**This Union Notes**

1. The college shop sells X types of sanitary products
2. The cheapest of these is x and the most expensive is x
3. For someone buying a box of 20 regular tampax in Tesco who works on minimum wage, they must work around 38 full-working days to pay for their lifetime’s supply
4. Other students unions in the UK offer free or subsidised sanitary products (e.g. Exeter, UEA, SUARTS)
5. Tampons and sanitary towels are currently taxed 5% because they are considered ‘luxury, non-essential items’
6. Items that are free from VAT include: edible cake decorations, marshmallow tea-cakes, aircraft repair and maintenance, exotic meat such as ostrich, kangaroo and crocodile.
7. Some students may take contraception pills continuously to avoid having a period and the costs that come with it. Some research suggests this can be harmful.
8. Not everyone wants to free bleed.

**This Union Believes**

1. University costs are already expensive, and any additional costs should be helped
2. It is unfair to expect people with periods to pay VAT necessary item that is crucial to health and hygiene
3. No one should have to feel like they need to avoid their period

**This Union Resolves**

1. We should make an effort to stop the VAT on sanitary products whether tampons, towels or mooncups
2. We should work with mooncup sales ltd. to promote their product on campus as an affordable and reusable alternative
3. We should continue to support the petition to end the tax on tampons in the government
4. Where possible, we should aim to offer free sanitary products

**This Union Mandates**

1. The Education and Campaigns Officer, the Welfare and Diversity Officer, the Women and Marginalised Genders’ Officer and the Campaigns Officer to investigate the costs of offering all sanitary products at cost price or through the students union
2. To share the results of this study through the Inclusion and Representation Council
3. To make sure sustainable products are considered as alternatives in the College Shop

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