

ADDRESS TO COUNCIL – By Sarah Santhosham

Dear Council,

My name is Sarah Santhosham and I have recently taken over as the Vice President for Charities and Community at Oxford University Student Union.

OUSU exists in part to represent students as a body to the University and to the wider community; we have six full time sabbatical officers and in my role I cover community liaison.

During the summer I have enjoyed getting to know several Councilors and members of the community in residents associations, voluntary groups, the City Council and the police. Like my predecessor I would like to work closely with the Council over the coming year on areas of mutual concern to make the relationship between students and the community better.

There are many positive benefits of students in our community, for example through volunteering and fundraising for local charities, such as Helen and Douglas House, Crisis Skylight Oxford and Jacari. Over the coming year I will be working on fostering relationships between students and the wider community through showcasing the voluntary work of both groups, working to make University space more accessible to community groups, and continuing to lobby for a Living Wage to be paid to all staff, who live and work in our community. I look forward to working with you over the coming year to achieve these goals and please do feel free to contact me at charities@ousu.org

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