



#reelectizzy

# Re-elect Izzy for VP Welfare

f ReelectIzzyForWelfare  
www.izzyforwelfare.com  
@izzyjengalenga  
isabellalenga@gmail.com

## Getting the job done

I was humbled to be elected as your VP Welfare last year, and I've not wasted a minute on delivering my promises - to transform NUS' Welfare work so that it's above factionalism, above bureaucracy and focused to deliver on the issues that matter to students.

But the work's not complete. Our support services are still under attack, hate crimes are spiralling on our campuses, mental health services are underfunded and failing and students are living in squalor yet can't meet their sky-high rent payments.

Re-elect me to finish the job - securing new standards and investment in support services, fighting national & local campaigns & bringing together a united, fighting & winning Welfare campaign.



## Power against increasing student poverty

Izzy x

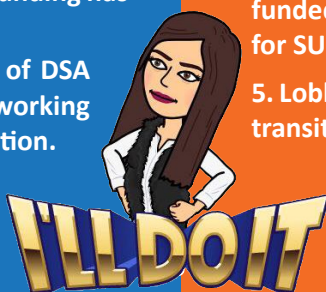
## Fighting our mental health crisis and securing student support

### My plan:

1. Put the student voice at the heart of the HE funding review and lobby for it to be extended to all post-16 education. Ensure welfare reforms are integral to any changes, including full restoration of maintenance grants and DSA, financial support for parents & carers, an improved EMA, a suitable apprentice minimum wage & adult learner support.
2. Continue to work, campaign with and support the autonomous nations, particularly on the specificities of their funding models; ensure the Government's funding has a strong focus on the nations' funding models.
3. Uncover the scandal of the botched transfer of DSA from Government to universities & colleges, working with the Disabled Students' Campaign to take action.
4. With the Vice President (Further Education), negotiate national discounts on student and apprentice travel, demanding every local authority ends profiteering from students.
5. Demand a review to the benefit system to ensure vulnerable students can access benefits and the additional restrictions on under 25s are repealed.
6. Oppose the selling off of our student loans and call for a ban on the increasing interest rate on loans.
7. Continue to lobby for the full restoration of NHS bursaries, forming stronger links with relevant healthcare trade unions.

### My plan:

1. Ensure a Mental Health lead on every FE campus, providing guidance and resources for tutors and staff to be trained in Mental Health First Aid.
2. Demand local mental health services and FE colleges and unions partner to ensure every student can make the transition from child to adult mental health services.
3. Host a national Student Mental Health Conference.
4. Support SUs in lobbying their institutions for fully funded Mental Health Strategies and ringfenced funding for SU advice services.
5. Lobby the Government for ringfenced funding to ensure transitioned care support for students moving between local authority healthcare services.
6. Develop a student services charter mark, so applicants know what their university or college offers before they apply.
7. Provide free contraception and STI testing kits to SUs through the purchasing consortium.
8. Lobby for sexual health services to be free for all students and for cuts to vital services, such as rape crisis centres and sexual health clinics, to be reversed.
9. Implement the recommendations to the student drug use survey alongside the Trans Officer; investigate providing drug testing kits to SUs and distribute harm reduction guides.



If you would like a copy of my manifesto in an alternative format or have any questions please get in touch!

Provided Mental Health First Aid training for every SU through the Learning Academy with discounted places for FE and Small & Specialist Unions.

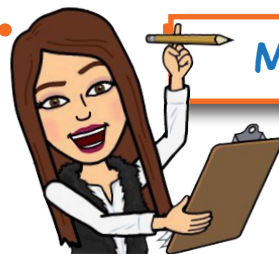
Worked with UEASU to FOI every Uni on their Mental Health strategy, launching the results in Parliament and releasing guidance for SUs on how to lobby their institution to implement an amended version of UUK's #StepChange MH Strategy framework.

Won affordable housing for London students by convincing Sadiq Khan & influencing the London Plan to take our recommendation to ensure that 35% of all new Uni & private purpose-built student accommodation is no more than 55% of the maximum student loan.

Undertook groundbreaking research on students living in Fuel Poverty, launched a report & provided resources to SUs.

Further developed the Ready to Rent campaign, producing new videos and releasing a Tenants Rights charter.

Biggest ever Alcohol Impact cohort and launched the first ever Students and Alcohol Conference.



## My record

Launched the #OurLivingMemory campaign, producing resources & support for SUs for Holocaust Memorial Day resulting in the largest ever number of HMD commemoration events on campuses across the UK.

Convinced halls providers to commit to trans inclusive accommodation. Helped secure over £144,000 worth of funding from the Government for a project to tackle antisemitism and discrimination on campus.

Launched a Fire Safety guide for SUs and students in high rise towers in the wake of the Grenfell Tower tragedy, and lobbied halls providers on their standards and fire safety provisions.

Delivered the guide on how to campaign for Universities to be guarantors alongside the ISO.

Developed and launched the first ever substantive piece of research on student drug use alongside the Trans Officer.

Commissioned a project ensuring positive Social media conduct, to be launched at National Conference. Updated NUS' social media policy and ensured it gets sent out to each delegate before every NUS event.

Initiated 'Student Coffee Conversations' with the Interfaith Network and supported SUs in their Interfaith week events, resulting in the largest Interfaith week ever.

"Izzy has a voice, she's a very strong woman who knows what she believes in and fights for it. She has been changing NUS and making it better for students at Derwen College. She respects people's differences and celebrates diversity."

- Ophir Yaron, Secretary, Students' Union at Derwen College



"As a member of the Welfare Zone Committee, I have had the pleasure of working with Izzy during her first year as VP Welfare and she has been fantastic. Izzy has championed Welfare for the unheard student voices in HE, FE and Apprenticeships. Izzy has started the necessary, important work towards change and I am supporting her for re-election so that good work can be continued." - Chuchu Nwagu, VP Community and Welfare, Roehampton SU

## Action on affordable and appropriate accommodation

### My plan:

1. Launch a national campaign to lobby every national and local authority to emulate the success of the London Plan, ensuring they are providing affordable accommodation for students.
2. Team up with organisations to create national and local student tenants unions.
3. Ensure any national landlord register is applicable to students, to increase student safety in the private rented sector and offer informed choice as to who they rent with.
4. Support local unions to build a bespoke version of the 'Ready to Rent' campaign, giving students resources and knowledge of their rights throughout their tenancies.
5. Expose the profit being made by Universities and private developers, demanding answers from ministers on the topping up of private wealth via students.

6. Keep holding providers to account on fire safety, demanding regularly reviewed non-compromised plans and resources.

7. Provide guidance for SUs to demand a permanent place within the group that sets accommodation prices and standards.



## Championing cohesive campus communities

### My plan:

1. Launch a commission on student knife crime together with the NUS President & Vice President (Further Education.)
2. Review the disparities of hardship funds in HE & FE; lobby the Government to fully restore and extend them, and support SUs in arguing for an increase in funding from institutions.
3. Support the Vice President (Union Development) in extending the consortium and NUS Extra to include Kosher and Halal food and childcare necessities.
4. Produce a national Online Harassment and Hate Crime plan involving social media companies, universities & colleges that enables students to take action on bullies that works.
5. Produce new interfaith resources on campus facilities, including statutory prayer space, religious calendar guidance and relevant institution policies.

6. Launch Student Hate Crime Awareness Week, offering local and national campaign resources on manifestations of hate crime; support SUs in becoming hate crime reporting centres.
7. Persist in fiercely defending NUS' No Platform policy; provide guidance for officers on confronting this issue in the press.
8. Work with Black Students Campaign to oppose PREVENT.