

**Imperial College Union  
Board of Trustees / 23 July 2025**

**CSP Grant Allocations for 2025/26**

- Author(s): Christian Cooper – Deputy President (Clubs & Societies)
- Purpose(s): To outline the process used to allocate CSP grant for the 25/26 academic year and to recommend a final budget for CSP grant allocations.
- Decision(s): To **approve**.

## 1. Context

Annual budgeting took place in accordance with the [Student Group Funding Policy](#) (passed at FAR, March 2025) and [CSP Annual Budgeting Principles](#) (passed at CSPB, March 2025).

All budgets were reviewed by the Annual Budgeting Committee, comprised of:

- Deputy President (Clubs & Societies)
- Deputy President (Finance & Services)
- Activities Manager (Operations)
- Activities Coordinator (Finance)

## 2. Allocations

The committee completed a first round of allocations, after which point c.£480k was allocated. After a second round of reviews, which included some adjustments of overall funding percentages for specific categories of expenditure, the committee finished allocations.

A minority of budgets were scaled individually based upon their budget not being reflective of their total expenditure for the year.

A total of £425,089.00 was allocated at the end of the Annual Budgeting Committee phase comprised of £409,456.60 which will be awarded directly to CSPs and a further £15,632.40 which was allocated for sports club Harlington transport, but which will be paid directly by ICU to Move Imperial to improve operational efficiency.

Table 1 shows a summary of the allocations from this round and the previous round of annual budgeting. The “before adjustment” amounts refer to:

- For 2024/25 the amount before uniform scaling.
- For 2025/26 the amount before individual budgets were amended to reduce the total figure, in line with the budgeting principles, based upon historic spending.

*Table 1 - Summary of allocations*

Year budgeted for	Total Requested	Allocated (before adjustment)	Allocated (after adjustment)	After appeals
2025/26	£1,106,438.23	£441,195.68	£425,089.00	£434,141.53
2024/25	£888,796.10	£596,546.10	£424,979.38	£424,983.90

### 3. Analysis

With changes introduced this academic year, despite the total request this year being the highest ever, there was no requirement for uniform scaling. This is a significant improvement from last academic year where a scaling factor of 71% had to be applied to all CSP budgets, resulting in no CSP receiving a fair allocation.

The highest grant subsidy per member last year was £202.25. This year, the highest grant subsidy per member was £172.39 (a 15% decrease). This is representative of a fairer use of available funds between different CSPs.

Another issue highlighted by the review of annual budgeting was the equitability between similar CSPs, e.g. between Men's and Women's Football. Equitability has been significantly improved by ensuring that all CSPs with the same expenses received an equitable grant allocation. For example, Women's Football and Men's Football received £43.11 and £42.83 subsidy per member, respectively, with the minor discrepancy relating to a difference in fixed costs.

### 4. Appeals

All CSPs were provided the opportunity to appeal their allocations if they believed their allocation was subject to unjust process or administrative error. A total of 67 appeals were submitted. This is comparable to last year's total of 66 appeals. Table 2 summarises the appeals and outcomes.

*Table 2 - Summary of appeals*

<b>Total Appeals</b>	<b>67</b>
<b>Accepted</b>	<b>22</b>
<i>Fully upheld</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Partially upheld</i>	<i>15</i>
<b>Rejected</b>	<b>45</b>
<i>Rejected after review</i>	<i>38</i>
<i>No evidence submitted</i>	<i>7</i>

After appeals, a total of £434,141.53 was allocated. It is acknowledged that this is above the provisional total of £425k set by the Managing Director. FAR is asked to consider the ADF proposal in the June meeting which outlines a proposal for funding this discrepancy.

The appeals panel was comprised of the members of the Annual Budgeting Committee, plus the Director of Membership Services, and the Activities Manager (Events), neither of whom had been involved in budgeting until this point, to provide external opinion.

### 5. Summary

The annual budgeting process has been completed in line with the Student Group Funding Policy and Annual Budgeting Principles, and the Board is asked to consider the allocations within the wider ICU budget.

### 6. Recommendation

The Board is asked **to approve** the allocations in Appendix 1, alongside the 2025/26 Union budget.