

Halls Rep Forum Minutes

2nd October 2018

Minutes

1.0 Apologies

-No apologies all present

2.0 Brief Introductions

-All Halls Reps went around the room to reintroduce themselves to Kimberly

3.0 Update from Kimberly (Residences)

-Move in weekend- Kimberly was pleased with the help provided by Halls Reps. 1,000 students moved in at Mile End on the Sunday.

-Kimberly asked Halls Reps what new students perspectives were of Halls Reps. A number of Halls Reps said that students didn't really understand who they were and what their role was which they thought was understandable.

-Kimberly checked that all Halls Reps know how to report incidents in Residences- maintenance issues etc. All seemed to be aware of the information on the back of their door. Kimberly asked Halls Reps to ensure students are clear in the information box what the location is.

-There had been a number of incidences where students have had problems and paramedics etc have needed to be called. Ella followed up this point in the next agenda item.

4.0 Out of Hours Support on Campus

-Ella wanted to clarify that Halls Reps understand their role. She expressed she was worried that reps feel students will come to them about issues and that they need to be mindful of their own wellbeing etc.

-Ella stated that if there is an urgent issue to call security- this is if someone is at immediate risk to themselves or others.

-Ella stated she is proud of those Halls Reps who have helped students, they have done a good job. She echoed her previous point that she doesn't want reps to take on too much.

-A group chat incident was brought up. Kimberly said there had been an incident on a group chat and a student had come forward about some conversations which weren't acceptable/concerning. Appeared to seem like bullying. Kimberly asked Halls Reps to report these sort of incidents to Residences as they can then look into them and sort them out.

-Kimberly said that students will also flag issues with Halls Reps as they see you in a position of authority. You need to think about your actions and how these will be perceived. Residences received a complaint about noise and this involves a Halls Rep. The student wasn't happy about this. Regardless of whether you are a Halls Rep or not you will be treated the same as all other students in Residences.

-No Halls Rep had any feedback for Residences on any issues.

5.0 Halls Rep Recruitment

-Ella informed Halls Reps that we are currently in the process of recruiting an additional set of Halls Reps. There are still some Residences without a Halls Rep.

-Ella said she would like Halls Rep to be champions of promoting this opportunity.

Action: Ella and Kate to send Halls Reps a list of Residences where we don't currently have any Halls Reps.

6.0 Student Council Elections

-Ella promoted the upcoming elections for NUS Delegate, First Year Reps, Postgraduate Taught and Postgraduate Research. Asked Halls Reps to make sure they vote!

7.0 Wellbeing Week

-Ella informed the Halls Reps that Wellbeing Week is next week- this is part of the Be Kind To Your Mind campaign.

-Ella explained the five ways to wellbeing and how the activities were focused on these- with a day for each of them.

-On the 10th October it is World Mental Health Day and Ella will be holding a Tea and Talk for this event. The University are hosting some events in Library Square.

-Please get involved in the above tasks- if you would like to get involved please contact Ella about this.

-Halls Reps to promote Wellbeing Week to students in Residences.

-Ella said the areas she would like some help with for the week:

Tea and Talk- going to try to do an activity for this to encourage students who attend to speak to one another. This will be on Wednesday 10am-12pm.

Self-Care Workshops- Thursday 10am-11:30am. This session is to make self-care useful. Going to have self-care stations- this is for students who want to work on their wellbeing, not as suitable for people who already suffer from depression and anxiety. The stations at the workshop include- plant pots- planting seeds, art colouring, and a CBT station- sort of techniques you'd have in a CBT session.

8.0 AOB- campaigns and events

-Halls Reps mentioned the difficulty in speaking to students- for example Pooley House is quite big and that makes it difficult.

-Ella said we are trying to organise a day to get all students in Residences to come to enable Halls Reps to meet residents and get information from them. Looking to do this in November.

Action: Ella and Kate to organise an event for Halls Reps.

-Cerys mentioned that they need to be specific for each Hall so you will definitely be able to meet people from your hall.

-Ella suggested a meet and greet station- speed meet style event as this was a popular event the Students' Union hosted during Welcome Week. She also said Movie Nights are often popular.

-Action: Ella asked Halls Reps to come to the next forum their ideas for an event as we will have more capacity to plan then. Ella suggested the reps could then form groups with people who have similar ideas to join together to plan events.

-Melissa said some flats haven't gelled very well and it would be good to recognise the issues in flats and try to bring people together.

9.0 Black History Month

-Ella asked reps to promote Black History Month to students in halls- there are a number of events taking place organised by societies and BME Reps.