



Social Policy Commission 2019/20 KPS Meeting 4 KSU Betsson Common Room Thursday 24th October

Katrina Farrugia | Social Policy Commissioner: Thank you for attending, we will start off by mentioning the upcoming events.

ADHD Campaign: On the 31st October in common room (ADHD and its management) and 6th Nov (13:30 quad debate on diagnosis of ADHD). We hope to see you there.

We will be continuing constitutional reform taskforce (next meeting is to be held on Wednesday at 16:30)

Approval of agenda & minutes.

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Guest Speaker (Extinction Rebellion): [Tim Grech]

It is a global movement where we try to prioritise impacts on climate change. The main goal which we did achieve was to achieve climate emergency. Coming up events:

Tomorrow we have gathering for students (future of society). Students come and collectively unite to show concern with regards to the environment and climate. We need to shout out that we are worried about our climate and our future. We are the first generation who will be influenced by such climate change, so this is very important for us.

We approached a number of student organisations in the past few days since you are on the forefront of student and youth activism. You will be representing their future career as indicated to their organisation. They will be delving into the fact that their respective industries are negatively impacting our climate. For example, students coming from one of the law organisations will hold a plaque saying; My future career as a lawyer is in jeopardy, and so and so forth.

Tomorrow, the main scope will be:

- - Celebration of climate emergency
- - Emphasis on the fact that we want to see actions that will lead to a change





Society needs to realise that, although we cannot see the effects, we still need to deal with the matter. The younger generation will unfortunately be facing such consequences. We want to see more than simply climate emergency, action is needed.

We will also be pushing for policies:

- Electric buses & free transport
- Alternative modes of transport
- Push for alternative and move away from private transport

Individually, we cannot leave an impact. If we meet up and we show a collective concern, then there is more chance that our voices will be heard. We need to show people that future lawyers, businessmen, etc are concerned.

We want student organisations to attend this event, but I think that it is more important to show that you are an individual who is worried about your future.

Sandrine Borg | KNZ:

Who knows what a state of climate emergency is?

It doesn't force the government to do anything.

Once you declare such state, you are held accountable in certain situations. The government will start prioritising environment more than it already has.

KNZ started a subcommittee to discuss climate change and, as soon as they saw an uproar in certain events, they felt that something is to be done in this regard.

There has been a lot of importance being given by youth with regards to such issues and how they are worried about their future. On the 11th of September 2019, in NYP, we demand it there because you are in the highest institution in our country. We told them that we wanted parliament to demand state of emergency. A motion came out and we saw it as an opportunity for this to happen. We sent a letter to parliament stating that youth would like to declare state of emergency. We had a declaration signed by 31 out of 33-member organisations. This was presented to MPs in parliament and after lobbying with the minister for environment in parliament, we managed to get the state of emergency. What do you think should be done?

Nicole Galea | SPS:

We should be the ones holding government accountable.





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We took into consideration a number of topics and we will be presenting a policy to the ministry. That is the way forward. We need to keep on working together as student organisations because, at the end of the day, we all have more or less the same aims in mind and we believe that a collective approach is to be adopted to ensure that our voice is heard.

Chiara Vassallo | KNZ:

I would like to thank once again all organisations for helping. Rather than waiting for government to pass policies, we will be issuing a so to speak tool kit re how we can be sustainable etc. Those organisations that are not member organisations can contact KNZ and we can share this kit with you.

Katrina Farrugia | KPS Commissioner:

If you are interested, speak to your exec with regards to the matter, and then we can discuss your proposals in the next KPS meeting so that we can present them to the relevant authorities.

