Improving Transport to and from King’s Buildings (KB)

What will we do:

1. The Students’ Association to lobby relevant University departments responsible for transport to:
   a) Provide more frequent buses to transport students to and from Central Campus to the King’s Buildings, leaving every 10 minutes from 8:30am to 10:00am and 4:00pm to 5:30pm.
   b) Implement buses that stop at Pollock Halls of Residence.
   c) Implement buses that stop in Marchmont.
   d) Open the discussion about alternative modes of transport (e.g. completing the patchy bike path on the main road connecting to KB; discuss car and ride share options....)

2. The Students’ Association to conduct research, if necessary, into how many people use the shuttle bus at different times in order to effectively lobby for a sufficient number of buses to be provided to meet student demand.

Background to this:

1. The King’s Buildings is the main campus for most of the schools within the College of Science and Engineering, and located about 2 miles south of George Square campus.
2. The University widely advertises a free shuttle bus service for students to travel between the Central Area and King’s Buildings to meet their academic timetable. This leads students to believe that it would be possible to live close to George Square campus and get to King's Buildings easily and on time thanks to the shuttle buses.
3. Common Scenarios that occur for students attempting to use the shuttle bus are:
   a) The bus arrives late, and so students do not arrive on time for their lectures at KB.
   b) The shuttle bus timetable is not consistent with lecture start times, meaning that often even if students are successful in catching the bus, they are late for their seminars.
   c) Students have to queue for over 20 minutes to ensure they have a space on the bus. This is not a good use of time, and standing in the cold for long periods could be harmful to student wellbeing.
   d) There is not enough space on the bus when it does arrive, so students resort to walking, paying for public transport or missing the lecture entirely.
4. Pollock Halls of Residence and Marchmont are almost half way between central campus and KB buildings. It does not make sense for students to walk to central campus to then catch a bus back towards KB. It is important for there to be a bus stop at Pollock Hall because new students do not know Edinburgh well, and navigating the
40 minute walk to KB could prevent students from attending contact hours. Similarly, Marchmont is a very popular student area, so having a bus stop there would spare students the back-to-George-Square-forth-to-KB dilemma.

5. The cycle path to the KB on the main road is regularly interrupted/patchy. The "quiet route" to the KB is difficult to follow (due to construction work etc.). Alternatives to the bus should be discussed.

Beliefs and Motivating Actions:

1. The University has a duty to provide appropriate infrastructure, as they represent in their adverts. To facilitate learning for students in the College of Science and Engineering, the transport between both campuses should be a priority.

2. All students should be able to arrive on time to their lectures at KB, without having to wait for vast amounts of times in queues to ensure a space on the bus.

3. Student residents of Pollock Hall and Marchmont/Newington will greatly benefit from having a bus stop near to where they live in order to ease new students into living and studying in Edinburgh, and to better utilise their time for studying, participating in university/EUSA/city events or socialising.

Submitted with 20 Student Signatures