

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

**Role:** Student Officer Welfare

**Name:** Jess Hindley

**Period Covered:** January 2024

### 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

- Attended several meetings with delegates from the NUS and NUS-USI National Conferences to determine our conference policy ideas. Co-wrote the NUS-USI Policy on ***Political Mobilisation and Democratisation***
- Attended the **Health and Safety Consultative Committee** to raise issues surrounding the Students' Union building
- Attended the **Scam Awareness and Education** Committee meeting and raised issues regarding student wellbeing in the aftermath of scams
- Met with the President of JSoc to discuss plans for **Holocaust Memorial Day**
- Attended **#QUBeWell Management Group** to discuss the university's overarching mental health strategy
- Attended a meeting of the **SU Management Board**
- Attended the **QUB Drug and Alcohol Welcome Meeting**, marking the official beginning of the DAI programme and introducing the whole staff steering group to the programme

### Events

- Attended the **Drug and Alcohol Impact Group Support Day** which brings together all partnerships engaged in the DAI programme. Topics included: communications, innovative interventions, programme management, educational opportunities as part of the disciplinary process, naloxone, measuring culture shift, and brief intervention.
- Assisted with **Sunday Funday**
- Attended the fourth meeting of the **Student Council** to present and take student feedback on the policies which QSU is bringing to NUS-USI Conference (Political Mobilisation and Democratisation) and NUS Conference (Solidarity with the People of Palestine)
- Attended the **UMB, TU and SU Away Day** to discuss the future of the 'civic university' with trade union representatives and senior university staff
- Attended **USI's Comhairle Náisiúnta** (National Council) at Magee campus

- Protested against QUB inviting the CFO of Coca-Cola to campus

### Campaigns

- **Consent** – Discussions surrounding the feasibility of running an ethics-approved survey before the end of term led to the decision to postpone the consent survey until the next academic year
- **Drug and Alcohol Impact (DAI)** – Organised several meetings to discuss the progress of the project, finalised the set-up of the programme and officially began running it.
- **Welcome and Orientation** – Began meetings with the Strategic Project Lead to discuss the future of the student welcome experience, pushing for a central university-led welcome experience