

Deputy President (Education and Welfare) Accommodation 2007-2008

A note by the DPEW – Kirsty Patterson

Introduction

The Deputy President (Education and Welfare) is currently resided in Beit Hall in accordance with the Sabbatical Officer Contract and the The Officers' Hall Rooms Policy. Sabbatical Officer's receive their accommodation in halls rent free as part of their payment for their year in office. If a Sabbatical Officer chooses not to live in their designated hall room they must first receive permission from council.

Council Notes:

1. That the DPEW stated in her manifesto that "I will take up a place in halls as required by the Sabbatical Officer's contract... It is important that Sabbatical Officer's reside in the heart of the student community rather than separating themselves from the students and the issues that affect them."
2. That 'Student Community' is not restricted to first years alone and that residing in the heart of this community does not necessarily require taking up residence in halls.
3. That the issue of continuing students with special requirements failing to get rooms in halls, due to a shortage in supply, has been raised through working closely with Imperial College Residences. It seems highly hypocritical of a sabbatical officer liaising with this department to take up valuable space in halls when demand is so high. It is assumed that if no other Union Officer requests a room then it will be returned to residences rather than being left empty.
4. That Sabbatical Officer's, by receiving free accommodation in halls, rather than staying in touch with student issues actually separate themselves from issues faced by other students such as paying bills and dealing with landlords.
5. That by leaving Halls of Residence the DPEW will not be restricting methods of communication to that Hall as the DPFS is also in residence within the same hall.

Decision Required:

1. To allow the Deputy President (Education and Welfare), Kirsty Patterson, to move out of halls and organise her own living arrangements within close proximity to the South Kensington Campus.
2. To grant the Deputy President (Education and Welfare) the full living-out allowance in accordance with the Officer's Halls Rooms Policy.