

**Minutes:****[Unconfirmed]****Full Title of Committee**Meeting **[02]** of the academic year **2021-22**Date / Time: 8<sup>th</sup> February 2021. 18:00-19:00pm

Location: Microsoft Teams.

Chair: Benjamin Smith (BS) Welfare Executive

Attendees: Kay Walker (KW) Zone Rep – Welfare Champion  
Sarah Underhill (SU) Advice and Wellbeing Coordinator

1. **Welcome and Apologies for Absence** **TL**  

Apologies were received from Tom Leggate (TL)
2. **Notifications of Any Other Business** **ALL**  

N/A
3. **Minutes from the Previous Meeting:** **ALL**  

N/A
4. **[Executive Update]** **LR**

**BS** BS focus from the beginning of the Spring Term has been to support with the Welfare Champions after launching the volunteer scheme in November 2021. BS has worked closely with SU to support the Welfare Champion in wellbeing events which included: Blue Monday and Time to Talk. BS discussed currently he is trying to find a permanent way to make display out of the Blue Posit it notes that the Welfare Champions collected from students. The Welfare Champions had around 350 engagements with students this day, which was a great success. BS stated such events link to is Welfare Exec silver goal which is supporting with students mental wellbeing events.

**BS** - also has supported with the Holocaust memorial events. This was in partnership with Uni of Leicester and had 50 students attend the event.

**BS** - discussed launch of QAA project in conjunction with university, which is looking at valuable mental wellbeing resources to imbed across the sector.

**BS** - has been in conversations regarding conversation therapy (changing sexual orientation).

**BS** - discussed the work on University NUS strikes and said he would elaborate more in main council meeting. In general BS is working with execs and students to gain insight on this.

**BS** - has also been working on Vailidations and education 2030.

**BS** - helping out with Refreshers activities.

## 5. [Consent and By Stander Training]

BS

This training was part of BS Manifesto 2 years ago.

DMU Mandala training is currently only available for certain members of society committees of sports teams. The training included sexual violence. Currently the content of the training is based on drinking lad culture, with the example of cow boys and Indian social example which BS believes bares no relation to sexual violence and consent.

BS wants training for all societies however currently it is not tailored for everyone.

BS stated currently wants to target getting training out to all students and include active bystander which is not just tailored to societies.

Found Derby and University of Leicester are currently looking at training for all students.

Derby has mandatory introductory training to student population not just tailored groups.

Want to make students aware and implement this training for students as following a welfare zone survey 23.5% of students knew about the DMU service Mandala.

BS asked Zone if they want to see this to be taken further for training for all students?

KW

Agreed with wanting to take further. Stated it is something that is needed and clearly reflected in the survey. Incidents such as, spiking is still apparent and needs addressing, possibly within the training.

Questioned time frame of project.

BS

Stated it is something on going and which will happen in future.

## 6. [Mental Health]

BS

Asked Zone how we can we at DSU be proactive about students accessing support

KW

Consistent outreach, opening zen zone often small activities, including events like time to talk nothing that needs loads of planning. Also to plan events spread out and ongoing – consistent coffee mornings board games

KW also suggested SPA appointment waits are too long and there is lack to near no support while students are waiting for appointment times.

KW suggested regular emails for students waiting for support with advice, activities, someone to speak to.

### **ACTION:**

- **BS to mention this in university meetings. Ask regarding capacity of SPA spaces being filled and how often.**
- **BS also to mention support while students are waiting for appointments. Added to email list of support emailed regularly etc.**
- **BS, Welfare Champions and SU – arrange regular events in the Zen Zone. Coffee Morning. Board Games etc.**

## 7. [Personal Tutoring]

BS

Asked Zone what do you want personal tutoring look like for example, BS suggested, is it for employment, academic, pastoral, welfare support?

KW

Saw personal tutoring for the more Academic and Wellbeing support.  
 Stated there needs to be more of an outreach from personal tutors. Students need to know how and when they can reach out.  
 Wants to see personal tutors using their initiative to contact students regularly, even if students not normally responding, regular consistent emails show they are there.  
 Overall, communication with personal tutoring is where it is lacking.

### **ACTION:**

- **BS to take this to university and raise, regular contact, emails, and students feeling distant to personal tutors.**

## 8. [Zone Campaign Budget]

BS

Asked Zone what campaign would like to do as there is a budget available.

KW

Believed there were two main focusses for campaign which would include - mental health awareness and sexual health on campus.  
 Believed this would be worth having a wider conversation about with other Zone members and to have a think for the next meeting.  
 KW raised point of looking at symptoms of mental health conditions and focus on the less known more stigmatised symptoms.

### **ACTION:**

- **KW & BS – To think about mental and sexual wellbeing idea for campaign**

## 9. [Covid]

BS

Raised to Zone, how are they feeling and how has Covid affected student experience.

KW

Not been on campus much for lectures.  
 Students struggling to adjust back to mixed learning. Whether on campus or not.  
 Students comfortable being behind a screen, need to be encouraged back to campus.  
 KW suggested university needs to reach out to student personally about coming back to campus.

## 10. AOB:

ALL

N/A

BS

Closed the meeting.

