



### **Dudley Students' Union Statement on the Government's Ban on Puberty Blockers for Under-18s**

Dudley Students' Union is deeply concerned and disappointed by the government's decision to ban access to puberty blockers for individuals under the age of 18. This move disregards the rights and well-being of transgender and gender-diverse young people, who deserve access to evidence-based healthcare that supports their autonomy and mental health.

Puberty blockers have long been recognised as a reversible and safe medical intervention, providing essential time for young people experiencing gender dysphoria to explore their identity without the immediate pressures of irreversible physical changes. This decision undermines their ability to make informed choices about their own bodies in consultation with medical professionals and their loved ones.

Transgender and non-binary youth already face disproportionately high levels of discrimination, mental health challenges, and barriers to care. Denying them access to crucial healthcare only exacerbates these struggles and sends a harmful message that their experiences and needs are invalid.

We stand firmly with the LGBTQ+ community and call on the government to prioritise the rights, dignity, and health of all young people. Decisions about medical care should be guided by professionals in the field and the needs of the individuals involved—not by political agendas.

Dudley Students' Union will continue to advocate for the rights of transgender and gender-diverse individuals and urge our members to speak out against this harmful policy. Together, we can work toward a more inclusive and compassionate society where every young person feels supported and valued.

**In Solidarity,**

**Dudley College Students' Union and the SU LGBTQ+ Liberation Network**

**Endorsed by:**

**Jack Stokes, The President of Dudley College Students' Union**

**Remi Miles, The LGBTQ+ Liberation Leader**