TITLE: ZERO TOLERANCE TO SPIKING POLICY

PROPOSER: Scarlet Parr

SECONDER: Elena Bowley

**SHEFFIELD HALLAM STUDENTS' UNION NOTES:**

1.In the final quarter of 2021 an increased concern surrounding spiking and the safety of students whilst on nights out has arisen.

2.According to Students Organising for Sustainability, 14% of students know or believe they have been given drugs without their knowledge or consent through their drink. [1]

3.Drink spiking is illegal and carries a sentence of up to ten years. [2]

4.NUS research states 79% of students say that drinking and getting drunk is part of university culture. [3]

5.Between September 2021 and the week commencing January 24th there were 1382 reported incidents of needles spiking across the UK. [4]

6.Sheffield Hallam students frequently use venues across the city on multiple days of the week.

**HALLAM SU BELIEVES:**

1.The safety of all Sheffield Hallam Students is paramount.

2.Sheffield Hallam Union does not hold its own venue and acknowledges students will socialise across the city and therefore a city wide approach must be used.

3.The responsibility of a spiking incident lies solely on the perpetrator not the victim.

4.All victims have the right to access report and support services.

5.All students have the right to enjoy an active social life without fear of spiking.

**HALLAM SU RESOLVES:**

1.To educate possible perpetrators of spiking on the issues and consequences of spiking.

2.To educate possible victims on the signs and symptoms of spiking

3.To work with wider city stakeholders such as licensing agencies, clubs/bars and the police, in order to improve student safety.

4.To educate students on the necessary reporting mechanisms so that students can gain the support necessary.

5.To increase the provision of preventative tools within the union, university and across the city, such as spikeys and foil toppers.

6.To promote the wellbeing services that the universities has, to students who may have been affected by spiking.

7.To educate students on bars and clubs within the city that have measures in place to protect their safety.

**References**

• [1] https://www.sos-uk.org/research/spiking-amongst-students

• [2] https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2003/42/notes/division/5/1/48

• [3]https://www.nus.org.uk/articles/new-survey-shows-trends-in-student-drinking

• [4]https://parliamentlive.tv/event/index/f01387fc-4852-46d2-895b-ee311fb5f174