGGESTIONS

Cultural & Liberation Society	**University or Local Community Campaigns:** Are there any issues many members of your society face inside the University? Ask your members if there is anything they would like to be changed, and start a campaign alongside the Students' Union to make positive change within the university. If the issue is local, petition the council or local businesses and make sure those in power know about your struggles and address them. **Local Organisations:** Look for local groups or charities that align with the goals of your society. They may have experience, methods or resources that could be easily transferred to your society. Furthermore, you could help fundraise for them and form a partnership that benefits everyone. **Run a Society Takeover or Charity Event:** Run a society takeover to share what makes your society unique to other groups. You could include sharing cultural foods, shows or experiences that others may not be as familiar with. You could even use this as an opportunity to fundraise for a charity in addition to raising awareness for your group!
Hobbies & Active Society	
Academic Society	**Mental Health Campaign:** Academic Societies could support an existing campaign through social media promotion or sharing information through their society communication channels. They could also hold socials during exam/assignment periods that promote rest and prevent academic burnout. This would also tick *"The society offers events that support members welfare."* **Providing Opportunities for underrepresented groups:** Academic societies can promote their groups through lectures and Blackboard. They can ask their course directors for time in introductory lectures to invite new members and ensure everyone on their course has the opportunity to join. It is also important to consider the cost of activities/socials, ensuring that there are opportunities to get involved with the society for free or at a low cost. **Running a charity event/takeover:** Academic societies could host an event around their niche interest to raise money or encourage attendance from other societies. For example, this could be a keynote from a guest speaker or a 'pub quiz' around a specialised topic.