

## Southend Black Officer Report

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Role: Black Officer (Southend)

Month: October

### Introduction

Whilst this has been a very hectic month for me, and my studies have taken most of my attention, I feel this month has been a good starting point for me as the Black Officer. I have been able to begin to get my name out there and already have been getting feedback about what the Black Community wants. Following a successful event, I have a few ideas for events that I hope will happen in the next few months and hope to continue to build connections in this community, whilst also building relationships with others in joint events.

### 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.

### What have I been up to?

I was lucky to organise a successful mixer for the black students in Southend. We were able to have a chill evening and just chat about how new students have been settling in, whilst also giving advice to returning students. Students voiced how nice and comfortable they all felt, whilst also expressing how they'd want another event very soon.

As a result of this I have begun brainstorming and thinking of future mixers and event ideas for the Black community.

### What to expect next month?

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.