



Welfare Campaigns Meeting - 25-10-2020

Attendance: ES (Senior Welfare Officer), HH (Campaigns Manager), JG (Male Welfare), JGa (Female Welfare), SWC (President), MP (Vice-President), IA, GT, GF, MPi, BC, TAF, LH (LGBT+ Rep), GG (Working Class Students' Rep), HM (EM Rep)

Apologies: CA, AJ (Local Students' Rep)

Location: An MS Teams Call

HH *Welcomes everyone*

Everyone introduces themselves, and their roles

Giving Apologies

ES Our minority reps are here as ex-officio members, they are here to make sure we are being inclusive. If you can't make a meeting please let me know so I can pass it on to MP.

SWC These Positions are JCR positions, if you miss enough meetings without giving apologies, you are forced to resign. It's just about communications – you don't even necessarily have to give a reason. This also applies to JCR meetings, It's to make sure everyone is engaged and putting work in.

ES There were 2 people on welfare last year who got kicked off, so please make sure you do so. That said, the team is different this year, much more stripped down (to about half the size). Hopefully we can have quite a nice tight group. We'll strive for a bit more accountability, and make sure everyone is chipping in.

Take Time to Sign and Housing Talks

HH Our first campaign starts tomorrow – we've already made the resources. It's "Take Time To Sign" which ran last year, all the colleges and the SU are getting involved. This is an important issue, and we need to provide information. It's a welfare issue because the housing rush causes a lot of anxiety. Need to emphasise that it doesn't need to be like this. We'll be making posts this week – it'd be great if you could share these if you feel happy to – social media is really our biggest tool now. Telling your flat about it can help spread this info out also.

ES We've done a facebook profile frame, you can add it just for the week, perhaps with a small statement about your experience. We'll be doing a series of testimonials from people who want to share. There's also the housing talk on Friday & Monday, which RM (PR Officer) will be running



SWC Ideally all first years will come to one of these, it details most steps of signing a house in Durham – if first years could spread the word it would be appreciated.

Learning Styles/How the Brain Works Campaign

HH The first campaign you guys will be able to help with will be starting on the 9th of November, and it focuses on different learning styles. It's about how the brain works, and how you need to adapt. I think it's not spoken about often. We'll mention Imposter Syndrome. I'd love to see everyone taking a specific role, be it collating information, making posters, or helping to run events – this way we can work together more efficiently. We'll talk about this campaign closer to the time.

BC In terms of separate roles, how will we make sure that we are working well together and not stepping on each others toes?

HH When we meet to organise this stuff, I'd like to make a timeline between now and when the campaign comes out of organising everything.

Campaigns later in Term

HH Before christmas, we'll be planning a Movember campaign – start thinking about this, specific for online events (we can only do so many pub quizzes), and then around Xmas we'll be doing a festive campaign, last year we put a lot of trinkets around college to promote wellbeing – have a think about events and things we can focus on.

Engagement

HH How do you think we can best engage with people due to COVID? People spend all their day online with courses, then are forced to socialise online – I find it tiring. Think about how we can deal out content that people with want to engage with. If COVID goes we can move onto in person events, but this doesn't seem to be coming any time soon.

Group Chat and next meeting

ES What is everyones opinion on an FB messenger group chat?

BC It's a good idea, and makes it a bit less complicated.

HH We should have a meeting next week to talk about campaigns. Between now and then, think about engagement and then feed that back in that meeting.

ES We could even turn it into a bit of a fun social!

HH We're going to smash it!