



WELFARE OFFICER REPORT

For the attention of:	Executive Committee	Taking place on:	30/11/16
Name:	Kathryn Younger	Action:	To note

Summary: *This paper provides an update on the work of the Executive Committee member*

Priority campaign(s) and objective(s)

1. Policy: Gender Neutral Toilets
2. Priority Campaigns: Safer Taxis and Buddy Scheme

Progress on priority campaign(s)

Gender Neutral Toilets

1. Gender Neutral Toilets are being built into the new Chelmsford Campus Medical School.
2. They have not been built in to the new Science Centre (currently being built on the Cambridge Campus) as this policy came into effect after plans were completed on this building.
3. As part of the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Group I have agreed to lead an audit of the toilets in the university to find suitable places to create Gender Neutral Toilets where there aren't any.
4. Hopefully this policy will lead to a similar action being undertaken with the Science Centre.

Safer Taxis

1. I have compiled a report on various Safer Taxi schemes that have been successful in other universities around the country.
2. Two Taxi firms in Cambridge and Chelmsford has expressed interest in being a part of this scheme
3. I have been gathering student feedback on their views on what the taxi scheme should look like
4. I will be going to a meeting with the Director of Student Services next week to discuss student cards and their key role in the scheme

Buddy Scheme

1. I will be contacting students' societies that run buddy schemes (or similar) and collating these schemes on our campaigns page to raise awareness of these groups, to help facilitate this for others where possible and collect feedback from students.
2. The university would like to introduce one, so my aim is to ensure this work is led by what students are organising themselves.

Response to UUK Report on Sexual Violence

1. Met with a group of lecturers and students regarding issues around sexual violence at the university following the release of the report.
2. I will be attending a group with university staff to begin working on what we can do in light of the UUK Report which requires universities to have a policy of how to report sexual violence and to support victims

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Group

1. See work on Gender Neutral Toilet Policy above.
2. Following an incident in which a trans student was contacted using their previous name when they were applying via UCAS. As such, the university are looking to improve their data handling as there are numerous lists of student details, so centralising that would make the process more seamless and avoid incidences of this again. I'm working with Jamie Vincent (Cambridge Trans Rep) to make sure this work is being done in the best interests of our trans students.

Disabled Student Working Group

1. Disability Audit – I will be supporting work with Alice Goodheart (Disabled Students Rep Chelmsford) on conducting a Disability Audit to assess the physical accessibility of buildings and facilities within all ARU Campuses.
2. Disabled Students Charter – the new Disabled Students Charter will be a short document outlining what support is available to disabled students while they study here. I will be working with Alice Goodheart and Thomas Baillie on this document and hoping to secure other views from Disabled Students.

Inclusive Assessment Working Group

1. The group will performing an audit of current assessment methods, based on work from Plymouth University. The goal is to draw up guidelines of Inclusive Assessment and create banks of good practice from all campuses.

On-Campus Medical Centres

1. I will be participating in discussions on the future of our medical centres on campus, bringing regular student feedback to inform discussions.