

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 Student Voice (studentvoice@guild.bham.ac.uk)
- If you are unable to submit your report on time, please let Jane and Scott know ASAP
- You will have two minutes at the beginning of your meeting slot to provide any further updates verbally

Officer:	Postgraduate Officer – Benjamin Lockley
Date of Panel:	29/11/23 (Written 31/10/23)

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
SRSAB - Rep system Scrutiny and Improvements	In my role as the second officer on SRSAB (the joint University-Guild committee that manages the rep system), I have worked closely with the Education Officer and the rep team on improving the rep system for this academic year. Including liaising closely with senior university staff, co-hosting the first rep social, and trying to ensure all students know who their reps are. We are currently in talks following a request from the university to hold a PG specific rep networking event in Joes. I will continue to hold the Guild and University to account, to ensure the best experience for all student reps and to resolve ongoing issues.

<p>Appointments Panel – appointment of new student trustees</p>	<p>In my role as the second officer on the Guild’s Appointments Panel (the committee formally tasked with interviewing and appointing new trustees), I am pleased to have been involved in the appointment of four new student trustees already this year. This is a great opportunity for the successful students, and ensures the full diversity of students and views from across the university is represented on the Guild’s governing Trustee Board.</p>
<p>SEEG – Mid module review collaboration</p>	<p>Working with the Education Officer, through the new Student Engagement and Experience Group, we worked with university partners to reintroduce and redesign the mid-module review questionnaire at UoB. This will critically allow improvements to be made in modules live, before term ends. We ensured that staff would be encouraged to allow time within lectures for students to give this feedback anonymously and via Canvas.</p>

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	
Deliver an earlier than ever release of student timetables	
Context:	For students having their timetables well before the start of term is essential to good academic preparation and being able to arrange part time jobs around their degree.
Progress:	Continuing work from last year with the Education Officer, and on the university’s main timetabling management groups, we worked together to secure a release of student timetables at least a week before the start of term for all continuing students. We will continue to work on this in regards to S2 timetables.

Written Statement Aim #2

Continue to increase the number of postgraduate socials	
Context:	In the PTES and PRES surveys, the number one issue impacting postgrads continually flags as being those of community and making friends on campus. Resolving this is a key priority for the Guild and University Graduate School.
Progress:	I have continued to work with the International Officer (due to the high degree of crossover between PG & International students) to secure permanent funding for the events we established last year. Successes include a PG child-friendly summer event, a record-breaking PG welcome (800 attendees across two events), and a Halloween party (1000 sign ups). All of these events also included free food and live entertainment, helping students through the cost of living crisis. I will continue to work with PG reps where possible to help them secure localised events within their schools.

Written Statement Aim #3	
Context:	PG Widening Participation
Progress:	I have continued meetings with key university stakeholders on what progress can be made on funding for students from WP backgrounds staying on for Master's degree at UoB. I have secured agreement from the chair of SAPSIC (Uni access and inclusion committee) that this will be presented as an item for discussion at the next meeting this term. This is especially important as the University is currently writing its statutory access and participation plan for presentation to the Office for Students. Research conducted on my behalf by the Student Voice department continues to show that UoB is behind the sector on PG widening participation.

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.

You can find a copy of all submitted ideas and policy, including information on who they were allocated to [here](#).

Idea / Policy	Action Taken Since Last Panel
<i>No ideas/policies have been allocated to me through the democratic structure as of writing this report</i>	

Other Student Issues, Meetings or Projects to Note:

Issue/Meeting/Project	Context/Updates
Gender neutral bathrooms	The Trans part-time officer raised with me that the issue of more gender-neutral bathrooms had been put on the backburner for some time. I raised at FTOG that this was an issue, gained support from the team. CEO to report back on progress.
Jewish student safety concerns	Following distressing events that impacted Jewish students, both in the Middle East and the UK, I liaised with representatives from UJS (Union Jewish Students) on the appropriate course of action for the Guild to take. I then worked with the officer team to help draft a united statement signposting the services available to students impacted and stressing the Guild's zero-tolerance policy for antisemitism.
UCU referendum campaigning	Following the calling of a referendum on the Guild's stance on UCU strike action, I took a lead as the recognised leader of the 'yes' campaign. I campaigned across campus to ensure student participation in the referendum.