

Queen's Students' Union: Full-Time Student Officer Report

Role: Student Officer Welfare

Name: Jess Hindley

Period Covered: August 2023

Introduction

As the Welfare Officer, my role is to represent the interests of students in all matters related to their welfare. This is a broad remit which includes improving issues related to housing, accommodation, student safety, physical health, sexual health, mental health, and wellbeing. To achieve this, I lobby relevant departments and people within the university and local government; engage with external and internal groups; and run student events throughout the year.

My main priorities this year include tackling issues relating to student housing, implementing comprehensive drug harm reduction mechanisms across Queen's, and fostering a consent culture across campus.

NOTE: From July 1st to September 15th, I was working 4 days a week in order to complete my master's dissertation

Training

- Completion of **SUT+** (Students' Union Training +). Three-day long training organised by USI and hosted by Queen's Students' Union. Engaged with the USI Welfare Working Group. Training included: simulation exercise, boundaries, NI housing rights
- **Marketing** training
- UJS (Union of Jewish Students) **Antisemitism Awareness** training
- QUBeWell **Supporting Student Mental Health and Wellbeing** training

Meetings

- Meeting with the **Belfast Trust** to discuss changes to the **Sexual Health Clinic**
- Met Residential Life Co-ordinators (RLCs) from Queen's Accommodation
- Meetings with representatives from the Disability and Wellbeing service to learn about the work of their department and share my own goals and priorities
- Meeting with **Common Youth** to discuss future collaboration on **sexual health** initiatives
- Meetings with various internal and external groups regarding **sustainability and climate**
- Meeting with the **Community Engagement Manager** regarding civic engagement.
- Meeting with the **Director of Education and Student Services**

Campaigns

- Lobbying the Students' Union and the University to sign up to the **Drug and Alcohol Impact (DAI) Programme** through the creation of a formal proposal and meetings throughout the month. This was my main focus throughout the month

Other

- Planning and organising the **SU Mixer Event**
- Writing my **Plan of Work**