The details in this report reflect progress made since the last meeting of Union Senate, which took place on Tuesday 20th November.

Minutes of previous meetings can be found on our website here:

### Leading the Union

| Goal 1: To increase awareness raising relating to healthy wellbeing and support services available. | 24/7 Support Service Information received by 6,000+ Students #StayFresh and Halls Roadshows
Welfare Representatives in Sports Guidance Page #WelfareWednesday Podcast
World Mental Health Day |
| --- | --- |

**PG Welfare**

Emily Harrison, Vice-President Student Communities, and I have been working together to ensure that PGs are not forgotten in the UoS or SUSU support offer. We met with Isolutions to discuss better signposting of support services on the UoS website, computer desktops and BlackBoard.

**Time to Talk Day**

For time to talk day, SUSU’s Mind Society have organised a discussion panel event, in partnership with … In addition, Student Life and Sustainability Co-ordinator and I are providing a chill out space, with tea and biscuits at Avenue campus 12:00-15:00. We hope to engage students in conversation about how they are doing, signpost to support services and to promote #AskTwice.

**University Mental Health Day**
We have a meeting with the Student Services and Mental Health stakeholders at the University to start organising a holistic and engaging UMHD.

**Support Service Video**

I have organised, with our videographer and UoS and SUSU support services, a video that showcases different services that are on offer to students. This video will be adaptable for different audiences and purposes. It will be used by staff to signpost and students to be more informed of the support services on offer, their differences and how to access them.

**Goal 2: To be a SU that leads on sustainable initiatives.**

**TAW - #SUSUTransAwareness**

Met with UoS Student Services to feedback comments and ideas brought up at the panel event, to improve inclusivity at SUSU and UoS. We are each working towards improving different areas that were discussed. Will have more specific updates in future report.

**GNTS**

I have been locating self-contained cubicles around campus, and am happy to announce that after working with ISolutions, you can now search for GNTs on [https://maps.southampton.ac.uk](https://maps.southampton.ac.uk). I am continuing to log self-contained cubicles at more sites and will have any gendered signage changed and add these to the maps database. I am looking to work with faculty offices to help complete this task and the SUSU Marcomms team and I are in the process of creating posters to show where the GNTs are on Highfield Campus. I have met with one of the key University staff members working on the new Centenary building to ensure that GNTs are considered in the building work. No progress has been made on the University building standard specification policy yet, due to time constraints.
Asylum Seeker and Refugee Support and Scholarship Proposal

Follow up meeting with Student Services w/c 11th February.

LGBT+ History Month

To commence the month, I organised that the VC raises the LGBT+ flag with LGBT+ Society President. We are decorating the concourse (from 11th February, as Lunar New Year decorations are up for the first week of Feb) with bunting and flags to represent the diversity of sexualities and gender identities.

To increase awareness of LGBT+ History month, we are sharing inspirational LGBT+ figures - that have been nominated by staff and students- from our SUSU Facebook page. In addition, I have organised the photo booth to be on the SUSU concourse with an LGBT+ banner, for students to take and print free photos to remember the month. Also, I have arranged – with RAG society- for all the collection pots in February and all purchases of our February Bars special Pride cocktail to fundraise for local gender identity charity, Chrysalis.

Sustainability and Student Life Co-ordinator and I have facilitated and empowered LGBT+ Society to run events throughout the month.

Emily Harrison, Vice- President Student Communities, and I are working with LGBT+ Society to organise a Pride Parade and Pride Party to conclude LGBT+ History Month. The Pride Party is showcasing only queer, local musicians and is open to all students and staff. The Pride Parade will take a route from Highfield to Avenue and back and all clubs and societies are being asked to take part.
Goal 3: To ensure that SUSU and the University offer quality support services and consider student wellbeing at the heart of their operation.

**University/SUSU Regular Communication**

Working with Student Communications to ensure holistic support service offer advertised. UoS Communications team and I are in regular contact working to ensure holistic, engaging and accessible marketing of UoS and SUSU support services in student emails and SUSSED posts, in addition to sharing SUSU welfare marketing in Halls, Enabling and the Library.

**UEB/ Mental Health Framework Working Group**

I’m very excited to announce that as a result of the proposal taken to the University Executive Board- the big dogs gave permission for a working group to be formed that would work to evaluate and adapt our mental health and wellbeing offer to students. We are currently working on an audit- to discover what opinions are of/what we provide currently, then we will investigate and evaluate where the gaps are in this offer, then will we make proposals in light of this data as to where/what UEB
can fund or approve to be implemented University-wide in order to improve mental health and wellbeing provision- yay!

**Student Minds Mental Health Charter**

We are awaiting more information from Student Minds about the development of the charter, which the University and SUSU are helping to develop. I have also applied for SUS to be on the new Student Minds Student Unions Mental Health working group.

**You Are More Than (YAMT) #YouAreMoreThan**

YAMT has been really successful this winter. On offer we had:

- Free soup

*Image 4: Samuel Dedman, Vice-President Education, Education Co-ordinator and I on Redbrick serving soup during YAMT.*

- Study spaces, which were very well used.
- Chill out space (with free fruit, finger knitting, building blocks, anti-stress fiddle gadgets and a sensory bubble tub) which was very well used.
Image 5: The chill out space available during YAMT.

- Free fitness and relaxation classes, with Sport and Wellbeing
- Free meditation sessions, with Meditation Society
- 5AsideChessBus (on Redbrick and at Monte Halls)
- **Hearing Dogs** event with Hearing Dogs for Blind People charity had 345 attendees and was a great success. I used the popularity to hand out over 100 business cards with support service and getting home safe information to students in the queue and we also promoted the You Are More Than campaign with our banners.

Image 6: A representative of Hearing Dogs for Deaf People, explaining his life with a hearing dog to students.
- **Safety Bus operating until 2am.** Extended Safety Bus hours enabled students who may work late in the library to get home, to their door, safe.


*Image 7: Muffins and Mindfulness booklets that were distributed to students in Halls.*

YAMT at WSA. Featuring colouring, free fruit, pet rock making and bird feeder making.

*Image 8: YAMT at WSA.*
I organised for each sabbatical officer to be filmed by Marcomms for a YAMT ‘exam and study’ tip series. These videos were realised during the exam period and gained good traction.

Image 10: Screenshot of my YAMT study tips video.

**Sexual Health and Consent Campaign**

Worked with Sexual Consent Awareness (SCA) Society and Wessex Scene to conduct a sexual violence survey. The survey is still ongoing and we have been promoting the “your voice has power” campaign at our events.

Cake and Condoms, “come for the condom, stay for the cake” are running in February at different Halls sites, to promote SCA’s sexual health and consent awareness month.

**Sexual Violence working Group w/ UoS**

We have our second meeting 6th February, which will include a presentation by our SUSU Insights Manager and SCA President to show results of survey. Looking forward, we will be discussing what SUSU and UoS can do to reduce sexual harassment, assault and rape and to improve student consent awareness.

Additional Comments:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>New Ideas</th>
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| **Goal 1:** Improve offering and impact of Union safety initiatives and the student awareness of these | | **Southampton Common Forum (SCF) Safety and Transport Working Group**  
**Southampton Common Forum Management Committee**  
I have been asked to sit on the Southampton Common Management committee and to offer student insight to the development and changes to the common. Southampton City Council (SCC) have approved SCF as an official organisation. I have created the SCF Instagram #YourCommonYourSay to ensure consultation is done and accessible for a younger audience. |  
**Ask for Angela**  
**University-wide Harassment Reporting Tool**  
We are looking at how to improve this and the #UoSRespect campaign in the sexual violence working group. |  
**#SafeSesh- Drug Harm Reduction**  
We met with interested students to discuss how they would like to see the campaign in order to help us shape the campaign. We have organised the content that we want to see on the webpage and are looking to release it alongside a comedic performance about drug harm reduction. |  
**Campus Security**  
Working with the security team to push for a 24/7 security app. We have regular catch ups and they are very helpful in ensuring safety at our events. |
| Progress: 0/1/2/3 | | **Planning/ A to B Project Management Skills**  
**What progress?**  
I have been introducing idea to many levels of staff and stakeholders at University. All like. Proposing to MH Steering Group, once audit has been completed. I have been writing up a proposal, using results from NSS and SSS to emphasise need for module. |
| **Goal 2:** To introduce a compulsory welfare module for new students | | **Cluttr**  
I have been trying to get in contact with Tunde- having sent multiple messages in different formats to different contact addresses for Tunde and Landan, but have received no answer in 3 months. Have decided to cut ties with App as unreliable. |  
**Don’t Rush to Rent** |
| Progress: 0/1/2/3 | | | |
| **Goal 3:** Continue to improve student housing experience | | | |
We continue to promote the DR2R campaign.

Image 11: New Years Don’t Rush to Rent marketing.

“How to Adult”/ Housing and Life Skills Day

I created a housing and life skills day promotion video to promote the How-to Adult: Housing and Life Skills event. This worked well as a marketing tool and gained good traction.

Image 12: Still of How to Adult: Housing and Life Skills Day marketing video.
The event ran well, with over 120 attendees. Students particularly liked the Advice Centre activities, SUSU Lettings and Southern Water and of course the freebies!!! Southern Water said it had been the best one so far and they’ve been to the last 4 housing fayres. There were not constant hordes of students, but those that attended had quality conversations and student leaders and I walked around SUSU outlets and on redbrick to market the event with a big pink princess castle and this worked really well. Labelling and ensuring the content of the event was life skills and housing (not just finding a house!!) was an important factor to the events success. Most students already had houses (grr what about DR2RI) but still were interested as there was much more important information for them than just getting a house.
**Housemate Mingler Event**

This event was rather successful. We had stickers for students to promote either they were looking for a room or need someone to fill a room. On these stickers, there was an option to describe what area and type of person you are looking for and this worked really well. The group game/ice-breaker activity also worked well for those who wanted to join in to learn more about a wider proportion of people in one group and led to smaller discussions after with people with similar interests. We had 30 attendees and the free drink aspect was very well received. There is student demand for us to host another mingler event!

*Image 14: Emily, Vice-President Student Communities, at the housemate finder event.*

**SUSU Lettings Facebook Page and Find a Housemate Page**

I have created a SUSU Lettings Facebook Page and SUSU Lettings: Find a Housemate Facebook group to help promote SUSU Lettings service and make it more accessible to students, in addition to facilitating students finding housemates (with an official, no spam group!).

**Additional Comments:**

*Pictures/links to blog posts relating to the work in this section:*

**Building on the Union’s Work**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Goal 1: Continue to promote culture of welfare in sports clubs and look to expand to all clubs and socs</th>
<th>SUSU Values Pledge</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>We are currently searching for a space to affix the physical pledge permanently.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>LAYM and CHANGES Training</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Welfare Representatives in Sport FB Page</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Reports/ Communication with Clubs</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Progress: 0/1 2 3</td>
<td>Some sports clubs have been in contact to report instances of misconduct or asking for welfare advice, which shows that the welfare in sport training was successful in influencing students to come forward for help. Promoted more LAYM sessions for those who want more committee members trained, or who may have missed first time round. Also, promoted to PGs.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Goal 2: Continue to actively consider and implement environmentally sustainable initiatives at SUSU</th>
<th>Waste Management and Recycling</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>I have been working with our Catering Manager to offer SUSU outlet food vouchers for students who receive food vouchers on the Student Service Hardship fund. We are reviewing this in February and may expand the requirements for students, to encourage more students collecting leftover food from our outlets.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Sustainability Webpage</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Progress: 0/1 2 3</td>
<td>We have met with SUSU Tech team to propose the content and they confirmed all good. Now Sustainability and Student Life Co-ordinator, Ethics and Environment Officer and I are writing the content for it.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Pack for Good</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Week commencing 4th February, we are organising locations for pick up bins.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Sustainable Innovation Competition</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>No progress since last Senate meeting.</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Vegan Food Tasting</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>We ran two food tasting events that were very successful and well received. May have been due to timing (Veganuary) or increase in student sustainable interest. The food tested is now available in The Shop. Holding more events in future, in partnership with The Shop, to improve student consultation of what we provide in our services such as food products.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Goal 3: To work closely with student leaders in the Sustainability and Student Life Zones

Annual Planning Day

Increasing Awareness and Profile of the Student Leaders

For most student leaders this has been a success, however Facebook has classed some accounts as spam, so I need to remake their accounts.
Implementing Student Leaders’ Ideas

Events and initiative, led by Student Leaders, that have taken place since the last Senate:

- Air Quality Event

![Image 17: Air Quality attendees and presentation]

- Sustainability Film Showings

![Image 18: Marketing for the first 3 sustainability screenings.]

Sustainability Screenings

'Before the Flood' screening
Wednesday 30 January 17:00

'Queer Britain' marathon
Wednesday 27 February 17:00

'True Cost' screening
Wednesday 27 March 17:00

SUSU, Union Films
Free for all students

More info at
www.susu.org
• Social media engagement
• Housing fair and mingler
• Housing – letter of complaint to Posh Pads, housing checklist edits.
• Sustainability survey release

Sustainability Survey
What sustainable changes do you want to see at the university?
Have your say!
bit.ly/SUSUsustainability

Image 19: Sustainability survey marketing.

• Planning for the National Day of Unplugging
• Designs to make “what bin?” clearer for students

Implementing Student Feedback in You Make Changes (YMC)

- Food waste reduction, sharing leftovers from SUSU outlets with students.
- Bike pump and tools at SUSU reception on Highfield. I am currently working to get pump at tools at other sites too.
Marketing to show introduction of bike pump and tools available to students.

I am currently planning Student Life Zone and Sustainability Zone collaboration events for March, to promote to students the work that the Student Leaders and societies within the Zones are doing and to offer collaboration opportunities for these students with internal and external organisations.

Additional Comments:

Pictures/links to blog posts relating to the work in this section:

Conclusion/AOB

Other things we’ve been up to: The first Senate meeting, extraordinary Trustee Board meetings, SUSU Annual General Meeting, completing the Union Review of the Sabbatical roles, Union Visits to Sheffield, Leeds and Leicester, a sabbatical residential team-building and development trip, grant allocations of the Sustainability and Student Life Zones.

If you would like to be involved in changes, opinion sharing, having a voice about Sustainability and Student Life things going on, please come to our next Zone meetings! (They are open for all to attend).

Student Life: w/c 11th March

Sustainability: w/c 11th March

Or, as always, please get in contact with me via email if you have any questions- vpwelfare@susu.org

😊