

# Fit for the Future

Basis for consultation

January – April 2024

## Why change the current arrangements?

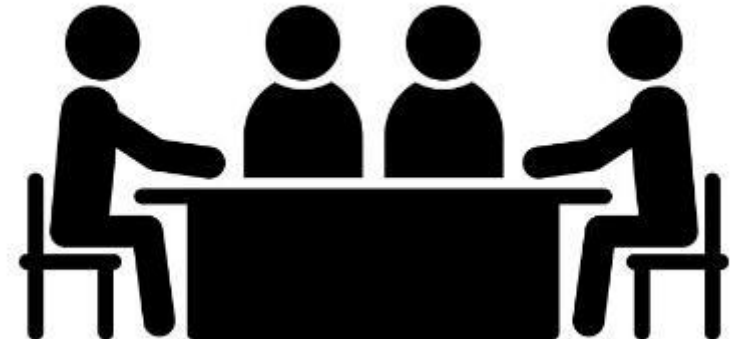
To provide a platform for true u3a representation



u3a Council of Representatives

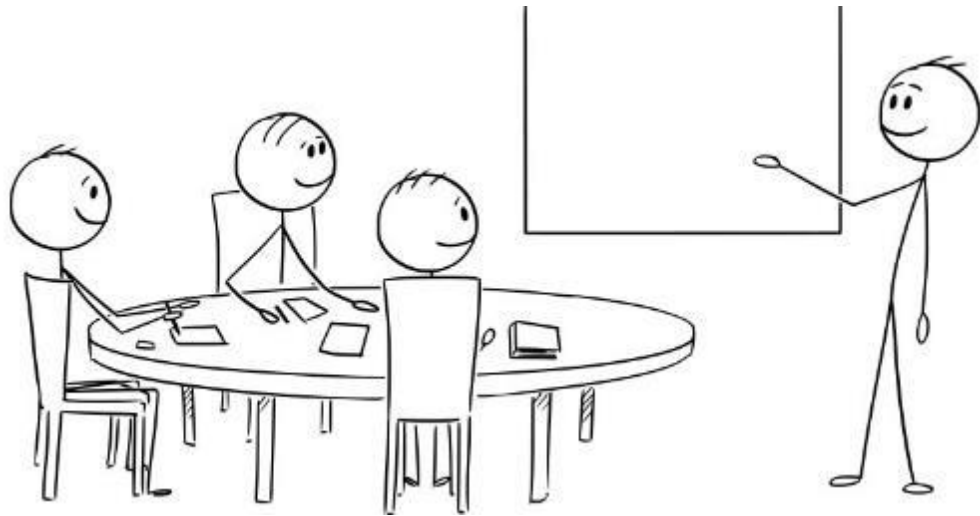
To ensure clear oversight and compliance

u3a Board of Trustees

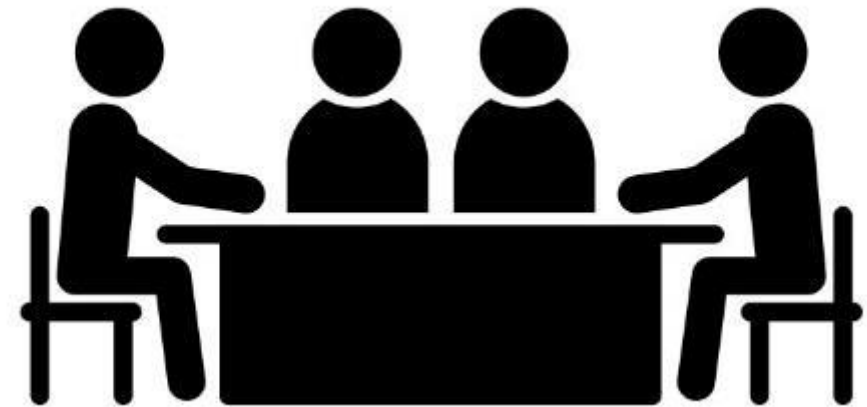


## What changes are proposed?

**A new u3a representative Council  
with 2 reps per region/nation and 3  
reps from networks to consider u3a  
matters**

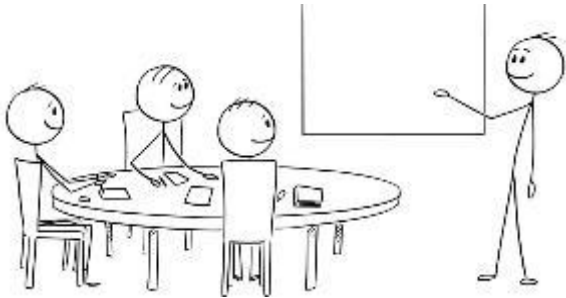


**A new small u3a Board of u3a members  
experienced in oversight and  
compliance**



## How will reps be elected?

u3a Council



Elected by Region/Nation  
or through Network Link

u3a Board



Elected by all u3as

Skills identified by Nominations Committee

Candidates nominated and seconded

u3a Membership

**Will u3as lose their voice and representation? Isn't it downgrading if Reps lose their voice on the Board?**

## u3a Council Reps will:

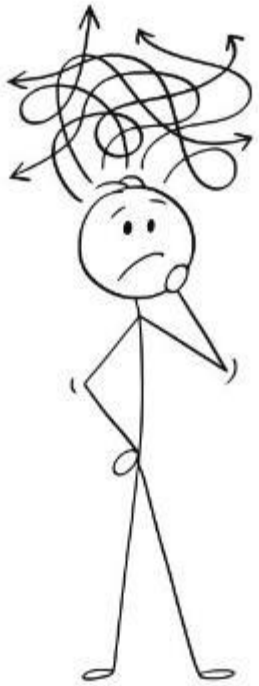
- Have a greater voice than at present
- Identify the needs of u3as
- Consider u3a-wide priorities
- Develop and participate in u3a impact assessments
- Encourage participation in initiatives
- Contribute to the overall budget and strategy
- Act as a spokesperson for the u3a movement in their region
- Be key contacts to liaise with other organizations
- Be a conduit for communication to networks and u3as in the region/nation.

## u3a Board Trustees will:

- Have a legal responsibility to act on behalf of the Trust
- Provide oversight of the Trust's performance
- Ensure compliance with charity and corporate law
- Ensure financial integrity
- Approve the final annual budget and strategy

## Is this just tidying up who's responsible for what?

Current Board Trustees have a number of roles:



- As Board Trustees they are responsible for the u3a Trust being compliant
- As lead volunteer in their region or nation, they are the first port of call when advice is needed or things go wrong
- As a representative they keep their u3as informed of discussions and decisions

u3a  
Board

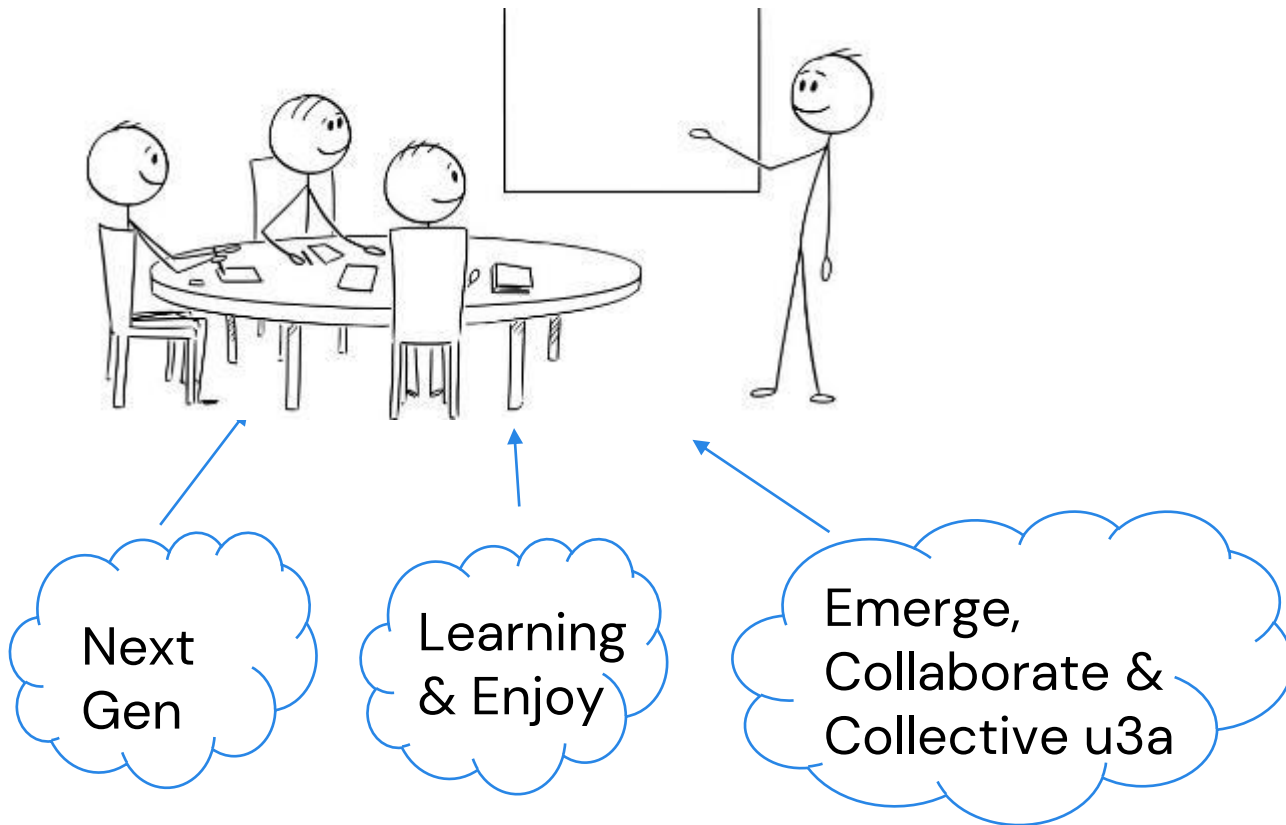
u3a  
Council



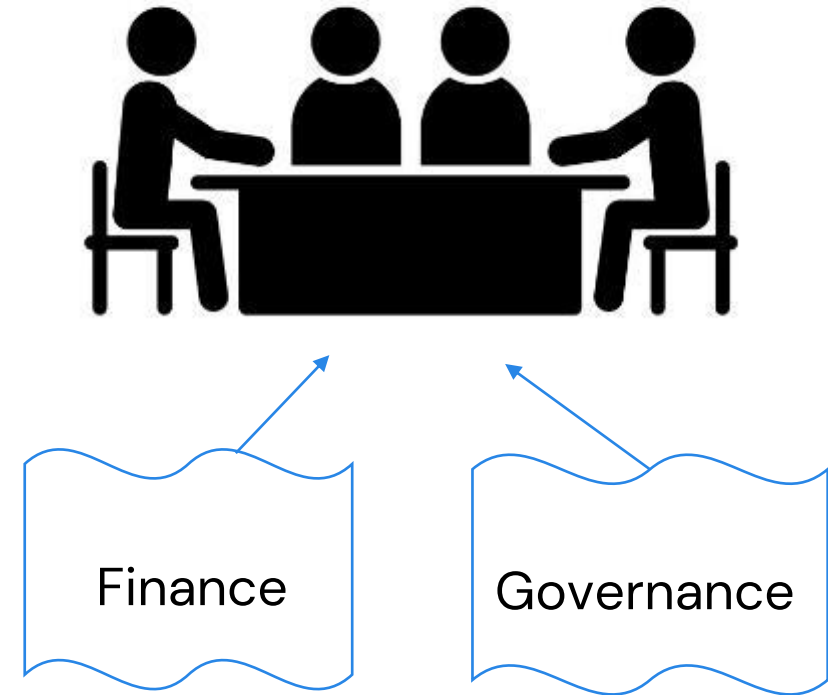
# u3a

## Don't we already have committees to deal with u3a issues?

u3a Council



u3a Board



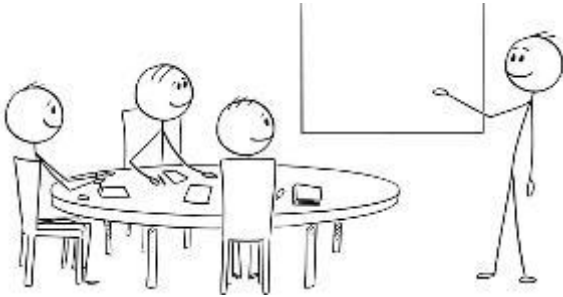
## How will u3as be affected?

- **No change** to local independent operation
- **No change** to local committee or trustees' responsibilities
- **No change** to local charity status

# u3a

## Won't the changes involve more costs?

u3a Council



u3a Council will meet 2x per year online and 2x per year in person

All work groups will meet online

No overall significant increase in meeting costs

u3a Board



Meeting costs have reduced significantly during and after Covid

Board membership would be reduced from 18 to max of 10

Almost all meetings will be online

## How would the changes be introduced?

### 2024/25 key calendar and key dates

January – April

May – June

June

July – October

**16 October**

October to April 2025

April 2025

Consultation Process

Board decides on a resolution

Resolution to all u3as for information

Q&As

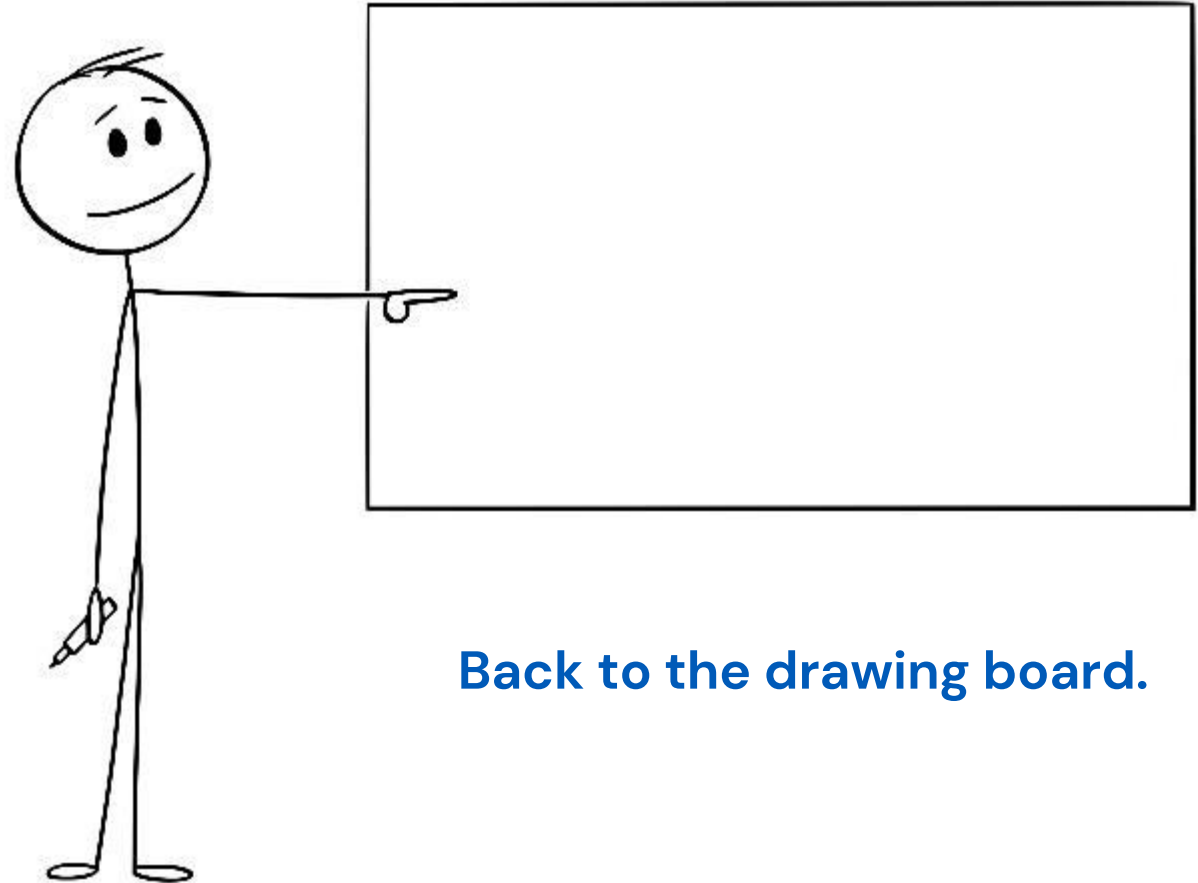
**Resolution submitted at AGM**

Nominations and elections to u3a Council and u3a Board

Current Board and Pilot Council dissolve & new u3a Council and u3a Board start



**What if they are  
rejected?**




**Back to the drawing board.**

April:

- Reactions, comments and responses collected and evaluated

May:

- FFTF Steering Group considers
- FFTF Steering Group makes recommendation to the Board



FFTF Steering Group makes recommendation to Board

March:

- Board monitors reactions during consultation period and reviews initially

June:

- Board considers recommendation and may propose resolution to u3as to be considered at AGM

October:

- AGM



Thank you for listening.

Please share your thoughts and all  
comments by emailing  
[governance@u3a.org.uk](mailto:governance@u3a.org.uk)

