

What your Council Representatives aim to do for u3as and their members

Improve Communication & celebrate success, through –

Regular Updates: Each month we'll hold a Zoom meeting where any u3a member can express their views or ask questions. We'll vary the day/time, and advertise that on the Region's website under EVENTS. No prebooking required. Your Council Rep will also visit your u3a or respond to email queries.

Easy Access to Information: We'll post helpful information on the Region's website and include links to relevant parts of the national website. Please look under **RESOURCES** – and suggest what might be added.

Engaging with the Media: this is our weak spot at present. We need more PR. We need a Communications team, we need your stories! We aim to work with local media to highlight positive stories about u3a and show the benefits that membership brings. We want to celebrate local heroes! Contact your Representative if you can help.

Encouraging Collaboration: work with other organisations and local influencers to make sure they understand, value and promote u3a, e.g. we speak to the West Midlands networks of social prescribers; we talk to local MPs and Councillors, and to local media.

Member Consultation: We will seek feedback from members through surveys, meetings, and online forums, to make sure that their input is taken into account when the Council, the Board and The Third Age Trust (TAT) makes decisions. We'll work as part of the u3a Council to make sure that members' opinions are heard and acted upon.

How does the Council work?

The Council has 2 elected representatives in each of the 12 u3a Regions.

The Council Representatives meet, mainly online, and share issues and ideas, so that they can be prioritized. The Council lets the Board know about members' concerns, opinions and ideas, and proposes action about them. Local Council members can work with the Trust to resolve local issues. .

Once the Board agrees to the actions proposed by the Council, the Strategy Implementation Groups (SIGs), who work with the Council, liaise with the u3a's employed staff to implement plans to address the problems or investigate the ideas, and they report progress back to the Council, Board, and members.

A long process, but it should work!