

SU Officer Updates – December 2025

SU President

Key Updates Linked to Previous Standpoints:

“The SU believes that restricting student housing in Bath will reduce supply and drive-up housing costs. Student voices should be heard in local decisions, with affordability for lower income students at the heart of its advocacy.”

- Submitted multiple Freedom of Information requests to the BANES local council regarding projections of impact in regard to the HMO conversion ban. Additionally submitted one requesting for a comprehensive list of all BANES consultations in the past 5 years to see whether there is a trend regarding them occurring over summer.
- Grilled local councillors at events with the Community Officer, demanding that they don't ignore the Student Voice that makes up 20% of residents
- Fol's are expected to come back for after the New Year

Key Updates:

(You can see a full comprehensive list of updates on all my points [via my Officer Pledge](#)).

- In the process of creating a form where student groups can submit commemorative days that they want celebrating on the SU Instagram and website
- Continued work with the possible travel policies that the University can implement off the back of the travel plan. (Possible expansion of 0% interest free Bus loans for next year)
- New porridge will be rolling out in time for exams
- The Community Officer and I got invited to feed into the upcoming Lib Dem Manifesto. We will be reaching out to all political parties in Bath to see whether they want to offer us the opportunity
- Successfully led a meeting with the University Exec, to get an agreement in principle to work towards a better partnership agreement whilst still maintaining our autonomy
- Created a healthy working relationship with the Chair of Council
- Got consulted on the University rent increases to ensure that future students aren't being ripped off

- Recruited new Social Media Manager
- The COO will be leaving in August; I have ensured that there will be student representation on the interview panel
- Met with the new Director of Legal, Governance & Compliance, who will be a key ally in our demands for a clearer protest guideline
- Confirmed date for meeting Helen Godwin (Mayor of the West of England) on January the 9th
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Upcoming Projects before Next SUMmit

Current Challenges

Education Officer

Key Updates Linked to Previous Standpoints:

"The SU believes that the University should amend its IMC and extension policies and processes and standardise these across departments in accordance with its EDI Commitments."

- IMC Policy is updated! The full changes can currently be seen in [Regulation 15: ASSESSMENT OF UNDERGRADUATE AND TAUGHT POSTGRADUATE COURSES](#) (15.6) and the website will be updated very soon (hopefully w/c 8 December).
- Here is a rundown of some key changes:
 - "Evidence will be required" → "Depending on the nature of the claim, the University may require evidence." The new vibes are that if you have evidence, you should submit it; if your claim is quite complex you may be asked for evidence; if you have no evidence, but something happened, you should still submit a claim - your statement alone is a form of evidence.
 - IMC deadlines for exams are clearer, with set dates now published on the website. Previously the deadline was unclear for when to submit an IMC by for an exam, so now the deadline is 3 working days after the assessment period, regardless of whether one or multiple IMCs are submitted.
 - New guidance around late IMCs: "A claim for individual mitigating circumstances submitted after the appropriate deadline may exceptionally be considered where a student could not reasonably be expected to submit on time..." With this, students should do everything they can to submit a claim before the deadline, but if there is good reason preventing them from doing so, e.g. hospitalisation, disability, the panel now may decide to still consider their claim.

"The University must continue to constantly seek student feedback on engagement monitoring and data collection."

- Izzy (Community Officer) and I have joined Engagement Monitoring (EM) workshops, and we are continuing to flag key concerns around privacy to try to ensure EM remains for student well-being and doesn't feel like over-surveillance.
- We've set up additional meetings to ensure existing student consultation gets considered in current work, and that future student consultation will take place.

Key Updates Linked to Manifesto:

(You can see a full comprehensive list of updates on all my points [via my Officer Pledge](#)).

Student Experience & Academic Communities:

- Ran first workshop with Student Leaders across Computer Science, engaging with Department Reps, PAL Leaders, Bath Computer Science Society and more!
- Created "**SU**submit Feedback" cards for the Officer Team, helping us gather and keep up with feedback we receive from students when out and about.

Education Quality & Feedback:

- Had the first Rep Roundtable, getting feedback from our wonderful Academic Reps about preferred mechanisms for actionable feedback.
- Advocated for the need for greater focus on quality feedback, and exam feedback, at University Council.

Accessibility & Inclusion:

- Alongside Izzy (Community Officer), have supported DAG with advocacy work for physical accessibility of campus.
- IMC changes (more detail under standpoint updates).
- Brought Inclusive Education work to the Rep Roundtable, gathering student feedback on anticipatory measures.

Upcoming Projects before Next Summit:

- Ensuring changes to IMC policy are clearly communicated to university staff (e.g. Academic Advisors, SSO/SEOs, DOSSs), so when students seek advice, they're given up to date info!
- Working to create clear and accessible resources for where students can/should go for academic and/or pastoral support.
- Continuing to engage with Student Leaders to gather feedback for improving Academic Communities and writing a report to submit to the Academic Communities Oversight Group.
- Next Degree Scheme Review, and looking into how we can support students in engaging with this scheme in the future.

Current Challenges:

- Early discussions around new Engagement Monitoring systems have caused some concern, however we will continue to engage and challenge, and ensure these concerns are addressed. It's essential to imbed student voice into these decisions.

Activities Officer**Key Updates Linked to Previous Standpoints:**

"The SU believes that students should be provided with clear, concise, and accessible guidance on their right to protest, and should be protected against intimidation."

- Passing this standpoint has put us in a strong position and gives us extra leverage in discussions with the university in clarifying this guidance.
- Over the last two weeks since this passed, we've started working with the University to ensure protest policies follow sector best practice and involve student consultation.
- I met with the Voice Team and we will hold meetings with key student stakeholders in January/early February (with virtual and written feedback options as during exam/ISB period). This will help shape a clearer guide for students in Semester 2 and into AY26/27.
- From this, a draft set of principles will be developed for feedback and we'll explore ways on how we can get students to feedback on the final set of guiding principles.
- In the meantime, I encourage members of SUMmit to reach out with any ideas, further inspiration for best sector practice and any questions.

"The SU believes that the University careers services should implement an ethical careers policy to ensure that it is not complicit in platforming the companies most responsible for the climate crisis."

- We are now in a position to be able to feed into the new Sustainability Strategy of the university as it starts to take shape.
- Helen, Education Officer, and I attended a talk with the two university trade unions and SOS-UK around divestment and where we can make the most impact. This is being fed back into the Sustainability Steering Group too.
- Sustainability is being identified as a core competence by the Employability Team for students to have when entering the workplace – this has provided good leverage in discussions around introducing ethical opportunities around sustainability.

- As part of the Top 10 – the piece around sustainable education is emerging. As part of this, I am in conversations around how that links up to the wider employability piece.
- Following on from the last update, the new SUustainable SU Student Forum will meet for the first time next week. This will be an opportunity to gain broader student opinions on key areas to feedback into the strategy.
- Am continuing to meet with key Student Groups regularly to ensure we are aligned and I can keep them informed of ongoing projects.

Key Updates Linked to Manifesto:

(You can see a full comprehensive list of updates on all my points [via my Officer Pledge](#)).

- Preparing and gathering feedback ahead of a two-day review before Christmas to streamline all of our event processes to make your student experience seamless
- Held the Masquerade Ball (across two nights for the first time to allow even more students to engage and attend our experiences), we were welcomed nearly 600 students. Feedback is now being gathered to help shape plans for AY26/27.
- Introduced officer drop-ins at Happy Hour (thanks to Benji) to create an informal setting for students to ask questions and share ideas and increase officer transparency and visibility.
- SUustainable SU Student Forum sign ups were successful – looking at a forum of around ~13-15 members. Meeting next week to kick start work that will lead into Semester 2.
- Starting to move the Sustainable SU Action Plan into a longer 3-5 year strategy and to get key buy-in from students, staff and trustees.
- Working with other officers/staff on a campaign to showcase funding options for individuals and student groups across SU and university.
- Ongoing work on the Bath Award – we had extraordinary interest, succeeding our target by several hundred students.
- Now sitting on the Global Employability Group which focuses on both home and international students, regardless of background. Links to my pledge on enhancing professional development and transferable skills, helping every student gain key skills for the future.
- Ongoing discussions around the usage of Scala. Helping student groups find alternative venues across the campus and in the city to run larger events in short term
- Held another show bidding process for The Edge for Semester Two – we will now look at next steps to make sure this is ready for the next round and increase awareness.

- Conversations underway with the university around the multicultural fair, provisionally for March 2026 and looking into options on best approach.

Upcoming Projects before Next SUMmit

- Working on the next steps of my Top 10 around sustainable targets. The Energy Consultation is set to finish in January 2026. We can then move onto shaping targets in this area and looking at Scope 3 broader.
- Continue working on the future of the Sustainable SU Action Plan, in conjunction with the new forum. By the next meeting, I should be able to provide an update on the roadmap for the next 3–5 years.
- Working with the university and wider SU on the draft principles for guidance around student processes.
- Carry on work around streamlining processes for student groups – this is a long-term piece but we hope to have a strong digital infrastructure up and running for the next academic year.
- Working closely on our communications, ensuring student groups can access accessible and easy to read guides for a variety of topics whenever they need it.
- Supporting our 18 newly affiliated societies through their first few months being an SU Group. We will also be preparing for the committee elections and future rounds of affiliation (the processes to start a new society).
- Working with our 6 Volunteering and Fundraising Groups to see how we can relax eligibility for sources of funding to better support their projects and aims.
- Continued work on the Edge Service Level Agreements and creation of showcase for our non-visual Arts groups. At the same time, developing how Scala as a space can continue to be used and utilised in a number of different ways.
- Building on the initial groundwork of the multicultural fair and the hopeful launch of the new Bathovision Song Contest.

Current Challenges

- We continue to face operational challenges in our area around staffing. We are still delivering a strong output for students and will continue to support all groups with the help and guidance they need. There may still be slight delays in responding, but student staff are helping to mitigate this. For urgent and high-level enquiries, students are also welcome to contact myself and I will aim to deal with the query as soon as possible.
- A lot of my manifesto was built around long-term provision and many will go on beyond my term of office. Ensuring the continuity piece is proving to be challenging as there are still many unknowns on the best approach. Over the coming months, I will be ensuring that commitments are sustainable for the long run.

Community Officer

Key Updates Linked to Previous standpoints

"The SU believes that there should be adequate sensory friendly workspaces available"

- Working with Campus Services on the potential renewal of 6WS ensuring that this study space will be renovated with sensory friendly implementations as a forefront
- Helen (Education Officer) and I met with the Pro Vice Chancellor for Student Experience and staff from the library and Assistive Technology (AT) room services with a student to lobby for funding towards better equipment for blind and visually impaired students and improved signage of the AT rooms' objectives

"The University must be physically accessible to all students" and

"The SU believes physical accessibility around university campus should be a key priority. In line with wider university improvements, students support policies to champion disability awareness and more transparent pipelines for support and improvements"

- Secured a place for another committee member of DAG should sit on the University's Accessibility Committee to ensure student voice is considered in decisions that impact them
- With DAG, we lobbied Campus Infrastructure to remain access to the 6E Arrivals lift as push button control, not card access to prevent further accessibility issues for student, staff and visitors.
- Through this, Campus Infrastructure are also now considering improved signage at the Arrivals lift, setting out correct use and directing deliveries to the appropriate goods route
- To ensure that raising issues is straightforward, any proposed changes affecting lift access or core mobility routes will now come through DAG and the Accessibility Committee before anything is implemented to ensure we are all fully aligned.

Key Updates Linked to Manifesto

(You can see a full comprehensive list of updates on all my points via [Community Officer Manifesto Pledge](#))

- Liaised with SU Sales in contacting local businesses to approach them about their student offers/creating student offers to attain more student discounts in town

- Top 10: Winter at Bath programme webpage will now have events and activities updated throughout January and the Inter Semester Break
- Top 10: Introducing another SU Bath and Beyond trip during Inter Semester Break
- Top 10: Campus Services will be investing in new environmental modifications (e.g. furniture) to improve the sensory experience of the Calm Space in Lime Tree
- Working on improving wellbeing/welfare training to committee members for SU Groups
- Working with the International Student Experience Project Coordinator from student support to enhance and develop activities and events for international students
- Working with the Community Organisers on our International Student and Housing campaign to lobby the University to introduce a UK Guarantor scheme and more flexible Rental payments to support international students
- Introduced a housing fair in collaboration with stakeholders from the University and town to better support and inform students regarding housing in Bath, including finding accommodation, roommates and how to report maintenance issues to the council
- Benji (SU President) and I have been working to ensure an affordable breakfast item is available at the SU bar
- Working on a project to lobby the University for free condoms and more free menstrual products

Upcoming projects before next SUMmit

- Working on securing more student representation on EDI related University meeting to ensure students are involved in decisions that impact them. So far:
 - Secured a place for another DAG Committee member on Accessibility committee
 - Secured a place for Race and Equality committee member on the Race and Equality USAT
 - Secured a place for the Community Officer on Athena Swan USAT
 - Secured back a place for the Chair of Diversity and Support Exec on EDI Committee

Sport Officer

Key Updates Linked to Previous Standpoints:

"The University should provide a range of clean, accessible, safe and fit-for-use sports facilities." Sport Officer 2021-22

- *Top 10: Plumbed toilet block confirmed for the Sulis Club.*

- *Top 10: Founder's storage review expected to significantly increase accessibility in the new year.*

Key Updates Linked to Manifesto:

(You can see a full comprehensive list of updates on all my points [via my Officer Pledge](#)).

- Preparing for Mid-Term Check-Ins with clubs. The aim of these is to give clubs a chance to highlight any plans, problems or questions, ahead of Semester 2.
- Top 10: Discussions for changing facilities at the Sulis Club, based on BUCS requirements; however nothing confirmed at this stage
- BUCS Gender Eligibility: BUCS have a live spreadsheet, with details on gender eligibility, that is updated with any changes to NGB policies. I have been in talks about a marketing campaign to better promote this to students.

Key Updates for other pieces of work:

- Local Plan Options: SU response to consultation submitted; Opposing the changes to HMO policy and removal of the Sulis Club from the green belt.
- Campaigning to lobby the Government in response to their decision to remove Sport England from the statutory consultee system. I have written a letter addressed to the Prime Minister and others, which is being signed by students' union and educational institutions across the country. [\[More info here\]](#)
- Kickstarted a pilot "SU Bath Comic-Con" convention event, scheduled Semester 2. Most of the events will be run by student groups.

Upcoming Projects before Next SUMmit

- Preparations for relaunch of the Daily Mile, after a successful pilot, involving over 250 students.
- Review of SU Strategy and the SU Officer structure.

Current Challenges

Postgraduate Officer

Key Updates Linked to Manifesto:

- Support for underrepresented groups : Ran the first ever PG Network Event, a PG Quiz which was really well attended! We also sent in the quiz to part time and distance learners so they are involved in the PG community.
- Keeping track of student concerns :
I have created a "Issue Tracker" to help maintain a clear record of what issues have been raised and completed to maintain transparency.
- Consultations around recommendations being put together for the PGT review Workstream 3 and 4.
- Consulted on supervision paper as progress on our top 10.
- Liaising with university to support international students in the best way following the release of the White Paper.
- Student leader recognition drive to celebrate our representatives' contributions across faculties and networks.
- Celebrated the PG scholars by giving a speech at the scholarship reception alongside the Mayor.
- Represented PGR students at Senate, supported by rapid and high-volume PGR data, which strengthened SU influence.

Upcoming Projects before Next SUMmit:

- Continuing to strengthen academic and social links between faculties through collaborative events - Working on staff-student mixers for PGTs and PGRs

Current Challenges:

- Advocating and lobbying for international students - there are multiple barriers around it but we are trying our best to give them the best support.

