Bobby JOHNSTONE

A University for Everyone.

University should be a place to grow, connect, and create change, not just to struggle. But we are facing challenges: rising costs, worsening mental health, world leaders denying the existence of marginalised communities, and the climate crisis. It's overwhelming. But we don't have to accept this as normal.

As a queer, disabled, nonbinary student from a working-class background, I understand these struggles. This is why I'm standing for Welfare and Diversity Officer. Every student deserves to feel safe, supported, and valued, regardless of identity. I will ensure no one is left behind, and this university becomes a place where we lift each other up, not force each other to conform to outdated expectations.

I have experience representing students: I serve as a Course Rep for my Master's, ensuring the voices on my course are heard, and I was a Student Ambassador and Course Rep during my undergrad. Now, I'm ready to push for meaningful change on a university-wide scale.

My Pledges

Wellbeing Without Barriers:

- Work to expand mental health support, including recognising the impact of climate anxiety, and reducing stigma around mental health challenges.
- Push for services that are more accessible and inclusive, ensuring they properly support LGBTQIA+ students, disabled students, and students from minority backgrounds.
- Improve signposting so students always know where to find the right support when needed.

A Safer University for Everyone:

- Demand stronger action on violence and discrimination against women and marginalised communities, ensuring proactive measures.
- Push for survivor-focused reporting processes so students feel safe coming forward.
- Advocate for more robust consent, bystander intervention, and anti-harassment training to build a culture of respect.
- Ensure safety initiatives, such as better lighting and safe transport, are implemented and taken seriously.

Fair and Affordable Student Life:

- Challenge rising accommodation costs, improve transport options, and call for making campus essentials, like food, more affordable.
- Support free period product initiatives, tackle student poverty, and ensure international students are supported.
- Fight hidden course costs and work to secure more funding for low-income students.

Students have always been at the heart of progress. When we come together, we create change. This manifesto is just the start, together we can make a difference. If you believe in a university where every student can thrive, feel safe, and be heard, let's make it happen together.

Vote Bobby Johnstone for Welfare and Diversity Officer.

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