

Pre-amble:

This policy was [approved](#) 5th October 2022 following the democratic process at the time. Every SU [policy lapses automatically after 3 years](#). This policy is being re-proposed in exactly the same wording it was approved previously so that it is still considered active union policy.

Proposer Oct 2022: Syd King

Proposer Oct 2025: Elliot Briffa, City and Community Officer

What should the Union's stance be on whether the police should be on campus?

The armed forces & police have a reputation for bigotry & discrimination. The Greater Manchester Police (GMP) have a history of racism, sexism, transphobia and ableist behaviour. At the SU 2022 Refreshers Fair the Students' Union gave platforms to both the armed forces and police which contradicted current SU Stances & Policies:

- "there should be more support for Black students affected by racism at the University of Manchester, and the University should acknowledge the trauma that racism causes"
- "We stand against misogyny... and believe in misogyny as a hate crime"
- "More work needs to be done to foster a safe environment for...QTPOC in LGBT+ & BME space, and on campus as a whole"

Students' Union believes that there should be an All Student Vote on the creation of a policy to not allow police or armed forces onto SU property unless it is a required of them doing their job, the SU should not invite any police or armed forces organisation into SU properties, the SU should actively be anti-police and armed-forces bigotry & actively show support and solidarity for minorities affected by police violence, armed forces oppression and campaign for the University to take a similar stance of no police & armed forces on campus, and the SU and SU staff should not call the police/armed forces on protesters/strikers etc unless there is a meaningful, direct threat to a person(s).

FURTHER READING

Optional – these links have been provided by the proposer on the item.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-manchester-57982273>

<https://iaingould.co.uk/2021/08/06/greater-manchester-police-brought-to-account-at-trial/>

<https://medium.com/@erin.dawson272/the-power-of-being-nice-a5e9ae320c1d>

<https://www.disabilitynewsservice.com/kicked-punched-knocked-unconscious-tipped-out-of-wheelchairs-campaigners-describe-repeated-police-targeting-of-disabled-anti-fracking-protesters/>

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-9069561/The-real-Life-Mars-squad-Six-police-officers-guilty-gross-misconduct.html>

STATEMENT FROM THE TRUSTEE BOARD

As per our democratic procedures, this policy was referred to the Students' Union Trustee Board (through its Commercial Committee) to consider the financial and reputational risks of the policy before it has been brought to Senate.

Feedback from the Commercial Committee of the Trustee Board to the Senate Steering Committee is that although the Policy allows for the police to come into the SU building in the event of an arrest or a warrant, there are other times where it is useful and necessary for the Union to communicate with the police, outside of them running promotional activity, especially given that we are a substantial licensed premises. This could include for example through local and regional meetings that both organisations sit on, or when particular issues arise that mean it is necessary for the police to come into our building, for example to discuss or investigate particular incidents.

The Trustee Board will respect the outcome of the policy vote, however they wish to ensure that no matter what the outcome, these additional lines of communication with the police remain open, both remotely and within the building where necessary.