

Queen's University Belfast Students' Union

Full-Time Student Officer Report

Role: Student Officer Welfare and Community

Name: Jack Lydon

Period Covered by Report: December 2025 – January 2026

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. I also represent students in relationships with local community groups and represent the Students' Union at key meetings.

My main priorities this year include, Drug and Alcohol Harm reduction changes, setting up a student housing cooperative, improving access to sustainable transport, women's safety and trans inclusion particularly in sport.

General meetings and activities

- I have been actively contributing to the SU Council's standing committee, proposal support committee and the Club and Societies committees.
- I presented the students union at Students and Corporate services forum along with the other student officers.
- I networked and planned collaborations the NUS USI conference hosted in QSU.
- I attended AMLÉ's Pink Training event in Galway with the Trans Students' Association Chairperson.

Drug and Alcohol Impact programme

- I gave a presentation, introducing the Drug and Alcohol Impact programme to student council and updated on ongoing progress.
- I planned and setup stalls across the university buildings and during the sustainability fair to talk to students about the Drug and Alcohol survey which got 700 responses.
- I have chaired the final meeting of the Drug and Alcohol Impact steering group and planned the Audit for the programme which decides if we achieve accreditation.

Other projects

- I met with Clubs and Societies to discuss trans inclusion within societies and sporting clubs, covering policy, handbook guidance and brainstormed strategies on what action to take.
- I have been meeting with the University sustainability team, along with SU Marketing to plan collaborations on sustainability and sustainable transport messaging and communications.
- I attended the EVAWG higher education working group along with the SO A&C. Here we discussed the implementation of consent training, the universities response to sexual misconduct and trauma among other related topics.

- I have been meeting regularly with NUS USI to plan transport lobbying strategy.