Motion for elected Officials’ Transparency and Accountability

What we will do:

1. The Students’ Association Representation and Democracy team will record the individual votes of Sabbatical Officers, Activities Representatives, and School Representatives on accountability reports and motions
   i. The method for collecting data on individual voting records will be subject to consultation coordinated by Representation and Democracy

2. When the ballots are counted after each session by the Representation and Democracy Team, all FOR, AGAINST, and ABSTAIN votes (or absence) of each Sabbatical Officer, Activity Representative, and School Representative, for all motions and accountability reports, will be tabulated into a spreadsheet or table, like below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>name</th>
<th>position</th>
<th>motion 1</th>
<th>motion 2</th>
<th>motion 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jimmy John Smith</td>
<td>Sab Officer</td>
<td>for</td>
<td>against</td>
<td>for</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matilda F. Butterworth</td>
<td>Society Rep</td>
<td>for</td>
<td>against</td>
<td>abstain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jenny Marx</td>
<td>School Rep</td>
<td>against</td>
<td>against</td>
<td>for</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zaida Edmund Fitzgerald</td>
<td>Society Rep</td>
<td>absent</td>
<td>absent</td>
<td>absent</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. 

4. A table of votes such as this will be published on the EUSA website alongside the overall vote results
   i. The method of publication and distribution will be subject to consultation coordinated by Representation and Democracy.

5. The full implementation of paragraphs 1-3 will not take place until Representation and Democracy have written a clear and publicly available procedure which sets out how the Students’ Association will support Elected Representatives to manage their public profile in light of this accountability mechanism.

Background to this:

1. Several other UK universities’ student unions have adopted similar motions to publish the vote results of elected officers and representatives; we have specifically modelled this motion and the format of our results presentation on the system in use for several years at the student unions of Saint Andrews University and Cambridge University.

Beliefs and motivating actions:

1. Our primary motivation in submitting this motion is to ensure that students and societies have access to the voting record of Sabbatical Officers and Elected Representatives.
2. This encourages elected officials to vote in a way that is consistent with their manifesto items, which is especially important because the votes of Officers and Elected Reps are weighted 1.5x as much as other students’ votes, with the explicit justification that they are tasked with voting on behalf of the interests of their student constituencies.

3. In general, publishing elected officials’ voting records seems to be in line with best democratic practice in any Student Union or similar organization, and has worked well in the Student Unions at other UK universities.

4. It is within EUSA’s own regulations that there ought to be a closer connection between constituent and representative. Part 6, Section G, subsection ii of the student democracy regulations states that "Elected members of Student Council shall consult their student constituents on motions and issues to be voted on at Student Council in order to represent their views." There is clear scope for accountability within this democratic process, which will be heightened by the passing of this motion.

5. The Students’ Association Safe Space Policy aims to ‘create an environment in which all students, staff and visitors feel welcome, respected, and able to fully participate in our events activities’ - as such, accountability structures must not problematize the ability of Elected Representatives to fulfil their democratic responsibilities.

6. This motion specifically excludes Liberation Officers from its provisions, because they are elected by their defined constituencies rather than by the entire student body and because these offices already have higher direct student engagement than many other elected positions, as was discussed when the previous version of this motion was debated in October.

Submitted with 20 Student Signatures.