

LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORTS – 18/01/2023

Item	Report Number
Actions Arising and minutes of previous meeting	-
Reflections on NUS Antisemitism Report	R1
PGT Buddying Report	R2

Actions arising from previous meetings	Action Owner	Started	Expected finish	Progress/update
SU President to contact the Bike Mayor (Saskia Heijltjes) to investigate potential avenues of collaboration.	Alexander Robinson	01/23	02/23	
The Community Officer to request an item for the Accessibility Committee agenda; how does the University ensure future buildings are accessible and those with accessibility needs are treated equitably.	Blake Walker	01/23	02/23	
SU President to look into the SU contributing to the cost of living taskforce.	Alexander Robinson	01/23	02/23	
Activities Officer and Postgraduate Officer to conduct further research and bring an updated proposal to a future leadership committee.	Viktor Toshev and Jura Neverauskaite	01/23	04/23	
The Senior Administrator Governance (BS) to meet with the Activities Officer and Sport Officer to discuss training, the groups policy and the disciplinary policy.	Beki Self	01/23	03/23	

Decisions made without a meeting

No decisions have been made without a meeting.

CONTACT: Beki Self	E-Mail: ras232@bath.ac.uk
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Meeting:	Leadership Committee	
Location:	1 East Meeting room and online via Microsoft Teams	
Date & Time:	Wednesday 18th January 2023 9.30 – 11.00	
Present:		
<i>Name</i>		<i>Role</i>
Viktor Toshev	VT	Activities Officer (Chair)
Elizabeth Stacey	ES	Sports Officer
Alexander Robinson	AR	SU President
Julia Kildyshova	JK	Education Officer
Blake Walker	BW	Community Officer
In Attendance:		
<i>Name</i>		<i>Role</i>
Beki Self	BS	Senior Administrator Governance (Secretary)
Mandy Wilson Garner	MWG	Chief Executive (Interim)
Polly Hawker	PH	Head of Activities
Anna Boneham	AB	Societies and Volunteering manager
Amy Young	AY	Head of Student Voice & Engagement (Interim)
Charlie Slack	CS	Deputy Chief Executive (Interim)

Item			
1.	Apologies for absence		
	Name	Reason	Accepted
	Jura Neverauskaite	On a work trip	Yes
	Helen McHenry	Work commitments	Yes
	Mike Dalton	Work commitments	Yes
2.	Notice of any other business		
	No notice of AOB.		
3.	Declaration of Conflict of Interest		
	No committee members declared any conflicts of interest.		
4.	Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising		
	The committee approved the minutes of the previous meeting.		
	Matters arising:		
	Set up a data and insight group to establish what data is needed and how it will be used across the SU – This has been set up.		
	Education Manager to consult with DDAT regarding needs for Unitu. – This will be covered in agenda item 6.		

	<p>Engagement and Insight Manager to send email to Head of Departments to find if any staff have access to SAMIS – This has been done.</p> <p>Collate feedback and write a paper for the next committee meeting regarding postgraduate engagement in student groups. – This is item 9 of the agenda.</p>
5.	<p>Complaints and Disciplinaries</p> <p>The Complaints and Disciplinaries Report (R1) was presented by the Senior Administrator Governance (BS).</p> <p>It was highlighted that overall numbers of complaints and disciplinaries are down. It is not clear if there is a particular reason for this. CS noted it would be beneficial to look at numbers pre pandemic to see if there was an influx of cases after the lockdown and it has returned to pre-pandemic numbers.</p> <p>It was also noted that there is an ongoing conversation about precautionary measures with managers, particularly taking into consideration where the line is for the University to take over a disciplinary case.</p>
6.	<p>Update on Unitu</p> <p>The Education Manager/Interim Head of Student Voice & Engagement has received an update from Unitu. Unitu have informed the SU that it is putting the pilot for the SU version of the software for use with student reps on pause. It was highlighted that this is not an urgent priority for the remainder of this academic year and therefore the time can be taken to look at alternatives or see if the pilot from Unitu will come back online.</p> <p>QUESTION – A Trustee asked why the pilot development had been paused by Unitu. ANSWER – The Interim Head of Student Voice & Engagement (AY) explained that Unitu had informed us that there had been an internal organizational restructure, therefore it was assumed that workload and capacity were an issue and priority given to existing software and partners.</p> <p>QUESTION – A Trustee asked whether any money had been paid to Unitu for the pilot. Was anything paid to Unitu? ANSWER – The Interim Head of Student Voice & Engagement (AY) confirmed that no contracts had been signed or money paid to Unitu. The Head of Finance will be informed to ensure this is accounted in budgets and forecasts.</p>
7.	<p>Top Ten Update</p> <p>A verbal update of the Top Ten was provided by the Officers present.</p> <p>Sustainability: The Sport Officer (ES) noted there has been little progress on sustainability, and a new University UEB lead is still to be confirmed. They asked that staff and officers highlight the top ten item if sustainability is mentioned in any meetings with the University.</p> <p>Transport: The Sport Officer (ES) and others have been attending the University working group in which the University has been receptive to the comments from Officers. It was highlighted that Bath has a Bike Mayor and it would be useful to make contact with them. ACTION: SU President to contact the Bike Mayor (Saskia Heijltjes) to investigate potential avenues of collaboration.</p>

It was confirmed after a question relating to the soon to end contract with ABus that there had been no development on the 22 bus route tender process.

Assessment and Feedback

The Education Officer (JK) highlighted there are some new positions in the University relating to this area of work so looks like positive progress. They also confirmed that the PVC Education had met with them to discuss this Top Ten issue. When the University was asked if students are consulted about course costs it was stated that the decision had been for individual departments to make decisions themselves.

Study Spaces

The Education Officer (JK) updated that there has been no progress on study spaces more broadly beyond additional spaces be made during the exam period.

QUESTION – A Trustee asked whether there was an update on spaces being made available for students to take online exams on campus.

Answer – The Education Officer (JK) confirmed that there was no update.

Employability

Officers updated that there had not been any progress on this Top Ten since the last meeting but the new Director for Employability has recently started. The Education Officer had been invited to an introductory meeting with them.

Accessibility

The Community Officer (BW) updated the committee that there are no regular meetings with a member of University SLT regarding this (unlike other Top Ten's), instead the issue is discussed at the Accessibility Committee which has met and has made positive actions.

The University have commissioned the external company Access-able to do an assessment of campus and a date has been set. It was commented that this is positive that the assessment will be impartial rather than carried out internally.

QUESTION – The Interim Deputy Chief Exec (CS) asked if there is a plan from the University to ensure that new buildings are accessible, in particular new halls of residence.

ANSWER The Community Officer (BW) was not aware of this being specifically mentioned but agreed that it should be a key focus.

ACTION – The Community Officer to request an item for the Accessibility Committee agenda; how does the University ensure future buildings are accessible and those with accessibility needs are treated equitably.

Mental Health

The Community Officer (BW) noted there had not been a meeting for a while on this issue.

They updated that they had been involved in service provision workshops reviewing student support. The conversation was interesting which included good strategic thoughts on how data is used. It is not clear if action has been taken since the workshops.

Cost of Living

The University has a cost of living survey that has been sent to Directors of Studies to fill out with course costs incurred by students for their courses.

The SU President raised concerns that details of next year's University Accommodation rent prices are not going to the Cost of Living working group as the University is claiming it is a decision for UEB, not the cost of living working group. Largely the University's focus on accommodation costs has been on increasing bursary amounts rather than reducing rent increases.

It was noted there is a Government task force on the cost of living.

	<p>ACTION: SU President to look into the SU contributing to the cost of living taskforce.</p> <p>The Interim Head of Student Voice & Engagement (AY) noted that there had been nearly 700 responses to the SU Cost of Living survey.</p> <p>Food and Drink</p> <p>The University highlights the introduction of £1.50 meals in venues on campus as a success, but there continues to be limited gluten free offerings.</p> <p>The Activities Officer raised that during Fairtrade Fortnight, which will begin on 27th February, the gluten free and vegan options will be reduced in price.</p>
8.	<p>Trustee Recruitment</p> <p>The Senior Administrator Governance (BS) updated that Trustee recruitment is still ongoing. There had been some interest but still distinctly lacking on diversity.</p> <p>The Senior Administrator Governance (BS) will be contacting area managers with a request to share the role profile with appropriate contacts.</p>
9.	<p>Establishing a PG Committee position in relevant departmental societies</p> <p>The Activities Officer (VK) presented the report proposal on establishing PG committee positions (R2). The Activities Officer (VK) explained that postgraduate students (PGs) often felt they were not able to engage in departmental societies as they feel very aimed towards undergraduate students. Feedback gathered by the Postgraduate Officer at PGT council highlighted that students wanted more opportunities for networking and tailored careers fairs as currently they only felt appropriate to undergraduate students.</p> <p>It was also noted that this would not only be of benefit to the PGs getting involved but the societies would gain new insight and experience, the SU would have another avenue for feedback.</p> <p>The proposal presented was for the introduction of a postgraduate student committee position in 6 societies which were identified in the report.</p> <p>The committee had an extensive discussion regarding multiple aspects such as practicalities, PG input in the plans and previous precedent regarding changes within societies committees and the Groups Policy.</p> <p>The committee concluded the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It was brilliant to see a focus on postgraduate students and their needs coming for discussion at this committee. - There needs to be further consultation with PG students regarding what they are wanting from societies, students groups that have existing PG roles regarding their experience, and the groups that are being proposed to include PG roles on the groups' committees. - Consideration needs to be given that The SU is not duplicating the work of the employability team. - Discussions with non-affiliated existing postgraduate department based societies/groups should take place to see why they are not affiliated with The SU and what they offer to their members. - Consideration should be given to alternative proposals such as subgroups of departmental societies rather than one standalone position on a committee. <p>The committee recommends that the Activities Officer (VK) and Postgraduate Officer (JN) do some further research and return to Leadership committee with a report that considers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The possibility of a pilot scheme - Consultation with Postgraduate students, student groups that have a PG role and non-affiliated PG societies

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Either consultation or planned consultation with the proposed departmental societies. - The possibility of subgroups as an alternative to a committee position. <p>ACTION: Activities Officer and Postgraduate Officer to conduct further research and bring an updated proposal to a future leadership committee.</p> <p>Both members of the committee and those in attendance wanted to highlight the importance of this paper addressing postgraduate engagement and to thank the Activities Officer and Postgraduate Officer for submitting this paper for discussion.</p>
10	<p>Staffing Update</p> <p>The Interim Chief Exec (MWG) provided an update on staffing.</p> <p>Most vacancies have now been filled or are in the process of interviews. There are two roles that are still recruiting: Kitchen assistant and Campaigns Manager.</p> <p>The University recently conducted a staff wellbeing survey and HR will confirm if we can get SU specific data.</p>
11.	<p>Should there be compulsory training for chairs and treasurers? - verbal</p> <p>The Activities Officer (VK) explained there are currently over 20 student leaders who hold the positions of treasurer and chair on groups committees that have not completed training. The Activities Officer (VK) asked for views of attendees of the committee regarding if training should be compulsory for some roles and if so which ones.</p> <p>The committee discussed the topic and concluded it wanted to check if the current SU disciplinary policy sanctions could be used to remove student leaders not fulfilling their positions (i.e. by not completing training which may have a detrimental impact on their group or The SU).</p> <p>ACTION: The Senior Administrator Governance (BS) to meet with the Activities Officer and Sport Officer to discuss training, the groups policy and the disciplinary policy.</p>
	<p>Any other business NA</p>
	<p>Date and time of future meetings Wednesday 15th February – The Edge Meeting Room</p>
The meeting ended at	

Item	Action	Action Owner	Exp Finish
7.	SU President to contact the Bike Mayor (Saskia Heijltjes) to investigate potential avenues of collaboration.	AR	02/23
7.	The Community Officer to request an item for the Accessibility Committee agenda; how does the University ensure future buildings are accessible and those with accessibility needs are treated equitably.	BW	02/23
7.	SU President to look into the SU contributing to the cost of living taskforce.	AR	02/23

9.	Activities Officer and Postgraduate Officer to conduct further research and bring an updated proposal to a future leadership committee.	VK and JN	04/23
11.	The Senior Administrator Governance (BS) to meet with the Activities Officer and Sport Officer to discuss training, the groups policy and the disciplinary policy.	BS	03/23

REFLECTIONS ON NUS ANTISEMITISM REPORT

PURPOSE

Brief summary of report purpose.

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Report	Pages 1-2
Actions for Committee/Board	Page 2

REPORT

1. Background

- 1.1. In January 2023 the report ‘Independent investigation into allegations of antisemitism within NUS’ⁱ was published. Throughout this paper ‘the report’ will be referring to ‘Independent investigation into allegations of antisemitism within NUS’.
- 1.1.1. The report was commissioned by NUS UK in April 2022 and undertaken by an independent party – Rebecca Tuck KC.
- 1.1.2. It is noted that NUS have had multiple investigations and reports conducted both internally and independently over the years. There is an outline of what investigations have taken place since 2005 on page 19 of the Rebecca Tuck KC report.
- 1.2. A long history of concerns around antisemitism in student politics is highlighted in the report.
- 1.2.1. Notably University is often the first time many students learn about the Israel/Palestine conflict.
- 1.2.2. Without appropriate resources and support, students may not understand the full nuance of the situation resulting in racist statements and beliefs being used in the context of debate.

2. Findings of the report

- 2.1. In the conclusion of the report Rebecca Tuck KC states ““It is apparent from this report – and indeed from other reports over the last 17 years - that the culture within NUS and at NUS events has been perceived by many Jewish students, for good reason, as hostile”.
- 2.1.1. The report goes further to explain that NUS’s antipathy towards Jewish students has “resulted in antisemitism as well as hostility towards Jews which has not been challenged sufficiently robustly or proactively by NUS.”
- 2.2. NUS is generally quick to identify and condemn far right antisemitism (E.g. white t-shirt parties at Leicester Union in 2009)ⁱⁱ
- 2.2.1. A resulting conflation of Zionism, the State of Israel, Israelis and Jewish people has resulted in an antipathy towards Jewish students reporting antisemitism.
- 2.2.2. The views at NUS were that reports of antisemitism relating to Zionism, Israel and the Israel/Palestine conflict were complaint attempting to “try and avert pro-Palestinian or anti-Israeli political advocacy”.
- 2.3. Ultimately the report concluded Jewish students had been subjected to harassment related to their race or religion as defined in the Equality Act 2010.
- 2.3.1. Where NUS policies relating to antisemitism were breached, it was only following the instigation or inquiry from a Jewish student that NUS policies were followed.
- 2.4. It was deemed that changing the definition of antisemitism (as called for by some pro-Palestinian activists) would not resolve the issue of actual or genuinely perceived acts of antisemitism.
- 2.4.1. NUS uses the IHRA (international Holocaust Remembrance Alliance’s) working definition of antisemitismⁱⁱⁱ.

REFLECTIONS ON NUS ANTISEMITISM REPORT

2.4.2. The University of Bath adopted the IHRA working definition of antisemitism in 2021^{iv}

3. Actions for The SU Bath to consider.

3.1. Full recommendations for NUS following the findings in the report can be found on pages 109 through 113 of the report.

3.1.1. Reflecting upon these, there are several areas the SU may consider acting on.

3.1.2. The suggestions below are not recommendations but prompts for the committee to discuss and decide if further action towards antisemitism at The SU is necessary.

3.2. Consider if there is a need for antisemitism training for staff and officers in The SU.

3.2.1. There were examples in the report that highlighted “far right” antisemitism was recognised and condemned by NUS but more nuanced or subtle antisemitism under the guise of Israel/Palestine debate may go unchallenged.

3.2.2. It was noted that the onus of reporting antisemitism is placed upon Jewish students that may be the victim.

3.2.3. Training would allow staff and officers to identify antisemitism and report this appropriately.

3.2.4. Could this training be offered to Student Leaders?

3.3. Review of the SU and University complaints and disciplinary processes.

3.3.1. Do these processes sufficiently support students in matters relating to antisemitism?

3.3.2. Do staff administering these processes have appropriate training?

3.4. Does The SU need to consider the digital footprint of officer candidates standing for election?

3.4.1. The report recommended that the ‘status quo’ of not considering candidates commitment to the organisation’s values such as antiracism prior to the elections period should be challenged.

3.4.2. Is this something that needs to be considered in the risk register for the organisation?

3.4.3. Is this something The SU has the capacity to do?

ACTIONS

The Board of Trustees are asked to note the report and consider if any actions should be made from the suggestions provided.

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ⁱ https://assets.nationbuilder.com/nus/pages/108/attachments/original/1673471780/Independent_Investigation_into_Antisemitism_Report_NUS_12_January_2023.pdf?1673471780

ⁱⁱ <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/education/education-news/white-t-shirt-social-lancaster-university-students-nightclub-offensive-slogans-a9195231.html>

ⁱⁱⁱ <https://www.holocaustremembrance.com/resources/working-definitions-charters/working-definition-antisemitism>

^{iv} <https://www.bath.ac.uk/announcements/statement-on-the-international-holocaust-remembrance-alliances-working-definition-on-anti-semitism/>

REPORT ON PGT BUDDYING PILOT REVIEW AND FUTURE EXPANSION

PGT Buddying Pilot Review and Future Expansion.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this paper is to review the buddying project that was piloted for PGT students in Computer Science in September 2022, outline plans for a new, expanded version of the pilot and seek approval from Leadership Committee to use existing restricted funds to run the expanded pilot.

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Page 6:	Appendix 2: Workload calculations

REPORT

1. BACKGROUND

1.1. PGT and International Student Loneliness and Isolation

1.1.1. As part of the Loneliness Working Group in the University, Student Support proposed a buddying scheme to help new students at the University meet other students, get involved in university life and reduce feelings of loneliness and isolation.

1.1.2. While the initial proposal was thought to conflict with the existing peer mentoring scheme, we identified that the idea could be utilised to tackle loneliness and isolation in PGT cohorts, where no centralised peer support is available. With the high proportion of PGT students also being international, this proposal had the additional benefit of supporting another group that also experience loneliness and isolation.

1.1.3. Be Well survey indicated that PGT and international students often lack companionship which can contribute to feeling a sense of belonging and loneliness:

- “Undergraduate first year and third years and postgraduate taught student respondents show the highest levels of students reporting that they “often” lack companionship....
- 17% of undergraduate students, years 1-3, and postgraduate taught students all report feeling left out “often”.

1.1.4. We also know that international students experience can be impacted by culture shock often driven by the desire to make social connections in the new place of study.

1.1.5. Recognising that, our cohort is made up of 21% international students plus EU students providing scope to deliver an intervention that addresses the needs of PGT students whilst engaging a large proportion of international students.

1.2. PGT buddying pilot – Computer Science

1.2.1. A Peer Support Administrative Assistant was recruited to plan and administrate the pilot in Computer Science. The structure of the pilot was kept simple, with a matching process taking place pre-arrival, a welcome event taking place during Welcome Week and occasional communication with buddies during the first half of semester 1. During the pilot, 56 students

REPORT ON PGT BUDDYING PILOT REVIEW AND FUTURE EXPANSION

(60.2% of the cohort) signed up to be paired with a buddy. With students enrolling after Welcome Week, we decided to keep the signups open until the second week of semester 1 and 16 students signing up during this time.

- 1.2.2. A welcome event took place on 26 September, at the end of the first day of Welcome Week. 22 students attended the event (over half of students already signed up by that time). The event received positive feedback from student attendees and staff. Of the students who attended the event, 80% agreed that it helped them meet their buddy. Feedback included that it was a “good thing I got to interact with my buddy right from the start of my course” and that the event was “beautiful”.
- 1.2.3. An evaluation survey was carried out one month after the welcome event. 86% of students would recommend the scheme for future students. Focusing on elements from the loneliness working group, we asked questions around loneliness, community and making friends. Most of respondents agreed this scheme helped them in these areas (see Appendix 1).
- 1.2.4. We reported these findings to the Loneliness Working Group and Induction Operations Group and have received interest from additional departments to run the scheme in 2023. However, the significant administrative time required over the summer – where our staff resource decreases – and over Freshers and the start of the year – where our activities are busiest – means that we are not currently able to embed the scheme in our existing portfolio of peer support activities.

2. PROPOSED SOLUTIONS

- 2.1. To demonstrate the further benefit of this project beyond one department, we will work with several selected departments where keen staff members have put themselves forward to support the scheme. The departments initially selected are –
 - Computer Science
 - Health
 - Life Sciences
 - Management (M.Sc. courses)
 - Mechanical Engineering
 - Politics, Languages and International Studies (PoLIS)
 - Social and Policy Science (SPS)
- 2.2. Up to 2 Peer Support Administrative Assistant roles will be created to support the programme, with an expanded workload. These positions will be open to students. Recruitment will begin in Semester 2 so we can appoint students ready to start in August.
- 2.3. The role will be line managed by the Peer Support Coordinator and supported by the rest of the Peer Support Team. Each department will have a welcome event (separately or in paired departments, depending on numbers) and these will take place during Freshers.
- 2.4. Should this secondary pilot be successful, we will look to create a permanent position that will create additional staff time within the Peer Support Team to support the scheme.

3. CONSULTATION AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

- 3.1. Student feedback from pilot.
 - 3.1.1 The feedback from students was overwhelmingly positive, with 71% of respondents indicating that having a buddy was useful at the start of their course and 86% recommending the scheme for future students.

REPORT ON PGT BUDDYING PILOT REVIEW AND FUTURE EXPANSION

- 3.1.2 We also found that 71% of students found the scheme helped them feel less lonely, helped them feel a part of a community and helped them make new friends, all helping towards our targets of reducing loneliness and isolation in the PGT and International communities. More detail is provided in Appendix 1.
- 3.1.3 In open-text comments, we asked what students thought about the buddying scheme and the welcome event. Students were very positive, with one student saying it “helped with the initial stress of getting settled in, because I had contact with someone going through the same as me”.
- 3.1.4 When asked about the welcome event, students said that it was a “good thing I got to interact with my buddy right from the start of my course”, that “the activities were fun” and that “it was beautiful.” More comments are listed in Appendix 1.

3.2 Staff stakeholder engagement

- 3.2.1 The following table outlines the staff stakeholders who have given support to the programme expanding, or who we are meeting shortly to discuss involvement.
- 3.2.2 Kate Campbell was initially involved in the pilot scheme through the Loneliness Working Party and was incredibly positive about the impact of the scheme, the engagement from students in Computer Science and the work of our Peer Support Administrative Assistant.

Kate Campbell	Student Engagement Manager	Faculty of Science
Amy Childe	Student Success Officer	Faculty of HSS
Sarah Stead	Operations and Projects Manager	Faculty of E&D
Maria Christou (meeting on 17/02)	M.Sc. Student Experience Officer	School of Management
Gemma Kerr-Bridges (meeting on 17/02)	Student Experience Manager	School of Management

4. TIMESCALE

- 4.1. Recruitment of a Peer Support Administrative Assistant will start in April 2023 so they will be able to start during the summer and avoid interviews during exam period. Initial work will start in August 2023 to prepare the project before launching in September.
- 4.2. Key dates are listed below.
- w/c 10 April - Peer Support Administrative Assistant recruitment starts
 - w/c 7 August - Peer Support Administrative Assistant starts role.
 - w/c 28 August – resources sent to staff stakeholders to promote to new PGT students. Applications open.
 - w/c 18 September – matching of buddies starts.
 - w/c 25 September – welcome events take place.
 - w/c 16 October – applications close and matching is completed.
 - w/c 6 November – formal scheme ends. Buddies are encouraged to continue meeting during the first semester. Evaluation of scheme begins.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1. Initial funding of £750 was received from the Student Experience Development Fund to run the initial pilot, including creating new resources, administrating the scheme, and organising a welcome activity.

REPORT ON PGT BUDDYING PILOT REVIEW AND FUTURE EXPANSION

- 5.2. To expand to the six departments discussed, this would require funding of £2 000 to cover student-staff and activity costs. Funding calculations are outlined in Appendix 2, with the final figure rounded up as a buffer.
- 5.3. We will utilise existing restricted budgets (9LA – Look After Your Mate training funding) to cover the costs of this pilot and therefore will not be asking for additional funding for this scheme. However, we will need approval for these funds to be used.
- 5.4. Should the scheme be successful, we will not be able to embed the scheme within the team on a permanent basis without additional permanent staff resource.

6. REVIEW AND PERFORMANCE MONITORING

- 6.1. Similar evaluation methods will be used to ensure we can compare year on year. We will look at participation numbers, attendance at events and an evaluation survey focused on loneliness and isolation. We will also work with Loneliness Working Group to utilise existing Induction research to see how the scheme impacts cohort experience in the departments we work with. A mini focus group with staff involved in the scheme will also be organised to understand their experiences of the scheme and the impact they have seen.
- 6.2. We will report back to Leadership after the pilot with our findings and future plans.

ACTIONS FOR THE COMMITTEE

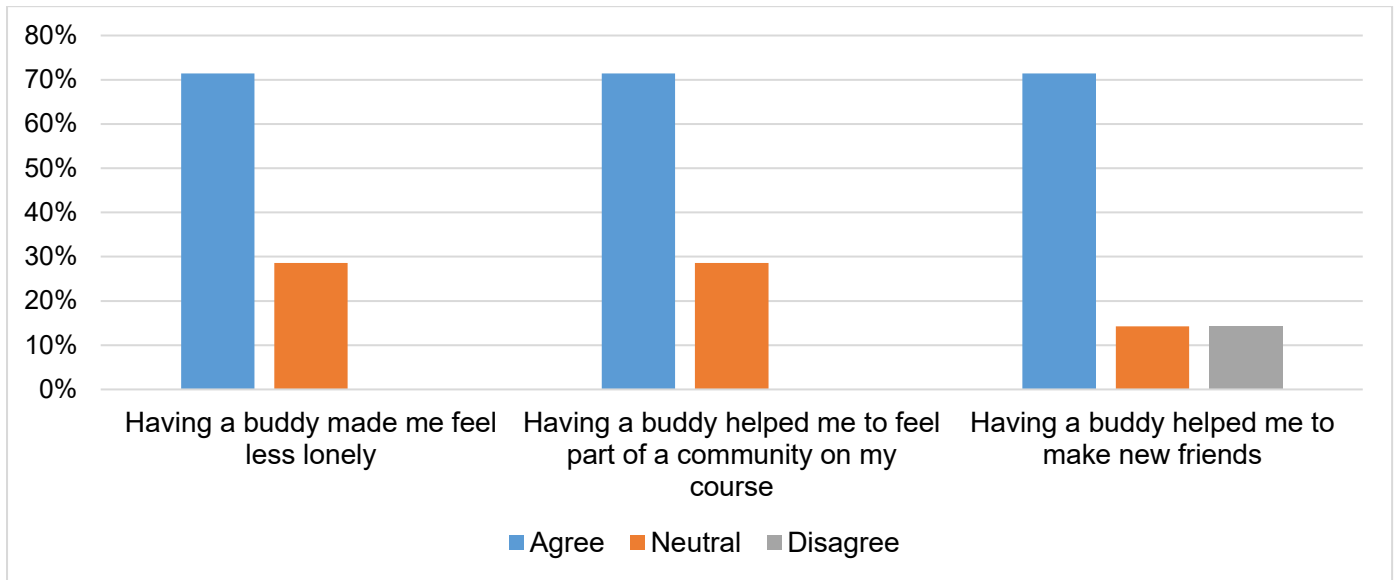
7. The committee is asked to accept the following recommendation:

Recommendation 1: To repurpose up to £2000 of existing restricted funds allocated to Look After Your Mate to expand PGT Buddying Pilot to 7 new departments.

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REPORT ON PGT BUDDYING PILOT REVIEW AND FUTURE EXPANSION

APPENDIX 1: Feedback from students involved in the pilot.



Respondents were given a series of statements to agree or disagree with relating to the pilot project.

Open text responses to questions

“What did you like about having a buddy?”

- It helped with the initial stress of getting settled in, because I had contact with someone going through the same as me. Even though I unfortunately did not have much contact with my buddy after a few email exchanges, I really felt that it made me more comfortable just having that first impression of what other students might be like.
- Buddy was really cooperative and helped me in adjusting in the new city.
- I knew that I'll have at least 1 friend in college :)
- It's good to have someone from your department whom you can approach anytime and ask anything you have in mind.

“Do you have any comments about the event in Welcome Week?”

- Good thing I got to interact with my buddy right from the start of my course
- The activities were fun!
- The group activity was fun filled
- It was beautiful. Would be great if we can be part of more social events apart from department ones as well.

REPORT ON PGT BUDDYING PILOT REVIEW AND FUTURE EXPANSION

APPENDIX 2: Workload calculations

Task	Hours	
Prepare promotional materials, application forms, useful resources, etc.	6	
Match buddies and introduce each other via email	32	~10 mins to match and email each pair
Respond to queries from participants and staff	7	
Plan and deliver introductory events	28	~2.5 hours per event planning + ~1.5 hours per event setup and attending
2x reminder emails with suggested activities during Semester 1	2	
Create evaluation survey and send to students	2	
Additional activities per scheme	14	2 hours per scheme
Meetings	4	8*0.5 hour meetings during programme
Total Hours	95	

Activity	Cost	
Cost for student staff	£ 1,212.31	@ £12.78 per hour
Event Refreshments	£ 700.00	£100 budget per scheme
Evaluation incentives	£ 50.00	2x£10 Amazon vouchers, £30 refreshments for focus group
Total Cost	£ 1,962.31	