

**NOTE: THIS DRAFT OF THE CONSTITUTION HIGHLIGHTS PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE
CURRENT CONSTITUTION WHICH THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS
FOR APPROVAL AT THE 2026 AGM**

Constitution of Durham Castle Society

It was first constituted as the Durham Castlemen's Society on 4th July, 1947 and the constitution has been subject to amendment including the change of name at subsequent AGMs.

1. Title.

The title of the Association shall be 'THE DURHAM CASTLE SOCIETY'

2. Membership.

Membership shall be open to all members of University College, Durham, and all members of the teaching and administrative staff of the Durham Colleges and the University who at any time have been resident in the College.

3. Object.

To maintain contacts and provide a channel for the interchange and expression of views, to sustain in members an interest in the life and well-being of the College, and to extend its influence.

4. Committee.

The Committee shall consist of up to fifteen voting members and shall have the power to co-opt not more than two others. Elected members are the officers, being the Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and Editor of Castellum, elected annually, and six members elected for three years. Ex officio members are the Principal of University College, and the Senior Student in Residence, President of the Middle Common Room, President of the Senior Common Room and Alumni and Development Manager (or in each case any replacement roles or titles).

Co-opted members will offer themselves for election as elected members at the next AGM. The position of Representative on College Council and Representative on The University College Durham Trust will be held by an elected or co-opted member of the Committee.

The Committee highly desires its membership being reflective of the communities which the Society operates in and serves. Targets may be identified relating to membership, which may include targets for gender or ethnic minority representation on the Committee. Such targets would be discussed at Society meetings.

5. Meetings.

Meetings shall be annual and shall be held at a date to be recommended by the Committee, to be called an 'Annual General Meeting' or 'AGM' - the date of the next meeting to be arranged at each AGM. Meetings of the Society and its Committee may be in person, virtual, or hybrid.

An Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) may be convened by the Committee to discuss specific, urgent business that cannot wait until the next Annual General Meeting (AGM). At least 21 clear days written notice of an EGM must be given, by publishing a notice of meeting on the Society's website, and by sending an email to all members whose details are held on the University alumni

database, setting out the business to be discussed and arrangements for attending the meeting in person or virtually.

A virtual meeting is one where arrangements have been made in advance to allow participants to attend by means of a conference call, video link or similar means of electronic communication at which all participants can be heard and can hear each other without the need for them to be physically present at the same location.

A hybrid meeting is one at which some participants are attending in person and others are attending virtually.

A person attending a meeting virtually shall have the same rights to receive notice, to speak, vote and otherwise participate in the meeting as they would have if attending the meeting in person.

6. Subscriptions.

There shall be a life subscription for students joining the College and for members of staff attached to the College, which will include an electronic copy of the annual magazine, Castellum. Members paying an annual subscription will receive a printed copy of Castellum. Subscriptions shall be recommended by the Committee and agreed at an AGM from time to time.

7. University College Durham Trust

The Society will continue to encourage support of the charitable fund supporting the College.

8. Conduct of the Society

The Officers and Committee will set down a set of operational procedures which may be varied as circumstances require. A copy available for inspection will be kept in the College Office.

9. Alteration of Constitution.

This Constitution may only be altered at an AGM. Notice of motion must be sent to the Secretary one month before the meeting and be placed on the Agenda.