



LUCY WIDDOWS **(SHE/HER)** **WELFARE CONVENOR**

CANDIDATE STATEMENT I'M LUCY – QMU QUIZ HOST, WINNER OF THE 'BEST TEAM LEADER' AWARD IN FRESHERS WEEK '24 AND EX-PRAM SALESGIRL (ASK ME ABOUT THE CYBEX PRIAM). I RECENTLY RETURNED FROM AN IMPROMPTU GAP YEAR, DURING WHICH I FOUND A LOVE FOR BATMAN AND ONLY CRASHED MY CAR A LITTLE BIT. I STRONGLY BELIEVE THAT YOU SHOULD NEVER TAKE YOURSELF TOO SERIOUSLY, AND APPROACH EVERYTHING WITH A 'CAN-DO' ATTITUDE. PREVIOUSLY, I HAVE REPRESENTED THE QMU AS CSR AND EVENTS LEFTIE, AND I CAN'T WAIT TO GET STUCK BACK IN THIS YEAR!

MANIFESTO GOOGLE DEFINES WELFARE AS 'THE HEALTH, HAPPINESS AND FORTUNE OF A GROUP' – AS WELFARE CONVENOR, I HOPE TO RUN A COMMITTEE THAT ALIGNS STRONGLY WITH THIS DEFINITION. THIS MEANS NOT ONLY ADDRESSING ISSUES SUCH AS MENTAL HEALTH, BUT ALSO CONSIDERING THE ACCESSIBILITY OF OUR EVENTS AND QUESTIONING THE DAY-TO-DAY RUNNING OF THE QMU TO ENSURE THAT WE ARE A SPACE WHERE ALL STUDENTS FEEL SEEN, UNDERSTOOD AND SUPPORTED.



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DURING MY TERM, I AM KEEN TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE QMU, WHETHER THAT BE THROUGH THE DEVELOPMENT OF 'BREATHING SPACES' WITHIN THE BUILDING, SETTING UP A DVD/BOOK LIBRARY, OR HOSTING UNIQUE WELLNESS EVENTS YEAR-ROUND. I HOPE TO DO A 'QMU CONFESSIONAL' IN FRESHERS' WEEK, A JANUARY STEP CHALLENGE AND CONTINUE THE 'BIG GIG' TRADITION, ALONGSIDE SMALLER EVENTS. I THINK THAT IF SOMETHING BENEFITS ONE PERSON IT IS WORTH DOING, AND I WILL LOOK TO MAKE SMALL CHANGES THAT COULD MAKE REAL-LIFE DIFFERENCES – FOR EXAMPLE, HAVING QUIET TIME IN JIM'S, POSTING WHICH BOARD MEMBERS WILL BE AT EVENTS, OR HAVING PRONOUN BADGES AVAILABLE FOR STUDENTS. I WILL ENDEAVOUR TO KEEP MY COMMITTEE ENGAGING, AND HOPE TO INTRODUCE 'BOARD BUDDIES', ALONG WITH BOARD EDUCATION ACROSS DIFFERENT TOPICS. MORE VISITS FROM THERAPETS WOULD BE BENEFICIAL TO STUDENTS STRUGGLING OUTSIDE EXAM PERIODS, WHILE BRINGING THE @QMUWELFARE INSTAGRAM BACK TO LIFE WILL ALLOW STUDENTS TO ACCESS VARIOUS RESOURCES FROM HOME. HAVING INTERACTIVE CONTENT WILL ALLOW ME TO UNDERSTAND OUR FOLLOWERS AND ENSURE THAT POSTS AND EVENTS ARE RELEVANT, WHILST BRINGING BACK THE 'ELEPHANT IN THE ROOM' CAMPAIGN WILL ALLOW ME TO KEEP CONVERSATIONS ABOUT 'TABOO' TOPICS GOING. IN SHORT, AS WELFARE CONVENOR, I WILL ADDRESS A VARIETY OF SUBJECTS THAT IMPACT STUDENT WELLBEING, PROVIDE STUDENTS WITH RESOURCES AND OUTLETS TO EXP