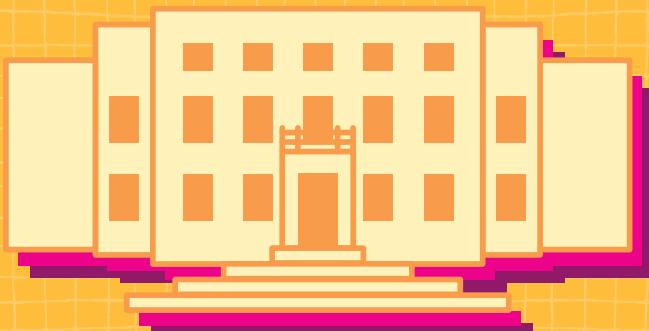




Leeds University Union

Our impact on students' time at Leeds in 2025 – and some of our achievements over the past 3 years of our 2022-26 strategy.







Love your time at Leeds

This report is a snapshot of what LUU has delivered in 2025 as part of our 2022–26 strategy, and includes a celebration of our collective achievements over this strategy. It showcases what can be accomplished in the face of significant challenges, and highlights the vibrancy, commitment and creativity of our student community – as well as the partnerships that make meaningful change happen.

When we shaped our strategy, we spoke to thousands of students to understand their priorities. They told us they needed LUU's support to learn new skills, feel safe and well, succeed academically and prepare for their future careers. They also wanted to feel part of a dynamic, lively and connected community.

Over the past four years, we've seen that vision come to life – with remarkable growth in community, identity and cultural celebration on campus.

So, we have a clear, simple mission: **together, we'll make sure you love your time at Leeds.**

Here's a taste of what you can expect from LUU

[Discover LUU](#)



We have three priorities: Fuelling your passions

Whatever students want to do, we're here to help them achieve it – to find their people, discover new interests, make a difference, learn new skills and reach their potential.

2025 in numbers

AMOUNT PAID TO STUDENTS
THROUGH LUU AND JOBLINK WORK



£3 million

2108

JOB ROLES GIVEN TO STUDENTS
THROUGH LUU AND JOBLINK WORK

5000

STUDENT VISITS TO ESSENTIALS
FOR BASIC NEEDS AND
FINANCIAL HELP

FREE EXAM BREAKFASTS SERVED

3043

Impact In Action

Leeds Ball – LUU Stage Musicals Society

Leeds ball is the biggest celebration of the year, when the Leeds campus comes to life with exciting events, live music and passionate performances from our Clubs and Societies – it's a huge party! Organised by LUU and partnered with the University of Leeds, Leeds Ball marks the end of the academic year, all whilst showcasing our diverse, inclusive campus culture.

- ★ Sold out at 4750 tickets
- ★ 125 student staff employed
- ★ 158 students involved in performances
- ★ 15 LSTV students covered the event
- ★ £15,000 paid to students through event staffing

This is Leeds Ball, and here's our story.

The Stage Musicals Society's performance at Leeds Ball celebrated student creativity and reflected our commitment to inclusion, student engagement, and fuelling your passions by creating opportunities for everyone to be seen and celebrated.



See the video that tells the story here:



Inspiring you to be your best self

We want to help every student to shine.

Students told us mental health and wellbeing are top priorities, so we work to help everyone feel well, confident, celebrated and safe.

2025 in numbers

STUDENTS PARTICIPATING
IN PHYSICALLY ACTIVE CLUBS
(SPORTS, DANCE, MARTIAL
ARTS AND OUTDOORS)

27,737

2,000

STUDENTS ATTENDING
TRIPS

ATTENDANCE AT
LUU EVENTS

107,874

8,000

STUDENTS BROUGHT HOME
SAFELY BY OUR NIGHT BUS



Impact In Action

Rainbow Laces

Varsity is the most exciting sporting event of the year, where we see the University of Leeds and Leeds Beckett go head-to-head across 60+ different sporting fixtures in 3 days, closing with the Rugby Finale at Headingley Stadium. This is a key time of year when LUU has a direct impact on its Clubs and Societies.

★ We collaborated with our womens and womens+ societies

★ Over 200 pairs of Rainbow Laces distributed

★ Varsity finale sold out at 10,000 seats

★ 850+ participants from LUU sports teams

★ 129 student volunteers

★ Over 70 fixtures across 25 sports

★ 70 student staff employed and paid £5,000+ in total

This is Varsity, and here's our story.

In 2025, we championed inclusion through the Rainbow Laces Campaign, encouraging teams to make sport welcoming for everyone. By distributing rainbow-coloured shoelaces and arranging awareness activities, we helped LGBTQ+ students feel seen, safe, and able to take part in LUU sports. Varsity became a celebration of diversity and support, and amplified LUU's commitment to equality and ultimate goal to create a truly inclusive sporting community.



See the video that tells the story here:



Creating a celebrated, fun and lively community you can be part of

With over 39,000 students in one of the UK's best cities, we want to ensure everyone has opportunities to connect, build community and feel at home. Hard work from our student communities, LUU staff, and University of Leeds partners have helped us achieve enormous impact this year.

2025 in numbers

TOTAL CLUB AND SOCIETY MEMBERSHIPS

43,126

4.6/5

CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE RATING OF LUU'S SERVICES

STUDENT VOLUNTEERS SUPPORTED BY LUU (INCLUDING ACADEMIC REPS, STUDENT GROUP LEADERS, AND POLITICAL SUPPORT)

5674

13,838

ATTENDANCE AT 'GIVE IT A GO' SESSIONS

Impact In Action

The Diversity Blog

The Diversity Blog is a new project for 2025 that celebrates cultural identity, led by our Education Officer, Shivani Gug, with a particular focus on the experiences and stories of second and third-generation individuals within our student and staff community.

- ★ Sold out launch event, students and civic partners, including the Lord Mayor of Leeds
- ★ 32 student blog submissions
- ★ 2 empowering creation sessions
- ★ Featured at a global conference in the USA

The Diversity Blog is an evolving collection of blogs, poetry, spoken word and artwork exploring the rich, complex identities of those navigating the space between heritage and modern identity. Our mission is to represent, champion and amplify the voices of these students on campus, and The Diversity Blog has already made a remarkable impact. From the blog's launch party, to international conferences, we are excited to watch this project continue to grow and inspire.



See the video that tells the story here:





Achieving Excellence

- ★ LUU recognised as 'Excellent' in NUS's Quality Students Union (QSU) 2025
- ★ Voted StudentCrowd 'Best University for Clubs and Societies' in 2025
- ★ StudentCrowd third place win for Best Overall University Union in 2025
- ★ Ticketmaster Awards 2025 'Small Venue of the Year' winner
- ★ LUU ranked in the 'Top 100 Inclusive Workplaces' by the National Centre for Diversity
- ★ Best Bar None Award winner 2025 showcasing our commitment to safety, inclusivity, and responsible alcohol management
- ★ We hold the SOS UK Drug and Alcohol Impact Accreditation, demonstrating our ongoing commitment and diligence around responsible alcohol consumption and drug harm reduction.

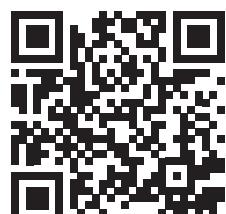


New Initiatives for 2025

- ★ We opened our Liberation Hub, a dedicated space for students to celebrate identity, culture and community.
- ★ We partnered with SASHA to develop 'SASHA Accreditation,' a network and training programme supporting Clubs and Societies to help students and prevent sexual assault and harrassment. This autumn, we celebrated our first SASHA Accredited society - LUU Men's Rugby Union.
- ★ We launched Gryphons Get Active, a programme of work to help students to become physically active - focused on supporting women, people of colour and postgraduate students.
- ★ We have committed to becoming an Endo-Friendly Union and Employer, working to destigmatize and address women's health by making necessary amendments for employees dealing with related conditions.



See the video that tells the story here:



Work in the Wider Community

'It's amazing to have that influence at a national level'

The Renters' Rights Bill passed into law in the summer of 2025. These improvements came after local MP, Alex Sobel, attended LUU's Let's Talk About event in 2023. This means limitations to upfront rent payments, strengthened housing standards for student accommodation, and enforced protections against tenancy rent increases.

'When music is paired with kindness and inclusivity, the impact is very special'

LUU Music Impact in the Community have made it their goal to do outreach work across different communities, to promote wellbeing through musical engagement. This past year, they have worked in dementia wards, care homes, hospices and with asylum seekers.

'I couldn't be more proud'

LUU Athletics is a society for athletes of all abilities. In November, a former member of the society, Grace Nevens, unfortunately passed away, which shocked and saddened their community.

In her memory, the society raised £25,000 through fundraising with MIND.

'We leave every surf spot in a better condition than when we found it'

Leeds Surf Society have a very key focus on sustainability, collaborating with Surfers Against Sewage in order to conduct countless beach clean-ups in popular spots such as Newcastle, Newquay and even Morocco!

'ISoc has enriched the university experience while prioritising faith and well-being'

Leeds Islamic Society is a hub for Muslim students at university in Leeds, aiming to foster community, spiritual growth and social impact. ISoc have worked closely with LUU and the University, ensuring the safety and representation of Muslim students, providing a Muslim Student Advisor for wellbeing.

LUU maintains strong expertise in student needs and priorities through our insight gathering processes. In 2025, we produced and published 37 reports on the student experience. These included papers presented at University meetings such as Council, Senate and TSEB, Social Outcomes surveys with our Insight Panel, pulse surveys for our student staff, literature reviews, and wide-scale surveys for our Strategic Review.



Three Years of Growth at Leeds

Over the past three years of our current strategy, we have made huge strides in improving student life. We have grown participation, enhanced support, created even more ways for students to thrive and most importantly - put our commitment to improving wellbeing at the heart of every decision.

Strategy in numbers

£10M

PAID TO STUDENTS

14,000

STUDENT JOBS FILLED

300,000

ATTENDEES AT EVENTS

143,330

CLUBS AND SOCS
MEMBERSHIPS

#1

BEST BAR NONE
SU VENUE

94,966

STUDENT ADVICE
ENQUIRIES

NUS QSU

RATED EXCELLENT

#1

STUDENTCROWD WINNER
FOR CLUBS AND SOCS

10,000

VOTED IN
LEADLUU 2024



Coming Soon

This coming year we will launch our new 2026-2030 strategy, shaped by feedback from over 5,600 students, during our largest ever student insights project. It will build on our progress, strengthen our support for student life and continue our mission to empower every student to love their time at Leeds.

We represent the student voice and are experts on students at the University of Leeds.

Want to get involved in our Strategic Review or work with us?

Email a.grills@luu.ac.uk



Thank you

Leeds University Union exists to make sure that every student at Leeds has the best possible experience. We do this by putting the student voice at the heart of every decision, providing the services that students tell us they need and maintaining spaces where the Leeds community can study, socialise, relax, and feel celebrated.

Students have access to opportunities to feel included and empowered – from cultural and liberation campaigns, to student-led projects, to forums where they can share their ideas and experiences, and create real change.

Our Advice & Wellbeing team offers confidential, independent support, while our on-campus roles help students to build skills and experience. Every penny spent in our outlets goes straight back into student services.

LUU's direction is shaped by its members, partners, and the University of Leeds. You ensure that LUU stays a lively, inspiring, vibrant hub of community on campus.

Join our story.





**Leeds
University
Union**

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