

Vice President Communities (Voluntary)

Author:

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Scottish Executive Committee

Action: Approve

Priorities

Main priorities	Progress (what have you achieved since the last Committee meeting)
Housing	Discussed the opportunities to work with Shelter Scotland to distribute information about the changes in legislation concerning Private Lets. Expanded some focus on student homelessness and evictions to draw a line of support for better student funding and fairer renting regulations.
Budget for Better	Attended an event by Forth Valley College to promote the campaign and sign students up to the email campaign – resulting over 300 signatures. Spoke with Stirling University to arrange their own event for Budget for Better. Took part in lobbying MSPs on Twitter with regards to Budget for Better campaign 11/01/18.

Attendance at events/meetings and actions taken or agreed

Event/meeting	Outcomes and/or actions taken or agreed on
Reclaim the Night – Ayrshire College – Kilmarnock – 23/11/17	Attended by invitation of President of Ayrshire College SA & Disabled Students' Officer. Took part in march around Kilmarnock to raise awareness on gendered violence and address attendees about resilience through personal experience.
Be Inspired Event – City of Glasgow College Student Association – 15/01/18	Attended event to celebrate class representatives. Speakers in attendance included Alice Thompson, co-founder of Social Byte.
Meeting with David (Policy) & Stuart McMillan MSP (SNP) – 17/01/18	Meeting was regarding the Sex for Rent issue raised by SNP and the responses collected from all Higher Education Institutions, reflecting that at the time of request (October-November 2017), there were no reported cases raised to student associations/unions or student support departments. Mr. McMillan agreed to forward all the responses he received and we agreed to keep an open line of communication if any cases were raised to NUS Scotland.

Meeting with Stirling Union – Astrid Smallenbroek & Jamie Grant – 18/01/18	Meeting was regarding prospective work collaboration for tackling transport and submitting motions. Discussed the student accommodation issues raised by Stirling students regarding leases. Asked plans regarding Budget For Better campaigning and provided some materials. -- Also attended Stirling Union's Communities GM where FirstBus was present and students raised concerns over ticket prices and services. Concerns were also raised with repair times in student halls.
Living Rent – Edinburgh – National Conference – 20/01/18	Attended GM to learn more about the work of Living Rent and their branches across Scotland. Discussed collaboration on Rent Pressure Zones (Edinburgh & Glasgow) and winter evictions.
Think Positive NUS Event – Edinburgh – 24/01/18	Attended as staff member from Forth Valley College but also discussed with CMs ideas on how to collaborate in order to achieve some goals for the Healthy Body Healthy Mind award.
Meeting with Stirling Union & Forth Valley Student Association – Stirling – 25/01/18	Follow-up meeting regarding travel concerns raised from GM on 18/01/18 and discussed raising a motion to Scotland Conference to tackle the issues of fare rises and poor communication from transport companies.
Email exchange with Josh Kennedy MSYP for Renfrewshire North & West – 01/02/18	MSYP reached out via Twitter to discuss working in partnership with NUS to tackle transport issues affecting the West of Scotland – e.g. McGill's removing student ticket types. I advised him of the petitions raised by UWS. Date for meeting has not been decided yet.
Women of Colour Brunch – NUS Scotland Event – Glasgow – 10/02/18	Attended the event organised by the Women's Officer and Black Students' Officer where I, along with the other member of the Black Women's Sub-Committee tabled a discussion with attendees about Disabilities and how that affects women of colour.

Plans before the next meeting

Action/work area	What I hope to achieve
Housing	Finalise the arrangements with Shelter Scotland regarding promotion of their tools for students around new tenancy rules.
Student Homelessness	Continue to research and collate data for FOIs sent to Scottish FE & HE institutions to determine current policies and numbers of students affected.
Transport	Meet with MSYPs and discuss how to collaborate on travel issues affecting students.

Membership Engagement

Member Union	Purpose and anything to report on
Stirling Union	See notes above.
Forth Valley College	Budget For Better Campaign on 18/01/18 & 6-8/02/18 + student transport (see notes above).
City of Glasgow College	See notes above.

Media engagement and external relations

Press Query	Purpose and anything to report on
CommonSpace– 01/02/17	Looking for a comment about transport concerns re: McGill's services in West of Scotland.

Declaration of gifts, hospitality and interests

Declaration	Further comment
Goodie tote bag from CitySA for attending Inspire event	Items included pen, CitySA literature and CitySA tote bag.
Goodie bag from Women of Colour Brunch event	Items included self-care literature, NUS Women's poster and sweets.