

# Scrutiny Panel Officer Report 2023/24

#### 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:	Dean Turner – Welfare and Community Officer
Date of Panel:	28/11/23

#### **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
Campus and Community Safety Group/Pan- Birmingham Safety	Liaise with University and police stakeholders to improve student safety on campus and in Selly Oak and Bournbrook  Involvement of the Guild in local/national efforts to reduce violence against women and promote international student safety
Period poverty	Working with Student Services to acquire a free sanitary product vending machine for the Guild – expected roll out in November
Selly Express	Reviewed provision of Selly Express and demand for Harborne route – 7pm trip now goes to Harborne.

### 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.

Action Plan Aim #1		
Community Pantry and Free Breakfast program		
Context:	I had a manifesto commitment to expand the pantry offering, and after developing ideas with Community Welfare over the Summer, we agreed on a free breakfast program. The Cost-of-Living crisis has meant that many students have had to skip meals to save on costs. Many students do not eat breakfast for a multitude of other reasons such as simply not having time.	
Progress:	95% - Pantry Breakfast commenced this month, we need to gather data from attendees and review timings to ensure we can deliver successfully post-Xmas.	

Action Plan Aim #2		
Renter's Union/Housing Hub		
Context:	Manifesto commitment to review the Renters' Union as an umbrella brand to streamline and de-silo Guild housing work. Students will be supported in their off-campus lives and provided with relevant and upto-date information. Having all of the information in one place will empower students to make independent and informed decisions and raise issues with their landlords with the benefit of further support if necessary.	
Progress:	75% - Housing working group established and comms plan established to bring all Guild activity under one heading as 'Housing Hub.' The first two sections of the Hub are live: 'Starting Your Search' and 'Preparing To Rent'	

	Action Plan Aim #3
Cultural Calendar	

Context:	Working with Comms & Marketing to produce an updated plan for communications will ensure that no student feels unrepresented/unseen by the Guild. Liaising with cultural and religious societies to do this allows students themselves to have greater agency over which celebrations and events get promoted and how.	
Progress:	Ongoing consultation with Comms and Marketing department – plans developed until Jan 2024	
Action Plan Aim #4		
Harm Reduction Drug & Alcohol Policy		
Context:  This was not something originally on my manifesto explicitly but something I have since picked up under the heading of increasing well-being support for students. A UUK report that recommends a Harm Reduction approach is to be released imminently. It is therefore essential for the University and the Guild to work in partnership to implement these strategies.		
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#### **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
Accessible Gender-Neutral Toilets	Action has not been allocated to me officially as of the writing of this report, but informal conversations started with the Trans Students' Officer, Voice Team, and Facilities Manager.

## Other Student Issues, Meetings or Projects to Note:

Issue/Meeting/Project	Context/Updates
Reclaim the Night march	Postponed due to staff capacity in the Voice team, working towards a new date to align with Women's History Month.