

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

Role: Student Officer Welfare

Name: Jess Hindley

Period Covered: December 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.

Meetings

- Met with a representative from the **Community Security Trust (CST)** and Queen's Jewish Society to discuss **antisemitism** at Queen's and how to appropriately support affected students
- Attended the first meeting of the **Scam Awareness and Education Committee** to respond to the recent rise in sophisticated scams targeting Queen's students
- Met with senior university management alongside my fellow Student Officers and a group of students to begin discussions following the success of the **Decolonise, Demilitarise, Democratise** referendum
- Met with members of the university to discuss the potential introduction of the **Student-Led Teaching Awards**
- Met with SOS-UK to finalise sign-up to the **Drug and Alcohol Impact (DAI)** programme
- Meeting with the consent ambassadors, Safe and Healthy Relationship Advisor, and SU Marketing to discuss the consent survey

Events

- Attended the third meeting of the **Student Council** to present my progress to the student councillors and vote on two motions concerning consent training at Queen's
- Presided over some of the **winter graduation ceremonies** and attended the Graduation Dinner and Graduation Lunch

Training

- Engaged with a workshop hosted by **White Ribbon** on **ending violence against women and girls**

Campaigns

- **Consent** – Engaged in meetings with various members of University and Students' Union staff to develop multiple elements of the consent survey
- **Period Dignity** – collected and provided feedback on the period dignity project to the Head of Disability and Student Wellbeing

- **Drug and Alcohol Impact (DAI)** - Finalised sign-up and prepared for the start of the programme