



## SCP Board Meeting Minutes

21<sup>st</sup> March 2023

10.00-11.30am – Dartmouth Avenue

**Present:** **Chair:** Dr Becky Schaaf (Pro-Vice Chancellor Student Experience, **Bath Spa University**)

**B&NES:** Cllr Dine Romero (Cabinet Member for Children and Young People, Communities, and Culture), Cllr Shaun Stephenson-McGall (Member Advocate for Engagement with Students)

**Bath Spa University Students’ Union:** Neetu Karwal (Vice President, Welfare and Community)

**Norland College:** Dr Janet Rose (Principal)

**University of Bath Students’ Union:** Blake Walker (Community Officer)

**In Attendance:** Ghika Savva (Manager, **Student Community Partnership**), Kathryn Jones (Administrator, **Student Community Partnership**).

### 1. Welcome, Introductions, and Apologies

BS welcomed the Group.

Apologies were received from Dave Dixon (Community Engagement Manager, **B&NES**), Caroline Jarosz (Student Participation Officer, **Bath** College), Peter Lambert (Professor), and Mandy Wilson-Garner (Deputy Chief Executive, University of Bath Students’ Union).

### 2. Actions from the previous meeting held 24<sup>th</sup> November 2022

Action	Person(s)	Status
GS to prepare a letter to Cllr Tim Ball.	GS	

NK and BW to work with Comms Teams on messaging on student late-night noise.	NK/BW	Ongoing
The SCP Board to write to Cabinet Member Tom Davies asking to attend next SCP Housing Group.	All	Removed – see notes
The Group to create student housing survey.	All	Removed – see notes
GS to include more measurable impacts of Community Warden and SCP to Action Plan. <b>Partners to indicate which information would be useful to their case. Funding Partners to agree a date for meeting before Christmas.</b>	GS/All	On agenda
SSM/DD to circulate cost of living support links to Group. HEI Partners to circulate to students.	SSM/DD	Completed
SSM to find previous letter to landlords and letting agents regarding ‘to let’ signs.	SSM	Carried Over

### 3. To Confirm Updated Aims and Objectives of the SCP

GS explained difficulty in making qualitative aims and objectives more specific and mentioned plans for rolling out survey to all residents during moving in campaign.

DR mentioned feedback from local shops may be relevant.

GS asked the Group for feedback on aims. SSM commented usefulness of reviewing work periodically to ensure representative of aims and objectives. DR commented positive to have student voices within work and Partnerships. BW explained keen to have student voices present and plans for further student involvement in local democracy.

BS asked the Group to confirm top ten. SSM commented anti-student rhetoric in media is low currently with help from SCP and Community Wardens to improve perceptions. The Group confirmed SCP top ten.

### 4. Future Funding of SCP – Update

BS explained Bath Spa University have agreed funding and University of Bath on going but is making progress. DR mentioned timing issues and gap in funding due to separate financial years but B&NES is committed going forward and have provided additional funding to cover gap.

DR mentioned usefulness of contacting Council in September to confirm position.

SSM mentioned usefulness of briefing new cabinet members about SCP to ensure discussions and decisions proceed.

DR mentioned usefulness of targeting Councillors with large numbers of student residents in their wards.

BS confirmed two stage approach to briefing, starting with general brief followed by targeted brief.

**Action: GS to brief Council in September, and do targeted brief to Councillors with large student populations.**

## 5. SCP Manager's Report

GS explained that the Moving In and Moving Out campaigns had been extended from two fortnightly campaigns to cover most of the academic year with Moving In from September to December, Mini Move In in February focussing on streets with issues from semester one, and Moving Out from May to July.

She mentioned plans for producing new literature for moving out campaign and that the British Heart Foundation have restricted the SCP to 8 donation banks compared to the previous years' 16 due to logistic/transport and administration issues.

She mentioned trying to involve other local charities in the campaign. The British Heart Foundation banks will be in delivered around 16<sup>th</sup> May and in place until the end of July.

She mentioned targeted briefings for Ward Councillors had been sent out and the next stage would be contacting long-term residents in the areas close to the banks.

She explained increase in issues in local community from students or long-term residents regarding student welfare. She mentioned traditional peaks in complaints are shifting this year. She explained Bath Spa University complaints have returned to pre-pandemic levels but University of Bath are still higher.

She explained more waste complaints than previous years and increase in fly tipping. She mentioned increase in 'other' complaints and work to re-categorise may be needed.

She explained working groups seem more collaborative since returning to in person and introduction of vice-chairs. She mentioned start of informal gatherings in local cafes with long-term residents.

DR asked if residents missed during campaigns are provided with information. GS confirmed yes.

BS asked if Universities had been told dates of moving out campaign. CD explained student comms is best contact.

DR asked if there was an update on night-time support across the Universities. GS explained late night noise task and finish group will include this issue. BS mentioned previous discussions had stalled due to lack of resources and logistic difficulties, and commented ability to pick up and close discussion either way. CD mentioned work with local taxi company and success in getting a contact.

**Action: BS to pick up Security piece and close.**

**Action: KJ to invite CD to Safe Taxi Task and Finish Group. CD to bring taxi contact to Group.**

## **6. To Consider Messaging to Students around the Introduction of the Residents Parking Zone**

GS explained new students in September may not have knowledge of new zone and of Council Consultations generally and preparation is needed. She explained information will be in moving out literature but comms from Universities would be beneficial.

GS mentioned concern of parents bringing students to city for new semester and experiencing difficulties. SSM mentioned B&NES meeting with stakeholders affected by new zone resulted in working group to investigate the extension of dual use bays to allow for visitors to park for limited time. DR mentioned usefulness of contacting Chris Major regarding this.

**Action: GS to contact Chris Major regarding new residents' parking zone.**

SSM mentioned usefulness of replicating comms for existing parking zones. BS explained information can be included in moving in packs.

**Action: GS to send Universities' comms teams parking zone information to be included in moving in packs.**

## **7. To consider the Information Given to Students around Cost of Living**

BS asked Group if enough cost of living support and guidance existed for students to access. GS asked if B&NES give advice targeted at students. DR confirmed not.

GS explained many students feel there is no support for age group. SSM explained Government restrictions on funding available and mentioned usefulness of Sabb Officers registering to speak at Council AGM in May about topic.

**Action: Universities' Sabbs Officers to speak at Council AGM about more cost of living support for students.**

## **8. Discussion of Communication of Voter Registration with Particular Reference to Students**

NK mentioned ongoing work on photo id comms and ideas for increasing student voters but asked the Group for comments.

BW explained comms coming this week but still at a developing stage.

BS explained timing issue with Easter Break occurring before deadline to register and plans to push comms next week. CD mentioned campaign on campus next week but digital campaign during break.

## 9. AOB

SSM explained last meeting with SCP and thanked the Group for involvement and work improving relations. He commented on the impact that the SCP was now having on the local community. BS thanked the Group and closed the meeting.

### Actions:

Action	Person(s)
GS to give national housing survey update at next meeting.	GS
GS to brief Council in September, and do targeted brief to Councillors with large student populations.	GS
BS to pick up Security piece and close.	BS
KJ to invite CD to Safe Taxi Task and Finish Group. CD to bring taxi contact to Group.	KJ/CD
GS to contact Chris Major regarding new residents' parking zone dual bay extension.	GS
GS to send Universities' comms teams parking zone information to be included in moving in packs.	GS

### Notes:

Actions from the previous meeting:

"The SCP Board to write to Cabinet Member Tom Davies asking to attend next SCP Housing Group." – SSM explained Cllr Davies may not be the relevant person going forward and can let GS know appropriate recipient after 25<sup>th</sup> May.

“The Group to create student housing survey.” – GS explained national survey superseded need for survey, and results from Universities in Bath and Bristol will shape action going forward. She explained a summary can be provided at the next meeting.

**Action: GS to give national housing survey update at next meeting.**