



**Motion for the Students' Union to boycott Lighthouse Property Services  
Student Council, March 2014**

**This Union Notes**

1. There is a Student Accommodation Accreditation scheme in place in Lincoln, with members being marketed towards potential student tenants
2. To be a part of the scheme landlords and letting agencies must adhere to a self-regulated code of practice
3. Some of the members of the scheme do not meet the expectations of their student tenants
4. The Accreditation scheme does not permit the Students' Union to have a student voice to determine which landlords/agencies are approved.
5. Lighthouse Property Services are one of the accommodation providers approved and marketed by the Accreditation Scheme, but generally have a poor reputation amongst students
6. Lighthouse Property Services paid to advertise through the Students' Union in January, resulting in at least 4 immediate individual complaints by students to the SU.
7. The general feeling from these complaints were that of disappointment in both the service of Lighthouse Property Services, and in the Students' Union for promoting their business
8. Students are often reluctant to report under-performing landlords out of fear of eviction.

**This Union Believes**

1. The Students' Union has a duty of care for our members, to ensure that they have a safe and pleasant time at University
2. The Accommodation Accreditation scheme is ineffective and flawed in its current format
3. Numerous complaints are received relating to accommodation by the Vice-President Welfare & Community each year and these are typically recurring issues.
4. Lighthouse Property Services are regularly reported to the Students' Union each year, and hold a poor reputation amongst the students and amongst the local residents as well
5. Lighthouse Property Services must seriously improve its service before the Students' Union is in a position to endorse the organisation to our members.

### **This Union Resolves**

1. To enact an immediate boycott of Lighthouse Property Services, its agents, its representatives and those involved in their work, until such a time as there is evidence to prove that their service has permanently improved
2. To ensure any students currently letting through Lighthouse Property Services, and those who let through them in the future, receive sufficient support from the Students' Union
3. To empower students to report any issues regarding their accommodation and have these effectively dealt with by the Students' Union and/or its partners.
4. To educate students on their rights and responsibilities as tenants.

**Proposed: Brian Alcorn, Vice-President Welfare & Community**

**Seconded: Ian Antwi, Vice-President Academic Affairs**

On behalf of the Executive Committee of the Students' Union