

**Correspondence from Richard Hammond**  
*[Solicitor / Legal Advice]*

Good afternoon Graham,

If I recall correctly, Article 15.3 of the TUDSU Constitution refers to advice being sought in advance of a motion but your email gives the impression that the amendment has already been approved.

If we are operating in advance, in relation to the part-time officer motion I would observe that:

- As officers rather than traditional employees the reference should be to a stipend rather than a payment;
- The number of hours expected to be worked, and whether that is for term-time or for 52 weeks is not clear;
- The anticipated amount of payment is not clear (minimum wage, living wage, something else).

Also, if I further recall correctly, Article 15.1 contains a provision that no amendment to the schedule shall be brought or be binding where it is contrary to the good governance of the Union. This would suggest that before such an amendment could be approved, the economic impact(s) would need to be considered *id est* are there sufficient funds available or obtainable to meet the anticipated stipends and are such other resources as may be required (supervision, ICT, *etcetera*) available.

In respect of the Placement Officer, the point I make in relation to Article 15.1 applies to the extent that extra resources may be required. Additionally, there should be clarity, and there does not appear to be clarity, as to:

- The anticipated duties/functions/objectives of the new officer;
- Whether it is anticipated that all students, just those on placement, or just those intending to go on placement, are eligible to be elected, or are eligible to vote.

I hope that the foregoing is of assistance.

With kind regards,

Richard