

## Southend Black Officer Report

Name: Lacey Fearon

Role: Black Officer (Southend)

Month: December

### Introduction

The past term has been very difficult for me. Due to an emotional, mentally, and physically taxing term, I had to step back from my role as Black Officer for some time and focus on my studies. However, after some time away and meetings with staff for support, I'm ready and excited to dive back in and continue my journey as Black Officer.

### Goals

- To build and maintain wider and deeper connections with students in the Black community to support them through this year
- To host an event at least once every three weeks
- To create a comfortable space for Black students and help create change for the better for them
- To build connections and relationships with other communities to show solidarity and support for those in intersectional communities
- To get back on track with my responsibilities and role as Black Officer

### What have I been up to?

Although I have been away from the role, I have been talking with some students about recent events that have left them feeling uncomfortable in class, and am looking at how to create a change and bring back a safe space for those students.

### What to expect next month?

My plans from the previous report have carried over into this month. I'm currently sending off the event form for the flag painting event (detailed below), however hope to plan a wellbeing evening (detailed below) for before this, where I can also publicise the event.

I am currently planning a flag painting event. Many of the students in the mixer realised their flags were not hung on the garland in the SU, so thought an event where students can paint and hang their flags would show black students, they're welcome, represented and empowered.

I am also hoping to plan a wellbeing evening, as some students have voiced their concerns about some situations in the past couple weeks that have left them feeling uncomfortable, so I feel a relaxed evening that allows people to talk, comfort and provide each other with advice is very much needed.