



Dear Christy McMorrow

I'm writing on behalf of the Student Publication Association, the national body for student publications across the United Kingdom, with regard to the proposals to decrease the size of the media hub at Sheffield Student Union.

The Student Publication Association currently represents more than 75 publications across the country, with this figure growing every week. We exist to promote, support and train student journalists and firmly believe that student media is a valuable asset to any student union or university, as well as a fundamental part of any democratic student's union, allowing students to both have their voices heard and hold power to account.

With this in mind, we express grave concern at the decision to halve the space used by Forge Press and their TV and Radio counterparts, something which has also been echoed by a unprecedented number of our member publications across the United Kingdom.

Forge Press has a longstanding tradition of award-winning journalism, which I am sure both the university and union are rightly proud of, however, our conversation with Forge members suggest that decreasing the space of the media hub would directly affect the quality and quantity of the output they produce. This in turn diminishes the voice of students and the accountability of the university and union, as well as removes a vital training facility for journalists of the future.

We would strongly urge that that the union reconsiders this proposal and continues to support Forge to increase and expand their excellent output.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jem Collins', written in a cursive style.

Jem Collins
Chair, Student Publication Association

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