

University and College Union

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To Branch and local association secretaries

Topic **Proposed budget for the year ending 31 August 2020**

Action For information; for approval at Congress 2019

Summary This report provides the proposed budget for the year ending 31 August 2020 and the proposed subscription rates from 1 September 2019

Contact Linda Newman, Head of Resources (email lnewman@ucu.org.uk)

Dear Colleague

Budget for 2019-2020

The proposed budget agreed by the National Executive Committee forms part of this circular and can be found at

<http://www.ucu.org.uk/circ/ucu932budget19-20.pdf>

Congress will be asked to approve this budget.

If you are unable to access documents in pdf format please contact Kay Metcalfe (kmetcalfe@ucu.org.uk).

Honorary treasurer's introduction

It is envisaged from the current perspective that 2019/20 is going to be another difficult year for all our members as they experience a turbulent period of industrial relations in both sectors, together with the as yet unknown ramifications of Brexit and the difficult to predict ripples emanating from this, impacting the budget. The union is not immune to these factors and whilst we have honoured Congress policy we must also continue to be realistic about income and expenditure and the strength of the financial position of UCU.

The budget for 2019/20 has therefore been constructed realistically with a view to allowing for some element of the unexpected, coupled with expenditure proposals where possible. The budget is cautious, within the confines of the expected subscription income, together with the continued operation of the cost control procedures in place, it should be possible to offset the pressures of both of the above and together with the greater utilisation of UCU resources necessary to

support the membership at this time, it is the intention to increase subscriptions by just enough to allow for an income which meets the challenges detailed previously; therefore it is proposed to increase subscription rates by 1.75% for 2019/20 overall. This remains in accord with the long term policy set by SFC to maintain the financial resources of UCU in order to face the challenges ahead, with sufficient backing. However in accordance with Congress 2017 Motion 25, we have continued to review subscription levels and present this budget which incorporates the next step in the evolution of the subscription changes envisaged within the motion.

As mentioned in the previous paragraph, the importance of membership support has continued to be a particular focus in the construction of the Budget for 2019/20 and to this end several specific areas have been allocated continued additional resources in response to this. Therefore, for the 2019/20 Budget, extra funds remain allocated to Legal costs, Branch and regional support and Member Training. More specifically these are in anticipation of additional industrial legal challenges to the union and strategic legal cases on behalf of members, extra support for branches at the grass roots level and on a wider basis to look at devolved and localised negotiations, provide technical advice and assistance to the regions and finally, additional training courses for member training and development with a particular emphasis on young members professional development and contributions from each area towards localised training and local negotiations.

The additional funds allocated within the Budget 2019/20 have been directed towards the strategic political objectives set by NEC and Congress, whilst maintaining the existing operations of UCU at its current levels.

Taking all of the above into account, the budget shows a small deficit of £(77,022), which is essentially break even and is as low as is prudently acceptable, to allow some room for unknown factors. If matters materially change during the period it may become necessary to vire between categories as required.

Yours sincerely

Steve Sangwine

Honorary Treasurer