

SPRING ELECTIONS 2024

COMMUNITIES VOLUNTEER OFFICERS

The Communities Volunteer Officers shall sit on the Union's Executive Council, alongside the Sabbatical Officers, representing and championing the rights and views of all 18,500+ students at the University of Stirling.

The University of Stirling Communities Volunteer Officers are fixed-term 12-month voluntary elected roles, operating within the Communities Zone. The Volunteer Officer roles are designed to be flexible and fit around your studies.

All newly elected Volunteer Officers will begin their roles on 1st June 2024, and will be supported with induction and training throughout.

If you have any questions regarding this, please email Natalie Hay, Democracy & Representation Coordinator, natalie.hay@stir.ac.uk.

Am I eligible to stand for one of the Communities Volunteer Officer roles?

For the Volunteer Officer roles, you need to be a matriculated University of Stirling student at the time of the Union Elections, and until June 2025 at least.

What Communities Volunteer Officers are being elected?

- Arts Volunteer Officer
- Co-Curricular Volunteer Officer
- Housing Volunteer Officer
- International Volunteer Officer
- Media Volunteer Officer
- Sustainability Volunteer Officer

What do the Communities Volunteer Officer roles involve?

- Deliver change projects and campaigns based on your manifesto.
- Ensure the implementation of, and adherence to, an effective [Equality, Diversity and Inclusion policy](#).
- Attend all appropriate training events and conferences to ensure familiarity with their role and current issues affecting students.

Key Students' Union Meetings

General Meetings

Executive Council

Communities Zone (and sub-committee)



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Who will I be working with?

The Volunteer Officers will be working with a wide range of internal and external relationships, these include:

Students	Students' Union	University	External
Students	Vice President Communities	Environmental Advisor	Local Sustainability Organisations
Community Zone Members	Sabbatical Officers	Creative Cottage Estates Team	The Macroberts Art Centre
Community Volunteer Officers	Activities and Volunteer Coordinator	Careers and Employability Service	Stirlingshire Voluntary Enterprise
Societies	Union Staff	Accommodation Team	Housing Associations
		BeConnected	
		Communications Teams	

What are the benefits of the roles?

- Achieve political, social and educational change that will have a lasting impact on the student experience at the University of Stirling.
- Gain in-depth knowledge of the Students' Union, the University of Stirling, and the Higher Education sector.
- Training and personal development opportunities tailored to the individual role.
- Gain experience of leading, developing and supporting campaigns for change and shaping the students' experience at Stirling.
- Develop transferable skills, such as networking, project management, and professional communication, whilst also gaining experience in leading a student-led organisation.
- The Volunteer Officer role can also be documented with an Annual Volunteering Hours Certificate.

Where can I get further information about the roles?

If you have any questions regarding the Communities Volunteer Officer roles, you can contact the following people for more information:

- **Zoë Crosher**, Vice President Communities 2023/24 (communities.union@stir.ac.uk)
- **Jordyn Austin**, Activities and Volunteer Coordinator (jordyn.austin@stir.ac.uk)

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I want to stand for a Communities Volunteer Officer role, what next?

1. Submit Nomination

Nominations will open at **10:00 GMT on 11th December 2023**, you can submit your nomination online through stirlingstudentunion/elections where you'll be asked to provide:

- a. Your candidate photo
- b. Your manifesto
- c. Your campaign slogan

You can edit this anytime until the deadline. The deadline for you to complete your nomination is **10:00 GMT on 12th February 2024**.

2. Sign your Officer Code of Conduct

All candidates are required to sign the Officer Code of Conduct. You can find and agree to the Officer Code of Conduct by [completing this form](#).

The deadline for you to complete your Officer Code of Conduct is **10:00 GMT on 12th February 2024**.

3. Nomination Confirmation

Once your nomination has been submitted and you have completed your Officer Code of Conduct form, we will confirm your nomination via email.

4. Candidate Briefing

Following the close of nominations, you will be invited to a Candidate Briefing where the Deputy Returning Officer shall communicate all important information to you on the Election process and answer any questions. If you cannot attend this meeting, you can send a representative on your behalf.

5. Candidate Support

There is support available to all candidates, including access to a range of candidate guides and workshops which can be found on the [Students' Union website](#).

We would also strongly encourage all Volunteer Officers to arrange a time to speak with the current Sabbatical Officer or a member of staff within the Students' Union. You can arrange this one-to-one meeting via the [Union Elections Booking page](#). You can use this meeting to find out more about the Volunteer Officer role, and the Students' Union can offer advice on your manifesto and campaign planning while answering any of your questions.

6. Campaigning and Voting Period

Campaigning begins at **10:00 GMT on the 20th of February 2024**. Voting then opens at **10:00 GMT on the 27th of February 2024** and closes at **17:00 GMT on the 29th of February 2024** with results being announced the following day.

If you have any questions regarding the Elections more generally, please email Natalie Hay, Democracy & Representation Coordinator, natalie.hay@stir.ac.uk.