The CEC is asked to:-

i) discuss the proposal

ii) approve the proposal

1. Background

1.1 OUSA Matters was set up to have the intended purpose to provide a safe and constructive environment for student members to request definitive information about OU Students Association, how it works, and its stance on specific issues.
   - To provide a safe and constructive environment for the Central Executive Committee (CEC) team or other members with relevant knowledge.
   - To provide definitive responses to requests for information from students.
   - To provide a safe and constructive place for all to take part in a pertinent discussion about issues relating to the OU Students Association.

2. Current observations

2.1 Some of the threads in OUSA Matters no longer provide a safe and constructive environment for representatives to engage with the electorate and vice versa. OUSA Matters is not widely recognised by the student community as a space for students and representatives to engage; it is no longer beneficial to the students who wish to and do take part; as well as representatives of the Students Association.

3. Proposal

3.1 This committee recognises the need to have a safe robust space for students and representatives to have discussions, share information, highlight achievements and for this committee to be held accountable for our actions. The intention of this forum will be that all representatives should be able to engage with the electorate as part of their remit and to be held accountable for actions and decisions.
3.2 Under the Bye-Law 4.1.5 the Association and Central Executive Committee has the responsibility to provide a forum for students to raise and discuss issues that concern them.

3.3 In addition to this Bye-Law; it is the responsibility of CEC members is to be accountable to the membership. This is part of the Code of Conduct of CEC members (to quote ‘act in an open and responsible manner and be prepared to be accountable for their actions).

3.4 The format, layout and name for this space will be discussed in an appointed working group made up of members from the CEC, the Controller's Advisory Panel (CAP), current OUSA Matters mods.

3.5 Please note that we will not be creating content initially in these working groups.

3.6 This project is intended to be rolled out in line with the Students Association VLE changes later in the year.

Rachel Hughes
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