

Motion Name: Championing the Wellbeing of Student Groups

Proposer: Ella Lovibond

Seconded: Katie Poyner

Background:

1. Mental Health and Wellbeing support at the University of Bristol, despite improvement, is still not where it should or could be.
2. To become an affiliated Student Group, you currently are required to have 4 core members of a committee – President/Club Captain, Secretary, Equalities Officer and Treasurer.
3. There is currently no core committee role dedicated to championing a group's wellbeing, leaving it up to student groups to decide whether they have want/have capacity for this committee role. This leaves many groups without a member of committee dedicated to promoting positive student group culture, being a soundboard for any issues arising through the student group, or having knowledge of support systems to signpost members if need be.
4. Many groups adopt a joint role – equality and wellbeing officer (or similar), where wellbeing is added to their responsibilities as the holder of the core Equalities Officer. Alternatively, some groups already have a standalone wellbeing officer role as part of their committee. However, as these roles are not mandatory, they are not always known to the SU and therefore the SU is unable to provide sufficient support.
5. Through consultation in the form of Student Group Member Focus Groups and consulting Student Leaders at Club Captains Forum, this motion has been drawn up.
6. The recent Code of Conduct review also highlighted the need for Wellbeing Champions to be a core role in Student Groups to ensure support is provided.
7. The SU has outlined the [role description](#) and [further guidance](#) for the Wellbeing Champion Role.

Purpose:

1. To improve the peer support system within student groups through introducing a new mandatory role.
2. To ensure there is at least one member dedicated to championing wellbeing within a Student Group, and that they can receive sufficient support and information surrounding their role.

4. To ensure the Students' Union has sufficient information to provide fully encompassing support to a Wellbeing Champion.

5. To ensure that smaller groups that are unable to are not required to increase the size of their current committee, which would put extra strain on AGM's and Reaffiliation, whilst still introducing and encouraging groups to fill this role.

Actions:

1. Introduce the role of a mandatory "Wellbeing Champion" for all affiliated student groups. **This can be a standalone role, or an additional part of an existing committee role.** In both cases, the individual(s) undertaking the Wellbeing Champion role must be listed as a committee member in the (re)affiliation portal.
 - a. Wellbeing Champion role to be in line with the description (linked in point 7 of the background section of this motion).
2. The SU to provide mandatory training as appropriate to Wellbeing Champions in Student Groups.
3. The SU to explore funding for an additional staff role to support named Wellbeing Champions.
4. The SU to continue to provide the opportunity for Wellbeing Champions to have development meetings.