

2nd August 2024

Dear Mr Cullen

Thank you for sending this across to us, we really appreciate the opportunity to input on the policy on behalf of the student community in the city, and as a student leader team we have included our feedback below.

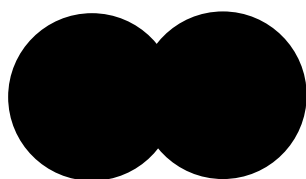
Whilst the policy does address drug misuse, we would like to suggest that it could be amended to include the weaponisation of drugs, specifically drink and needle spiking. We feel that this issue is prevalent to students, following an increase in the instances of spiking post-covid. It is a genuine fear for not only students, but many young adults in the city.

We would like to see in the policy some information around what venues will do to protect customers from spiking, including prevention and response. In terms of prevention, students have noted that the reaction to the significant uplift in spiking in 2022 saw a dramatic increase in bag checking on entry, as well as drink lid stickers/spikekeys that stopped drugs being able to enter a drink. Students raised that they felt much safer with these measures in place, however since the incidents have died down, bag checking seems less frequent, and the lid stickers seem to be less readily available. Therefore, we feel that spiking prevention should feature in the policy.

In addition to prevention, students have said they would feel more comfortable if there was a more stringent response plan in place. For example, spiking testing kits being available behind bars in case of suspicion and staff trained to be able to recognise the signs of spiking, particularly the door staff.

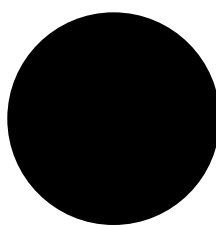
Thank you again for giving us the opportunity to raise this. Whilst students do feel that Lincoln is a safe city, an upscaled reaction to spiking in town would ensure that students feel safe in every regard and would reassure students that a prevalent risk is being mitigated.

Best wishes,



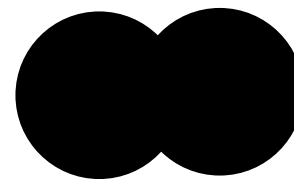
Hannah Clarke

Student Communities Officer



Amelia Hinton

Student Support & Development Officer



Emillia Zirker

Student Representation Officer



ULSU Group

University of Lincoln Students' Union
Lincoln Students' Union Trading Ltd
Students' Union Management System Ltd



Lincoln Students' Union Trading Ltd
Company No.: 08774616
VAT No.: 184165203

University of Lincoln Students' Union,
The Engine Shed, Lincoln Students' Union,
Brayford Pool, Lincoln, LN6 7TS

+44 (0) 1522 886006  help@lincolnsu.com
 lincolnsu.com | Company No. : 06294857
VAT No. : 184165203 | Charity No. : 1138187

**Students' Union Management
System Ltd**
Company No.: 10112096

Quality. Strong. Innovative. Inclusive. Honest. Dynamic