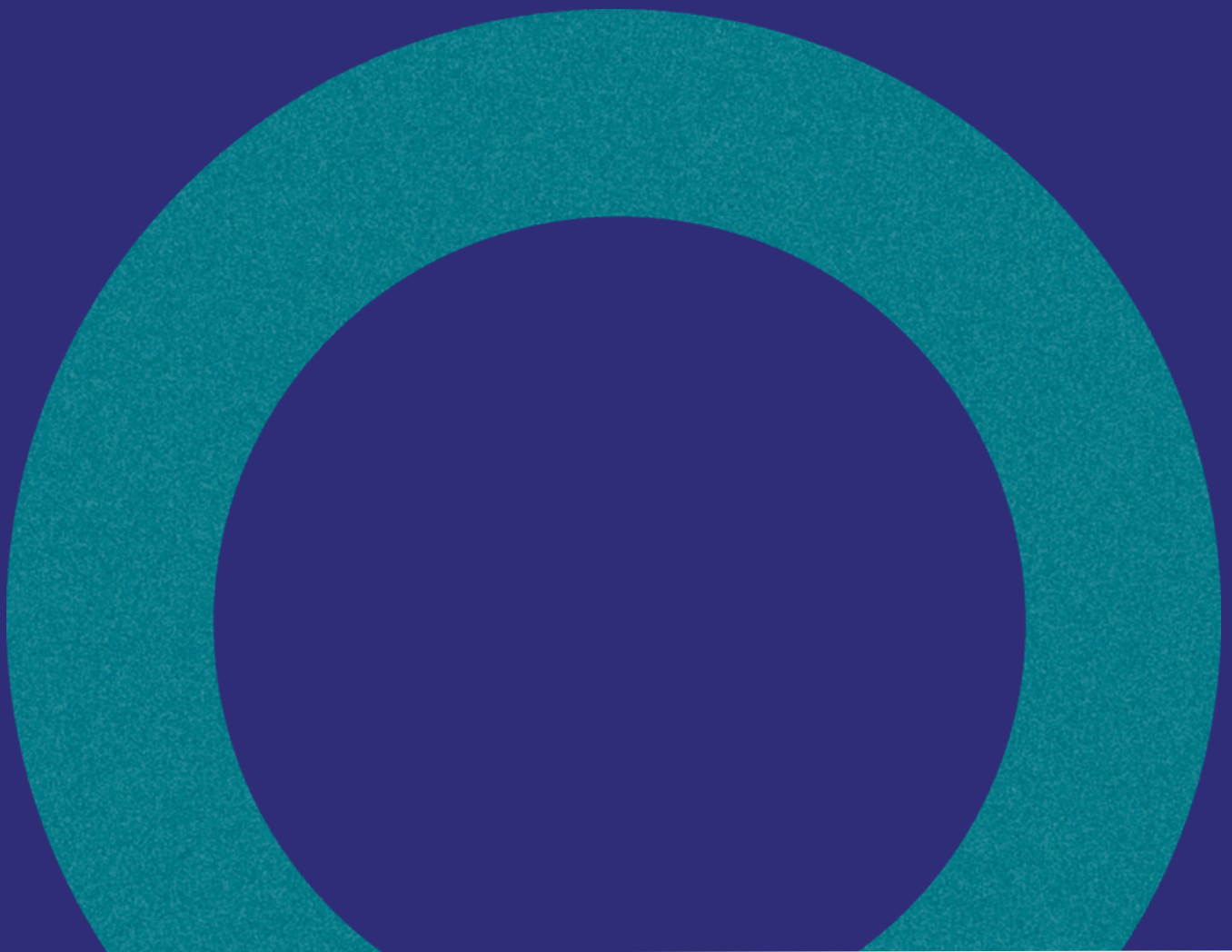


Appointment of Auditors

2026



Appointment of Auditors

Conference 2024 approved the re-appointment of Haysmacintyre (now HaysMac LLP) as Open SU's auditors, a role they have held since the 2022-23 accounts. HaysMac have audited our accounts for 2022-23, 2023-24 and 2024-25. For 2024-25 they again reported that the financial statements give a true and fair view of Open SU's affairs. We thank the HaysMac team for their support over this period.

Open SU's finance function has changed a great deal in the last two years. We have moved our accounting to Xero and our expenses to Moss, restructured the team and changed how we report. The Board of Trustees agreed this was the right time to test the market and make sure our audit arrangements suit the organisation we are now.

The tender process

A competitive tender for the external audit of Open SU and the Open University Students Educational Trust (Ouset) ran in early 2026, supported by independent adviser Andrew Dawson (Oasthouse Consulting).

Firms approached	8 firms were approached by us or approached us
Tenders received	6 firms submitted tender documents
Shortlisted	3 firms presented to the tender panel in March 2026. All three were judged appointable.

Outcome	Goodman Jones LLP appointed on the basis of organisational fit, value for money and sector expertise
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Goodman Jones LLP

Goodman Jones is a firm with a specialist charity and students' union audit team. It supports around 90 charities and social enterprises, including the students' unions at the University of West London, Roehampton, Greenwich and Goldsmiths. The firm is also a member of the Charity Finance Group. Our audit will be led by partner Martin Bailey and manager Emma Scott, and covers both Open SU and OUSET. The first audit will be of the 2025-26 accounts, our first year on Xero.

The panel was particularly impressed by:

- A year-round partnership. Goodman Jones will work with us throughout the year to understand both charities and manage any issues early, rather than only at the annual audit.
- Support for student trustees. Before meeting the full Board, Goodman Jones will hold a separate close-out meeting with student trustees, at no extra charge. This gives them a comfortable space to ask questions and make sure the technical terms and the audit process are clear.
- Sector knowledge. The firm understands students' unions well, including Charities SORP, mixed income streams, VAT and trading. It also understands what our move to Xero means for this year's audit.