

***Support for Staff and Students Running and Partaking in Exeter Liberation
Encampment for Palestine (ELE4PAL) activities***

This Branch notes:

1. That ELE4PAL contains many UCU members amongst staff and students involved who have requested UCU support and assistance;
2. That the demands of ELE4PAL align closely with the Branch's current position in light of the motion passed by overwhelming majority on 27/11/23
3. That the university's efforts to intimidate Pro-Palestine staff and students by reiterating complaints against them without disclosing the full details of said complaints is inappropriate;
4. That the university has demonstrated bad faith in negotiations with ELE4PAL, evident in a) its failure to address the primary demands of student negotiators, instead levelling as yet unsubstantiated accusations at students and dismissing their demands with insufficient evidence; b) its breach of its duty of care towards the students in failing to recognise or address the sharp imbalance of power embedded in the negotiation process;
5. That the university has not disclosed the details of the investigation it carried out in response to the events of 6 March 2024;
6. That the university has still not substantively engaged with or provided evidence refuting ELE4PAL's well-founded and well-documented findings on Exeter's complicity, through its research partnerships, in Israel's ongoing war and occupation;
7. That the university's management, despite repeated reminders brought by expert faculty members on Palestine, continues to approach the topic in a way that ignores key constituencies and framing, for example by not referencing Palestine in communications on the ongoing war, thereby working against the principles of EDI.

This Branch believes:

1. That the ELE4PAL community, individually and wholly, has not acted in a way that counters the values of respect and compassion towards their fellow Exeter community members, both student and staff;
2. That ELE4PAL has not partaken in threatening individuals or defacing any UoE property;
3. That ELE4PAL is part and parcel of UoE's student and staff body and therefore UoE must extend to them protection against all forms of harm;
4. That UoE has a duty of care for Palestinian students and staff and must work with Palestinian staff and students, as well as those with expertise on Palestine, when drafting any forthcoming budgets or resolutions related to supporting students from Gaza.

This Branch resolves:

1. To support ELE4PAL and to vote on motions to support specific ELE4PAL demands (through normal processes for proposing and voting on motions at regularly scheduled branch meetings);
2. To call on the university to recognise the vulnerability of the students in negotiations and take measures to safeguard them. These measures include allowing the presence of

representatives, being transparent in advance of any meeting regarding the arguments that will be put forward and their basis and not using any intimidation tactics;

3. To call on the university to cease raising the topic of complaints against students and staff as a tactic of intimidation;
4. To call on the university not to carry out any disciplinary action, no matter how great or small, against any member of staff or student for supporting the activities and demands of ELE4PAL;
5. To call on the university to disclose all financial documents that relate to each of its business, research partnerships and scholarly activities;
6. To call on the university to create a policy against institutional partnerships with Israeli institutions until the state ceases to commit apartheid, occupation, ethnic cleansing and genocide.
7. To establish joint efforts between EUCU and ELE4PAL which will include formal meetings between EUCU and the negotiating committee, supporting the presence of EUCU as third party/observer in negotiation meetings, and/ or supporting presence of caseworkers/ reps where this has been asked for by students/UCU members.