

# Motion On the Student Mental Health Crisis

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## This Union Notes:

1. Over a quarter of UK students are experiencing their state of mental wellbeing changing for the worse since starting higher education (1)
2. A December 2020 report from the ONS concluded that more than half of students report that their mental health and well-being has worsened as a result of the pandemic. (2)
3. Lancaster University students have concerns echoing these reports, with significant and increasing pressure on University Well-being services reported throughout the 2020/21 academic year (4)
4. There is, at the time of writing, no formal suicide prevention or mental health awareness training offered to Lancaster University staff or students.

Sources 1. <https://www.randstad.co.uk/employers/areas-of-expertise/student-support/student-mental-health-report-2020/>

2. <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/educationandchildcare/articles/coronavirusandtheimpactonstudentsinhighereducationinenglandseptembertodecember2020/2020-12-21>

4. <https://thetab.com/uk/lancaster/2020/02/19/72-percent-increase-in-counselling-referrals-at-lancaster-uni-over-three-years-16223>

## This Union Believes:

5. Student mental health and wellbeing is an issue of fundamental importance to all Universities and Students' Unions.
6. The pandemic has acted to the detriment of Student Mental Health across the UK, and here in Lancaster.

## This Union Resolves:

7. To lobby Lancaster University for consistent and adequate funding and provision of student mental health and wellbeing services, and for educational policies that are conducive to good mental health.
8. For the SU to offer Mental Health Awareness and Suicide Prevention training to all students and staff.