



**COMHAIRLE CONTAE CHIARRAÍ
KERRY COUNTY COUNCIL**

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8th July 2013

Please quote my Ref: SB/June 13 Item 7 on all correspondence

Each Local Authority

A Chara,

At a recent meeting of Kerry County Council the members were briefed on Higher Education Grant Scheme 2013.

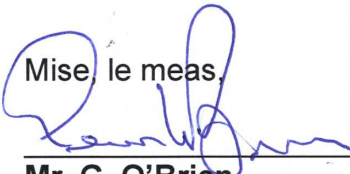
During the course of the discussion which followed, members said that Student Universal Support Ireland (SUSI) has been a failure in its management of Ireland's third level grants. They expressed grave concern that some students were forced to make the distressing decision of having to withdraw from college due to financial difficulties caused by the delay in processing of their grant applications.

They pointed out that when applications were being processed by Local Authorities and VEC's, students and their parents were able to avail of direct contact with staff, who were familiar with the process. It was unanimously agreed that the Minister for Education and Skills be requested to consider the abolition of Student Universal Support Ireland (SUSI) and the return of the administration of the Higher Education Grant Scheme to Education and Training Boards (ETBs) and Local Authorities.

They also requested that the support of all other Local Authorities be sought.

Please consider this matter and let me have your response at your convenience. Your reply can be emailed to gobrien@kerrycoco.ie.

Mise, le meas,


Mr. G. O'Brien,
Meetings Administrator

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