Sophie Hoath for Access Officer

I am a second year English student with a state school education, who is passionate about making Downing life easier for individuals from backgrounds like my own.

What are my aims?

FUNDING AND SUBSIDIES
I have a knowledge of the processes involved in applying for Hardship funds for my living expenses, which I want to put to use in making the college's application processes smoother, and the information about funding more widely accessible.

OUTREACH AND INCLUSIVITY
I am keen to ease the transition into Cambridge for Freshers from lower-intake schools by organising a pre-term social event to ensure familiar faces when they arrive in October.

CONTINUE THE GREAT WORK OF MEG AND ELI
Their work on the alternate Student Prospectus, CUSU Shadowing Scheme, and university wide access forums and schemes are all things I will be continuing!

START OPEN CONVERSATION ABOUT ACCESS ISSUES
To tackle Downing's outreach issues and define the areas for improvement, college discussions need more nuance. I want to broaden the statistics under scrutiny so Grammar and Comprehensive schools do not come under one ‘state school’ bracket, and take into account wider socioeconomic factors. I’d also like to create open conversation about Cambridge's issues of access by incorporating them into Freshers’ Week talks.

Proposed by: Jacob Buckton, 2nd Year MML, jeb222@cam.ac.uk
Seconded by: Luke Adams, 1st Year Lawyer, lma@cam.ac.uk
Contact me at: sh956@cam.ac.uk