

## **Student Support**

“Belfast City Council recognises the COVID-19 pandemic has affected all citizens including having a profound impact on our young people;

Acknowledges the difficulties faced by those young people in full-time third level education, both at universities and further education colleges, who, because of restrictions, are unable to attend classes in person or live in student accommodation which they have paid for;

Believes that many university students have found themselves suffering financial hardship which has caused significant distress and led to poor mental health;

Calls on university accommodation providers and private landlords who have not provided rent waivers to do so immediately;

Further calls on the Department for the Economy and Department of Finance to address these new burdens of generational injustice by developing and funding a Student Support Grant for all full time third level students, many of whom cannot gain any employment at this time and are unable to claim benefits.“

Proposer: Councillor de Faoite

Seconder: Councillor Whyte

**(To be debated by the Council)**