

# IMPACT REPORT

**2022 - 2023**



# OUR OFFICERS



**SU President**



**VP Education**



**VP Engagement**



**VP Wellbeing**

# OUR OFFICERS

VP Education launched the Go With The Flow Campaign to end period poverty. Four dispensers with sanitary products were installed in four bathroom in The Spark (male, female and unisex/disabled), along with baskets of sanitary products across Solent campuses.

VP Wellbeing and VP Education joined the Violence Against Women and Girls group to improve female safety in the city and be the voice for students on prominent issues.

SU President launched their campaign to raise awareness of sexual health with students, including a World AIDS Day event and stocking condoms in the SU Exchange, which are free for students to take.

SU Engagement is working closely with societies and monthly Society Forums have been set up to hear feedback from societies on how the SU can help them develop further, as well as support them with any questions or concerns.

# OUR OFFICERS

VP Wellbeing and SU President launched a joint campaign to help students with their housing issues and concerns, which included hosting a housing fair for landlords and student accommodation providers to talk with students and ensuring their housing needs were met.

All four Sabbatical Officers joined together to work on a cost-of-living crisis campaign to help students during this difficult time. This includes the SU Exchange, cost-of-living hub on the SU website with resources, working with the university to increase the hardship fund and providing free period products, condoms and books for students.

All four Sabbatical Officers have been lobbying the university to improve the accessibility across Solent campuses. This includes an accessibility survey launched in National Disability History Month, various social media videos highlighting the good and bad accessible areas on campus and working closely with the Access Solent team to speak with students with disabilities directly.

# THE UNION

## **exchange**

SU Exchange in November in response to the cost-of-living crisis. 242 students signed up for the service and 5000 items distributed from the food bank.

## *Winter Ball*

Hosted a series of events throughout the year, including the return of Winter Ball. 250 students attended the event, with largely positive feedback.



## **SAFESOLENT**

Safe Solent continued to run with Radio Taxi's covering the journey cost. Over the year there were 563 journeys from students, an increase of 127% compared to last year.

## **COURSE REP COURSE REP COURSE REP**

There are 192 course reps, which is an increase of X from February 2022. Course reps represent students academic issues and feedback to improve their course.



The SU got a new mascot, SPARKIE, who joined the team in July 2022 and has been a huge success at all major events and on social media.

## **SOCIETIES**

As of February, there are 33 active societies - from LGBTQ+ to airsoft, video games to cultural societies - which is an increase of 32 active societies from last year.

# THE UNION

SU President (2020 - 2022), Vias Koukouletsos, ran to be national president of NUS, which gave the union exposure on a national level

213 students filled in a cost-of-living survey, hosted by APPG, which will be delivered to the Government to discuss recommendations on the issues that affect students in the cost-of-living crisis

Solent Students' Union undertook an internal restructure with job title changes, including Sabbatical Officers to SU President, VP Wellbeing, VP Education and VP Engagement

Solent Students' Union submitted five students to represent Solent University on Channel 4's University Challenge and were invited to stage two interviews in London, the furthest the university has made it since applying.

# THE UNION



Social media has increased dramatically this past year, mainly Instagram and TikTok.

Solent SU's Instagram following has increased by 15% since March 2022, from 3514 followers to 4041 (529 followers).

TikTok followers have grown by 181% since February 2022, from 98 to 276.



14 press releases and statements were published on our website this year.

Press releases include the launch of the period poverty campaign, Safe Solent return and personal alarms were covered by local media.

Statements covering a variety of topics, such as earthquakes, the passing of Her Majesty the Queen and UCU strikes.



VP Education, Stefania David, was featured on both BBC South Today speaking on student safety in Southampton, and ITVX for the launch of her end of period poverty campaign

# THE UNION

Elections undertook a rebrand and changed from Solent Decides to Solent Elections to make it easier for students to understand the purpose. 465 students voted in total this year, which is a similar number to last year even though the overall number of students at Solent University has dropped.

A number of internal policy changes were made in September inline with the staff restructure to build a culture of trust and agency within the team.

Solent University approached Solent Students' Union to offer financial support to help with the running of the SU Exchange. This is around £8000 to invest back into the food bank.

Southampton City Council has invested £7000 into supporting Safe Solent to ensure students can continue to get home after a late night/early morning in the university library.

# THE UNION



Give It A Go was a way to get students to try new hobbies and skills for free. Over 40 events were held and a minimum of 200 students attended.



To celebrate LGBTQ+ History Month, Solent SU held it's first ever drag bingo event. Over 80 students attended and the feedback was all positive.



Refreshers made a return in February and was held in person with over 1050 students attending the event in total.

## Other events held throughout the year:



Karaoke



Open mic nights



Pub quizzes



Trans pride workshop



Housing fair



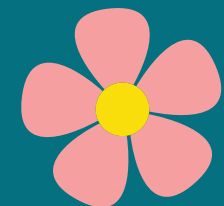
Winter Ball



Vintage fair



Warsash meet ups

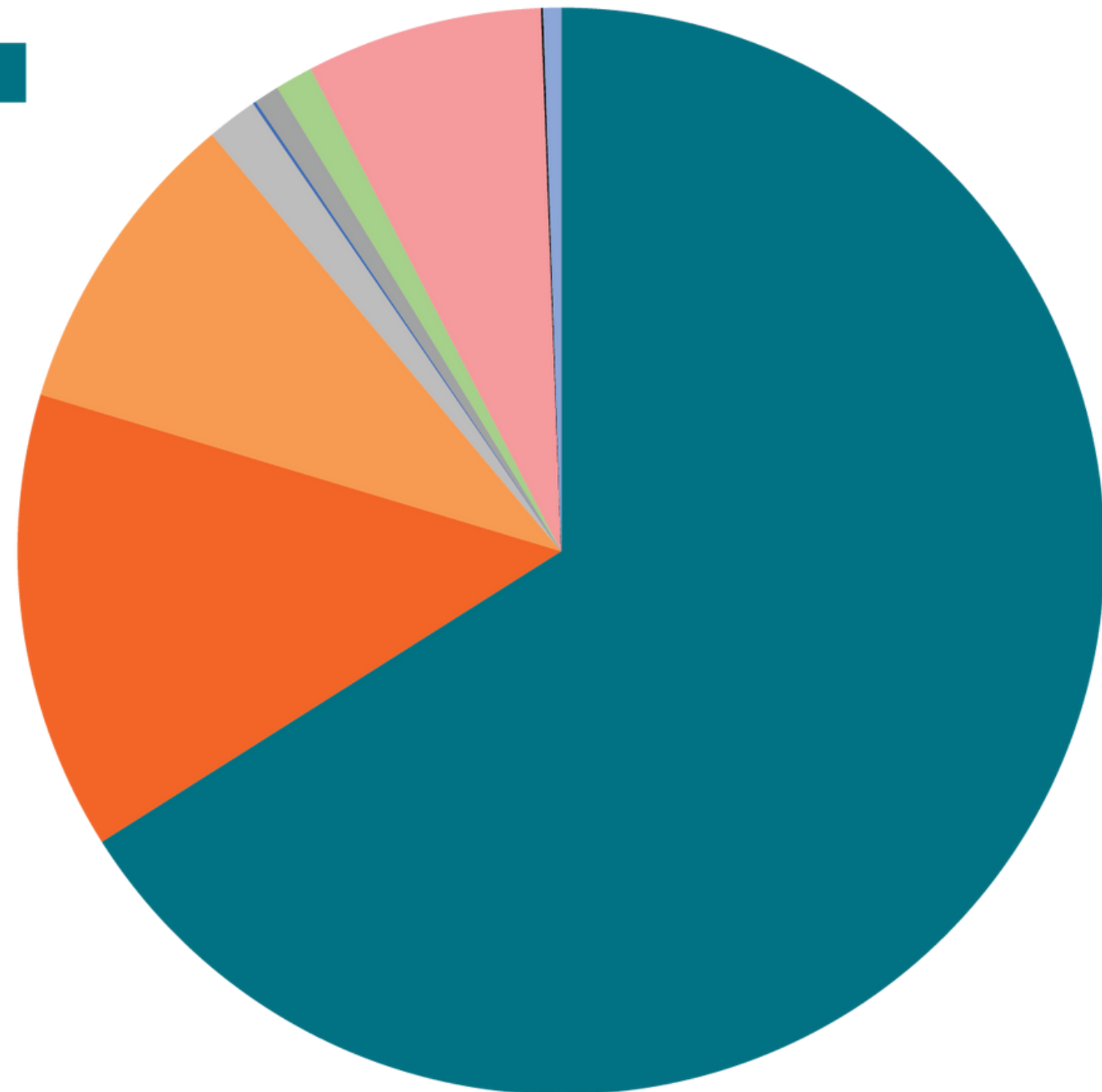
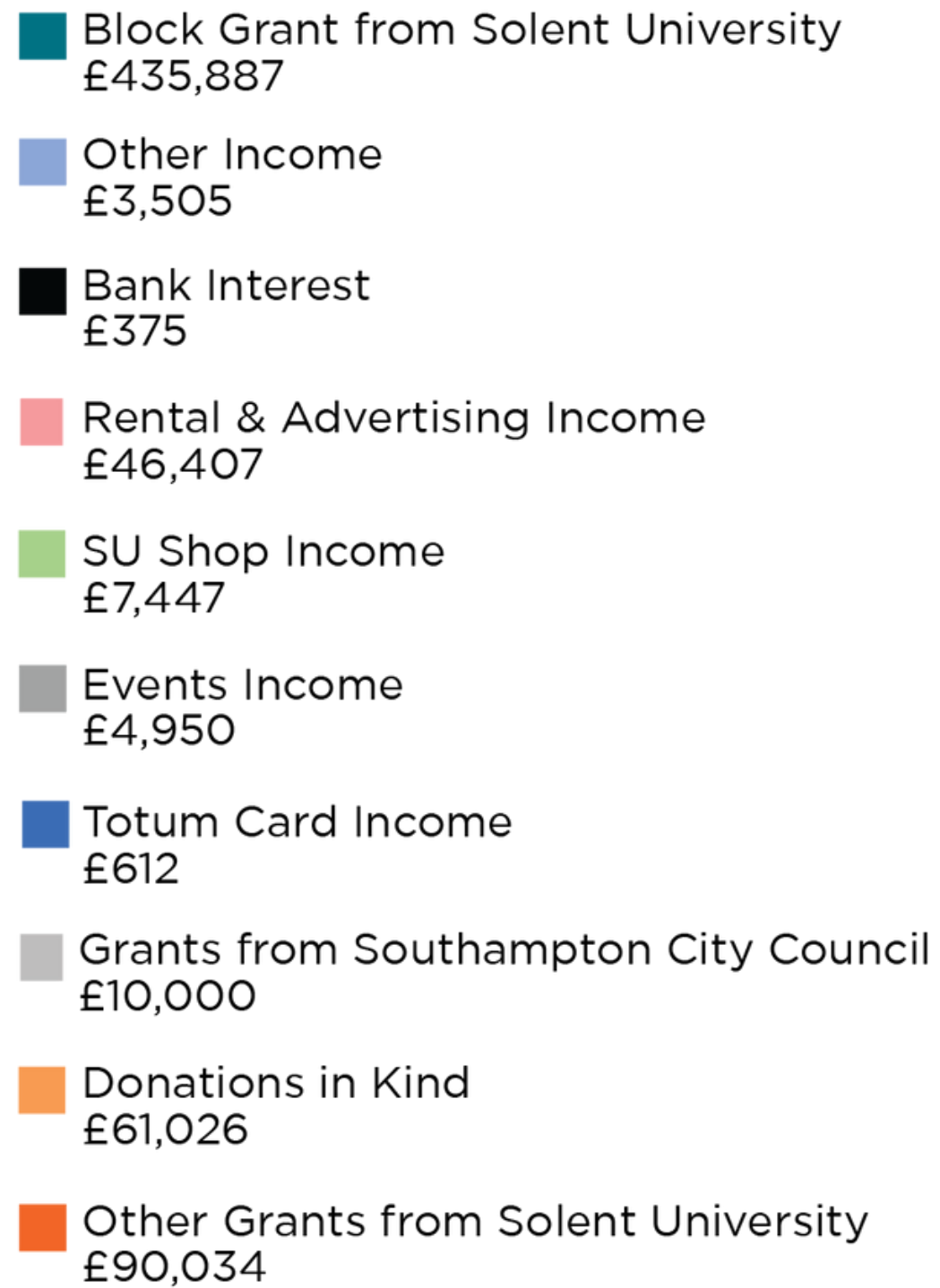


Gardening workshop



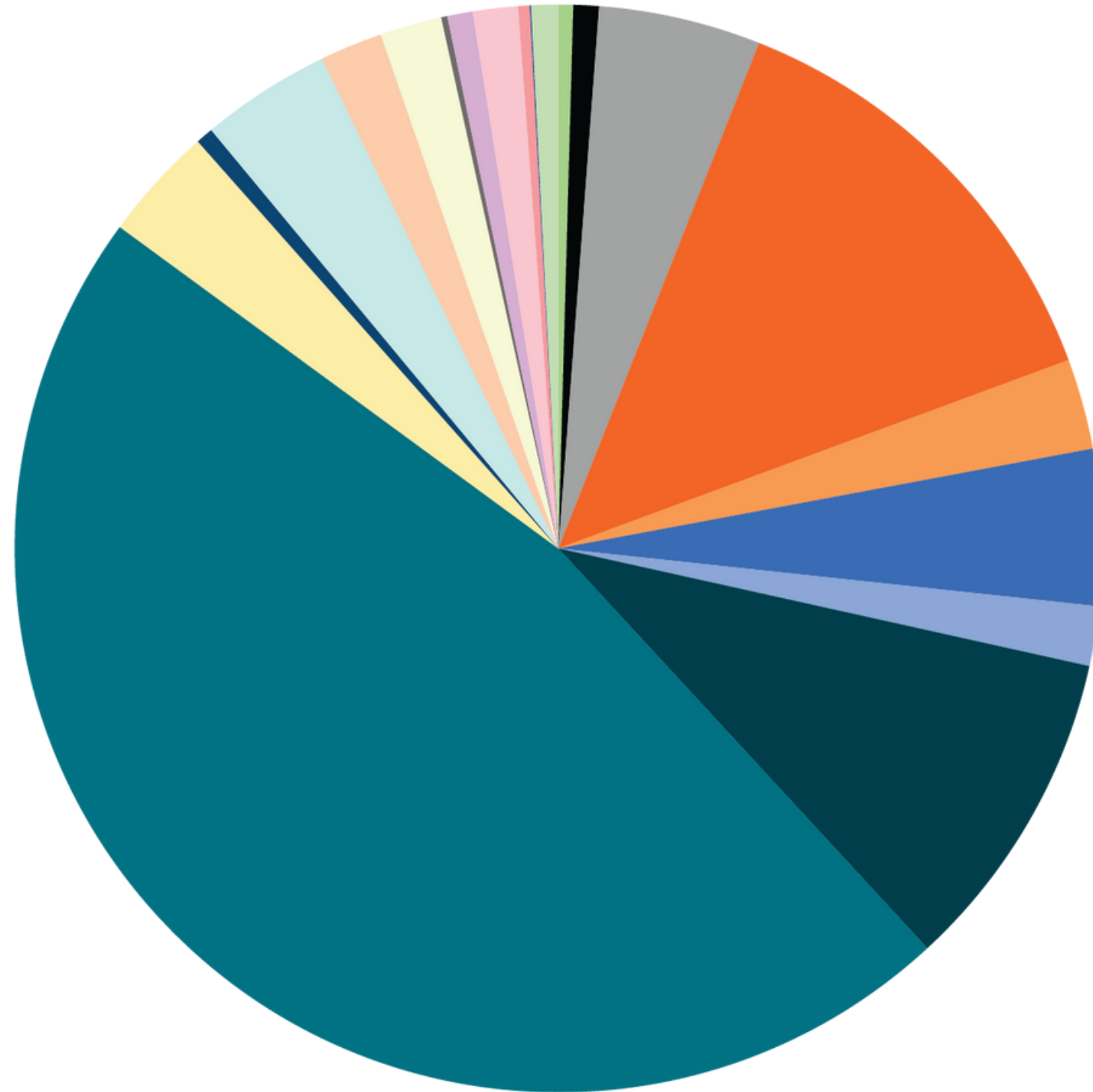
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## Where our money comes from



2021-2022

## Where our money goes



2021-2022

