

Scrutiny Panel Officer Report 2022/23

Guidance

- There are four sections to this report (1) Roles and Responsibilities, (2) Written Statement (Manifesto) Action Plan, (3) Student Ideas & Policy and (4) Other Student Issues, Meetings or Projects to Note.
- You should write in all four sections, but it is up to you to decide how much you would like to write for each section.
- Your report should be submitted one week before your session. Completed reports should be emailed to Rozena (<u>r.nadeem@guild.bham.ac.uk</u>) and <u>Scott</u> (<u>s.dawson@guild.bham.ac.uk</u>)
- If you are unable to submit your report on time, please let Rozena and Scott know ASAP
- You will have two minutes at the beginning of your meeting slot to provide any further updates verbally

Officer:	President – Acacia Matthews
Date of Panel:	27/10/22

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.

Please feel free to add extra rows if you need to.

Meeting / Project	Outcome For Students
One City	Coordinated efforts to make Birmingham the best place to be a city – joint lobby group
SPRC (Strategic Planning and Resource Committee)	Maintains the student voice in the strategic planning that takes place at the University. Was able to give commentary on the NSS results as well as the Black awarding gap and challenge the University on their efforts to fix this.
Appointments Panel	Involved in ensuring that new external trustees are Guild focused and capable of committing the time needed. Panel is taking place this coming week (24/10/22)

VC 1:1	These 1:1s have been really productive with confirmation of stipend increases, understanding the reason for investment in fossil fuels, the impact of the cost of living on university finances and students as well as facilitating student representation in the recruitment of council members and UEB (University Executive Board) members.
Democracy Review	This has been a project taken over from my predecessor and I have been working on this with Sports officer and Postgraduate Officer. We are looking at democratic structures, the role of Part Time Officers and committees to encourage increased participation within student democracy beyond the officer elections.
Finance Committee	Chaired Finance committee with support from the Sports Officer and managed to hold a strong level of discussion which allowed for good challenge and encouragement of where the Guild is financially currently.

Written Statement (Manifesto) 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.

Please feel free to add extra boxes if you need to.

Written Statement Aim #1		
Compulsory Consent course for all students and staff		
Context:	Conscious of being survivor friendly and accessible – hence online and looking into an opt out option.	
Progress:	 Met with Jon Elsmore and Reeve consistently since the start of term to discuss what we want the consent course to be and what short and long term results will be SHORT TERM – consent course filmed with Not On reps to go on Canvas provisionally in the EDI module (This has been done just needs some comms from both the uni and Guild) LONG TERM – external consultants will help us to formulate a consent course which will be survivor friendly (meeting consultants 25/10/22) 	

Written Statement Aim #2		
Open door policy to make Officer Team more accessible.		
Context:	Students need to know where they can go if they have a query elected to represent the,	
Progress:	 Have a fully operational open door policy with an open/closed door sign that has worked really well for students to know that we are around and available for a conversation. The FTO inbox is also being utilised really well for when we are not available Have also continued my commitment to ensure that students are kept up to date with my progress through twice weekly updates in photo and text form – have posted these on both Facebook and Instagram 	

Written Statement Aim #3		
Demand UOB declares a climate emergency and divests from fossil fuel.		
Context:	Uob recently declared a climate emergency which is the result of significant lobbying from previous officer teams need them to ensure that their actions with investment reflect this recent decision.	
Progress:	 Had conversations with the Finance Director and the Vice Chancellor about the investment in fossil fuels (0.5% of portfolio). The investment is all positive and focused on green alternatives to fossil fuels and maintain relationships for engineers and other science subjects to have careers after graduation and is closely monitored by the portfolio managers. I am currently pushing for the advertisement of this as this is not information students have access to and is more productive than no investment in the sector – actually (when monitored) a more sustainable solution especially considering the money in the sector – we need to move away from fossil fuels but also need an alternative. 	

Student Ideas and Policy

This section is for you to report on progress made on student ideas and policy that you have been allocated from the Guild's decision-making (democratic) process.

You only need to provide updates on your actions.

You can also add ideas or policy as they are submitted throughout the year.

Please feel free to add extra rows to the table if you need to.

Idea / Policy	Action Taken Since Last Panel
n/a	

Other Student Issues, Meetings or Projects to Note:

Issue/Meeting/Project	Context/Updates
Oddballs at the Guild	Was approached by the Oddballs student ambassador about getting posters and educational pillows around the Guild and Unviersity. Confirmed to have them around the Guild and in talks with the University to have them around campus for an allotted amount of time.
Cost of Living	Have been involved in discussions with the council to see what provision we can provide for students as energy prices go up. Pushed information about free NHS resources for those on low income (students) Had conversations with the university about more funding and advocated for students and made it really clear how the current economic crisis will significantly impact students (more so than most social groups)
Safe Nights Out – general safety and protection	Given out 3-4k personal protective alarms across the university to keep students safe

	Spoken to venues and events about what the protocol is for vulnerable students
Reclaim the Night	Started conversations surrounding doing either a reclaim the night march or rally.
Don't rush to rent	Pushed a soft launch for don't rush to rent 2 weeks earlier than normal and continued to push housing week (this week 24/10/22) Meaning students are not caught out by poor renting decisions.
TERF agenda in HE	Was approached by a student concerned about TERFs at UOB and confirmed the stance of the Guild being a trans inclusive space and offered the potential for a forum for women liberation groups if that was something they would like – have not heard back from them yet but very happy to continue to facilitate this.