

Guidance

- Your report should be 1000 words or fewer. You should write in all three sections, but it is up to you to decide how much weight to give each section.
- Your report should be submitted one week before the date of each Scrutiny Panel. Completed reports should be emailed to r.nadeem@guild.bham.ac.uk or l.gill@guild.bham.ac.uk
- You will have two minutes at the beginning of each Scrutiny Panel meeting to supplement your report with a verbal update.

Officer:	Imogen Mann (DSO)
Date of panel:	4/11/2021

Written Statement action plan

This section is for you to track your progress on your written statement priorities, as outlined in your action plan. The “context” section of the document can remain the same for each panel.

Written Statement Aim #1	
Accessible education in post pandemic world (Disabled Students Commission).	
Context:	Throughout last year I worked with Tom Snape and the Education Officer to develop a commission in response to the 2020 NSS data. This was to further explore how disabled students felt at the University of Birmingham and highlight key areas for improvement. We have since incorporated the 2021 NSS data and have reflected the movements to a post-pandemic university and the effects this has had on disabled students.
Progress:	The commission was officially launched on 25/11/2021. I have since been working with Tom Snape, Lucy Gill and the FTOs to widen the reach and establish the best possible outcomes from the report. We are in the process of setting up a task and finish group – with emphasis on the importance of tasks being finished promptly! This will involve many members of both the Guild and University, with staff members from each college being involved to ensure the commission reaches them all equally.

	<p>From this group we will be reaching out to particular members of the University who will play a role in improving services for disabled students and the actions of these members will be monitored.</p> <p>The group will meet at least monthly with published reports being made at each meeting to ensure accountability to progress.</p> <p>We are also in the process of involving disabled students in the roll-out of the commission, in a bid to ensure progress does not stop at the end of this academic year.</p> <p>There is particular emphasis on reaching staff involved in organising placements and professional courses.</p>
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Written Statement Aim #2

Increased awareness of disabled students allowance (DSA).

Context:	<p>There is little advice around the DSA and other forms of support on offer to disabled students. There is an opportunity for me to provide first-hand advice on how to access all the support available from the perspective of a disabled student accessing the support myself. I want to make this as easily accessible as possible on the Guild website.</p>
Progress:	<p>Progress around the disability webpage has been minimal and communication has been slow. This term I intend to produce some helpful resources for the DSA (as I didn't have time last term), particularly working with the Postgrad Officer to ensure this is an area we cover.</p>

Written Statement Aim #3

Context:	<p>One of my big aims for last year, that I couldn't achieve due to the pandemic, was sports inclusion for disabled students. I have followed this goal through to this year, with the Paralympics and Commonwealth Games to inspire my drive. I want to create more awareness of positive inclusion of disabled students within sports at the university and create more opportunities for para-sports to be offered. I worked with last year's Sports Officer to develop the inclusion & accessibility training around disability for sports team committees.</p>
Progress:	<p>Again, discussions around this have been without much follow-up or action. I am hoping to meet with the Sports Officer again this term to discuss further developments. I would love to be able to have more direct discussions with UoB Sports staff about events</p>

and new opportunities, such as wheelchair basketball, but I don't have the capacity for such regular prompts that seem to be needed to make sure things aren't forgotten.

Role and responsibilities

This section is for you to write about any projects you have been working on or meetings you have been to that you think are of particular importance to your remit.

Meeting / project	Outcome for students
Disability History Month – highlighting the themes of empowerment and change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DSC launch (as previously discussed) - DSC theme discussion events after launch - Student rep evenings for disabled students - Events with DAMSA - Careers event (working with the UOB careers department to help students access specific support in this area) - Working with the main university organising team to collaborate where possible - Sports events (as previously discussed)
DAMSA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Helping DAMSA run through my role on committee as co-chair. - Hosting regular coffee afternoons for networking - Organising regular committee meetings - I frequently meet with individual students when they need advice / support
Disability education in MDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - I have been working with the communication department in MDS to develop the way they educate about disability.

Ideas and policy

This section is for you to report on progress made to ideas and Guild policy that you have been mandated to work on. You only need to update your actions taken. You can also add ideas or policy as they are passed through the year.

Idea / policy	Action taken since last Panel
Idea / policy title	

Other student issues, meetings or projects to note: