

# WORK PLAN

## Education Futures Local Campaign Group

**Education Futures is the name of the national campaign for properly public funded for higher education in the Republic of Ireland.**

The group has three aims:

- 1 End student fees & reform the grant system (Access)
- 2 Decent terms and conditions for those who work in the sector (Decent Work)
- 3 Proper public funding for quality higher education (Quality)

The first Education Futures campaign will be focused on the next general election. Namely, we will be respectfully seeking to:

- 1 Have our objectives included in as many political party manifestoes as possible
- 2 Bring the issue of higher education funding into the collective national consciousness

It is important to know that these are the objectives for the next general election and should not necessarily be considered the long term objectives of the campaign.

### Work plan

With the above in mind we are encouraging local groups to respectfully engage in the following activities:

- 1 Arrange a public meeting on the issue of higher education funding
- 2 Lobbying local representatives to support our three aims and have them included in their parties manifestos
- 3 Arrange a local action, to take place in the same week as our national actions on the issue of higher education funding
- 4 Public Meeting

The purpose of the public meeting is to encourage public discussion on the issue of higher education funding, recruit new members to the campaign and to generate publicity around the Education Futures campaign.

Local groups are encouraged to organise this meeting in relevant settings and respectfully manage proceedings. We have included some hints and tips below to guide the process.

### Lobbying

The purpose of this will be to encourage local officials to make representations on your behalf to their spokespersons and manifesto writers for inclusion in political party manifestoes. It will be important for as broad a spectrum as possible to lobby politicians. This lobbying should be done in a respectful way assuring the dignity of all concerned, Encourage students, staff, community groups and parents etc to request meetings also.

Don't assume that any party is spoken for. Request meetings with all political parties and encourage them to adopt the campaign position.

### Local Action

Local groups should feel empowered to take the initiative on this. We are encouraging people to focus on the positive impact of education on and off campus. As this will take place on a national level there will be supporting materials etc. provided to local groups