

S/M/5.007|2-20|

## MANDATE

### **Lobbying for the Establishment of a T-Fund**

Submitted by:       Ló Boyle (LGBT+ Senator)

Seconded by:       Ciarán Watts (VP Welfare & Equality on behalf of the Welfare & Equality Forum), Gender & Sexuality Caucus

#### **Student Senate notes:**

The financial pressure placed on transgender and non binary students continually throughout their gender transition; “financial pressure” referring to the costs of name change by deed poll (€60), chest binders (€50), make up (€50+), gender affirming clothing (€100+), and gender affirmation surgery (€4,000+). One of the biggest barriers to transitioning for transgender and non binary students is the financial aspect. The cost for transitioning students in Ireland is particularly high as many choose to seek private hormone replacement therapy due to the complete underfunding and inaccessibility of gender clinics in the state. For example, the waiting list of the National Gender Service at St. Colmcille’s Hospital Loughlinstown, currently stands at 13 months long.

#### **Student Senate believes:**

That students who wish to transition would benefit from financial support by the university to aid in the purchasing/funding of items such as chest binders, makeup, name change by deed poll, or other such items that may assist in their social, hormonal, or surgical transition.

#### **Student Senate therefore mandates:**

The VP Welfare & Equality to investigate the feasibility of a Transition Fund (or T-Fund) to be established within the University to support students wishing to transition who face financial barriers in doing so.

#### **Student Senate further mandates:**

That should the VP Welfare & Equality deem it feasible that a Transition Fund could be set up within the University, that they work alongside any relevant bodies, such as the LGBT+ Senator or representatives of the Pride Society (eg. President or Trans Officer) to lobby the University on behalf of the Student Senate to establish such a fund.

This fund if established, should be made available to students through a clear and transparent application process, which should be judged by a committee populated by both University Staff and Students/Student Representatives.