

Womens' Officer

- The Scrutiny Panel did not receive a report in time for the meeting, but we welcome any updates as they come.
- Based on reading the manifesto, we have a few key questions:
 - It would be interesting to hear more about the proposed self-defence classes. How could these be adapted to life during the pandemic e.g. with online classes? Could this also lead to a collaboration with the Women's Fitness and Wellbeing society or the MMA society?

Thank you for this question. With Covid and lockdown, organising self-defence classes is going to be a little tricky, I've been considering accessibility of them. Whilst online classes could be beneficial, I am not sure how much training without practicing the physical/contact movements would be useful. It is potentially worth asking participants to join in pairs (eg with their housemate) which would mean they can practice these movements but I don't want people to feel that they must attend in pairs (eg if there is only one member of the house who wishes to attend) so I am not sure if it is best to wait till term 2 when we may be back in the Tier system and able to do these sessions in person.

- Could we hear more about the bi-monthly safe space? It is interesting to hear the concept of this being a mix between networking, raising concerns and campaign ideas.

I managed to achieve my first safe space earlier this term in September. It was really lovely, lots of different women came along from different year groups and subjects, this was only an introduction to the first of many! However when I planned my manifesto I wasn't aware of COVID, and zoom fatigue is something I think many are experiencing so I might change this to once every 3 months, rather than bi-monthly to accommodate this. The evenings are structured roughly in those categories, there is time to socialise and network at the start and then I open the floor to concerns and potential campaigns ideas.

- How do you propose to challenge the taboo of sexual harassment, abuse and intimidation?

I have been working with the other Guild Officers and we have been working on 'Not On November' as well as making preparations for these sessions to reach wider audiences in term 2. Not On deliver sessions around sexual harassment, abuse and intimidation

- Were the flyers on how to report concerns released in the Fresher's welcome packs?

Unfortunately with Covid complications it wasn't possible, but I have the electronic copy and hopefully it will be available soon. Having an electronic copy is better as its healthier for the environment and it is always accessible, if students don't need it now they can refer back whenever. Rather than if we distributed physical copies, they might have been disposed off and they cannot be referred back to.

- Is there any potential for collaboration between different women's societies?

Yes of course! I have been working with WAMBA a little with the upcoming Reclaim the Night and I welcome the opportunity to work with other women's societies.