

JCR EMERGENCY GENERAL MEETING 24/02/2024

AGENDA

Constitutional amendment -

- Constitutional amendment to Welfare Officers' Roles

RESOLUTIONS

Constitutional Amendment to Welfare Officers' Role - MOTION PASSES 29/29

MOTIONS

Motion: "Constitutional amendment to Welfare Officers' Roles" - proposed by Daisy Etell, seconded by Ruby Austen

- *This JCR notes that:*
 - The JCR has voted in favour of having three welfare reps, so the JCR constitution should be amended to reflect this.
 - Terms like "rape alarms" and "BME" are imprecise in the context of the constitution.
 - Obtaining welfare products from the SU can be unreliable and challenging.
 - The Constitution currently states that Welfare Teas should be held daily in Trinity Term, which is unfeasible and has not been put into practice in recent years.
- *This JCR believes that:*
 - To be able to provide the level of support needed within the JCR, three welfare reps are required, and the Constitution should provide an accurate description of the functions and duties of welfare officers.
 - Imprecise and outdated information should be amended under this section of the constitution.
 - Welfare officers should be given the choice to select sources of welfare products other than the SU.
- *This JCR therefore resolves to:*
 - Change the constitution's standing orders point 3.5 from:
 - 'There should be two Welfare Officers. It is intended that this be a pair of different genders. They shall:
 - i. Undergo and complete Peer Support Training as early as possible. Exceptions to clause i. will only be allowed in extraordinary circumstances, verified by a majority vote by the executive committee with the consent of the other serving Welfare Officer.
 - ii. Provide a point of contact for JCR members in distress, be it related to finance, health, emotional, work or any other personal concern. They should listen to the student's concerns, without attempting to solve their problems, referring the matter to appropriately qualified people where necessary.
 - iii. Consult with College where appropriate, and provide junior representation wherever welfare matters are concerned
 - iv. Liaise with relevant Oxford SU structures for assistance in supplying Welfare items
 - v. Raise awareness among JCR members of welfare issues and the provision of support available
 - vi. Provide necessary contraceptives, rape alarms and such like, to students in a manner which is sympathetic to their confidentiality
 - vii. Work alongside the Equalities Committee to ensure sensitive and appropriate treatment of any issues relating to LGBTQ, Gender and BME
 - viii. Co-ordinate with the Peer Support team to ensure

the provision of weekly Welfare Teas in Michaelmas and Hilary Terms, and daily Welfare Tea from at the latest week 4 of Trinity term

- The Male Welfare Officer will, upon request, fulfil the 'Men's Representative' function, which should seek to represent the interests of all members of the JCR who identify as male'
- To:
- There should be three Welfare Officers who may run as individuals. It is advised that they be of different genders. They shall:
 - i. Undergo and complete Peer Support Training as early as possible. Exceptions to clause i. will only be allowed in extraordinary circumstances, verified by a majority vote by the executive committee with the consent of the other serving Welfare Officers.
 - ii. Provide a point of contact for JCR members in distress, be it related to finance, health, emotional, work or any other personal concern. They should listen to the student's concerns, without attempting to solve their problems, referring the matter to appropriately qualified people where necessary
 - iii. Consult with College where appropriate, and provide junior representation wherever welfare matters are concerned
 - iv. Liaise with relevant Oxford SU structures or other relevant sources of welfare products for assistance in supplying Welfare items.
 - v. Raise awareness among JCR members of welfare issues and the provision of support available
 - vi. Provide necessary contraceptives, safety alarms and such like, to students in a manner which is sympathetic to their confidentiality
 - vii. Work alongside the Equalities Committee to ensure sensitive and appropriate treatment of any issues relating to LGBTQ, Gender and Ethnic minorities.
 - viii. Co-ordinate with the Peer Support team to ensure the provision of weekly Welfare Teas in Michaelmas and Hilary Terms.' and daily Welfare Tea from at the latest week 4 of Trinity term
 - The Male Welfare Officer will, upon request, fulfil the 'Men's Representative' function, which should seek to represent the interests of all members of the JCR who identify as male'

Discussion -

- Daisy - this is just so we would have 3 welfare officers instead of 2, a couple of outdated things taken out etc. that is basically it. We just want 3 to be written in the constitution so this year's elections can have 3.
- Ruby - A couple of main points, already voted in favour of having 3 welfare reps, a couple slight tweaks like changing the word rape alarms to safety alarms and also changing BME to ethnic minorities to reflect what is written in the rest of the constitution and make it more accurate. Other parts are to allow the welfare officers to select sources

of welfare products than places other than the SU, in part because lots of colleges are disaffiliating, future proofing. And also the SU have been rubbish in responding to Daisy. We are also getting rid of daily welfare teas in trinity which never happens. Not really too contentious, does anyone have any comments or questions?

Voting - 29 members present

- For - 29
- Against - 0

→ MOTION PASSES 29/29