

University of Melbourne Student Union
Meeting of the Welfare Committee
Agenda
(Friday, 19th, December, 2025, 9am AEDT) Meeting 1(26)
Location: Zoom



<https://unimelb.zoom.us/j/81484234641?>

Password: 838740

Meeting open at 9:02 am AEDT.

1. Procedural Matters

1.1. Election of Chair

Motion: That Cynthia Wong be elected Chair

Mover: Cynthia Wong

CWD

1.2. Acknowledgement of Indigenous Custodians

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the land on which we work and pay our respect to indigenous Elders past, present, and emerging. Sovereignty has never been ceded. It always was, and always will be, Aboriginal land.

1.3. Attendance

1.3.1 Alexander Hams

1.3.2 Cynthia Wong

1.3.3 James Duncan

1.3.4 Catherine Duong

1.3.5 Deniz Daymen

1.3.6 Mun Szuen

1.4. Apologies

1.5. Proxies

1.5.1 Yash Shukla to James Duncan

1.6. Membership

1.6.1. Ebby Davis has resigned from the Welfare Committee.

Motion: That the Membership changes as presented be adopted.

Mover: Cynthia Wong

CWD

1.7. Adoption of Agenda

Motion: That the Agenda as presented be adopted.

Mover: Cynthia Wong

CWD

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

There are no previous minutes. This is first meeting of 2026 term.

3. Conflicts of Interest Declaration

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

5. Correspondence

6. Office Bearer Reports

6.1. Cynthia Wong

6.1.1. Key Activities:

1. Attend mandatory UMSU induction.
2. Work on the Welfare budget for 2026.
3. Designed 'Meet the OBs' post for Instagram. It was posted on Tuesday afternoon.
4. Attend strategic meetings with COMMs, learnt about how to edit the Welfare session of the UMSU website and made some changes to it, including adding the Welfare Committee sub tab directly to the Welfare page.

5. Discuss Welfare Brunch plans for Semester 1, which is going to expand from once per week to three times per week, including Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday.
6. Reached out to potential sponsors for Welfare Brunch. Met with one of the food vendors who are interested in supplying Welfare with free food to discuss our plans. Talked to Events about the sponsorship plan and we are now waiting for Events to review the application.
7. Spoke to Southbank about plans for next year. Welfare is going to do monthly delivery to Southbank to stock up their survival station, and Welfare OBs are to go/send committee members to go to Southbank once a week to assist the operation with SB OB.
8. Reach out to Micah from the Aldi food rescue program. Sorted out how the program works, including pick up location, frequency, quantities etc. We will begin to do a few pick-ups in January.
9. Discussed with Creative Arts about plans to collaborate for our Mental Health Campaign in running Arts Therapy workshops and Karaoke sessions during Stress Less Week.
10. Planned out orientation week activities. Welfare will obtain a department stall for a day and hold activities at Friend Zone on another.
11. Discussed with POC about potential collaboration on Festival of Nations.
12. Discussed with Disabilities about collaborating on Stress Less Week.

6.1.2. Actions to be completed by next report:

1. Reach out to committee members to discuss how they want to be involved next year.
2. Reach out to other food suppliers to obtain more affordable items for Union Mart.
3. Meet with Simon and Lachie to finalise volunteer structure for 2026.
4. Reach out to other departments for potential collaboration for Stress Less Week and the Mental Health Campaign.
5. Meet with Events to finalise our plan for Semester 1.
6. Finalise the Union Mart X Food Relief Merger. The University has yet again changed their proposal on what the merge would look like.
7. Reach out to Events about obtaining condoms to be given out at Union Mart and Orientation Week.
8. Start planning the Cost-of-Living Report. Brainstorm questions to ask, and also how to encourage students that are not in the Union Mart to fill in the survey as well.

6.2. Alexander Hams

6.2.1. Key Activities:

1. Begun understanding responsibilities required for the role. Including good governance and effective fiduciary duty. (Including reading standing orders)

2. Meeting with Deanna to understand the financial responsibilities and regulatory requirements to ensure the welfare department is compliant.
3. Attended council meeting to ensure that Welfare department was sufficiently represented and financed for 2026
4. Worked on budgeting for 2026, understanding welfares commitments for the coming year and then refining the budget after council meeting with actual figures clarified.
 - a Creating a plan for Welfare's operations in 2026 - Establishing a basic schedule for 2026
5. Attended SEDS meeting - Understanding the process of the committee and meeting those involved.
6. Discussion collaborations with other departments, including activities, POC and creative arts.
7. Began to stock union mart for 2026
8. Finalised events for O-week

6.2.2. Actions to be completed by next report:

1. Use data such as the 2024 Cost of Living report to ensure that the Welfare Department is sufficiently fulfilling students need and requirements
2. Continue to stock Union Mart up for the coming semester.
3. Coordinate with satellite campuses to ensure that they feel adequately supported by the welfare department
4. Understand the food relief merger, and work with that process.
5. Begin discussion on the mental health campaign
6. Continue coordinating with events to ensure that Welfare is ready for the semester.
7. Fix the Welfare website
8. Understand the volunteers process, and coordinate its continuation

Motion: To accept the Office Bearer reports en bloc.

Mover: Cynthia Wong

Seconder: Catherine Duong

CWD

7. Motions on Notice

7.1

Motion: That the Welfare Committee accepted the 2026 Budget Proposal as presented by Welfare Office Bearers and approved by the Students' Council with \$137,500 allocated to the Welfare Department.

Mover: Alexander Hams

Seconder: Catherine Duong

CWD

7.2

Motion: To approve \$25,000 in spending from the 'General' Tag Event budget line (0360-630-3840) for the re-stocking of Union Mart at all campuses, and other Union Mart Related Expenditure.

Mover: Alexander Hams

Seconder: Catherine Duong

CWD

7.3

Motion: To approve \$165 in spending from the 'General' Tag Event budget line (0360-630-3840) for a Canva Premium subscription.

Mover: Alexander Hams

Seconder: Catherine Duong

CWD

8. Other Business (Motions without Notice)

9. Next Meeting

9.1. January 19th (Monday), 9am (subject to change)

10. Close

10.1. Meeting closed at 9:14am AEDT.