

Lib Dems school funding motion – Labour amendment

(To remove struck through words and add underlined words)

Proposer: Cllr ~~Liz Morris~~ Elin Weston

Seconder: Cllr ~~Pippa Connor~~ Peter Mitchell

~~This council notes that the Liberal Democrats in Government introduced the pupil premium which saw schools in Haringey benefiting with:~~

- ~~• An extra £13 million on top of their usual budgets.~~
- ~~• Each primary and secondary school in the borough received an extra £900 per pupil that had been registered for free school meals.~~

~~This council also notes that following Lynne Featherstone and Haringey Lib Dems campaign for fairer funding for local schools, Haringey schools received an extra £5.3million of government funding to tackle deprivation.~~

~~This council notes that Lib Dem MP, Sarah Olney, recently asked the Prime Minister at question time to review free school funding and allocate more funding to other schools. This council is concerned that the National Audit Office report estimates that there is £2.5bn overspend by the Conservative Government on land for free schools.~~

~~This council notes that due to the Conservative Government's changes to school funding Haringey schools will lose approximately £664 of funding per pupil by 2020. This is equivalent to 581 teachers on the average salary of £37,250.~~

This Council notes that the Conservative Government's consultation on its plans for a new funding formula for schools is currently under way and it claims that measures, set to be introduced in April 2018, will "end the postcode lottery" of schools funding.

This Council also notes that In December 2016 the National Audit Office produced a report into the financial sustainability of schools and confirmed that mainstream schools will need to make £3.0 billion in efficiency savings by 2019-20 against a background of growing pupil numbers and a real-terms reduction in funding per pupil.

This Council is concerned that:

- By introducing this new funding formula, while cutting education funding, money will be taken away from London schools (and other schools in urban areas) to be redistributed elsewhere in the country.
- 70% of London schools will lose out directly through the implementation of the formula while all London schools will face real terms funding cuts.
- these cuts will see an overall reduction in the Haringey schools budget of £5 million a year by 2019–20 and this is on top of other pressures on school finances including pay awards, inflation and rising national insurance and pensions contributions.

This Council is further concerned that in real terms, these cuts will mean that:

- Per pupil funding will be cut by £664 (11%) per child in Haringey by 2020
- The average cut for Haringey secondary pupils is £842
- The average cut for Haringey primary pupils is £574
- Haringey schools will face larger class sizes, have fewer teachers, teaching assistants and subject specialist and pupils will get less support and individual attention.

This Council believes that the Conservative Government's proposals represent the biggest real-terms cuts to schools budgets in a generation which will hit every school in the borough and mean less money for every child in Haringey.

This Council is also against the phasing out of the Education Services Grant and its impact on schools and the Council.

This Council calls upon the Conservative Government to increase the schools budget in order to prevent a serious detrimental impact on class sizes, support for pupils with special needs or valuable extra-curricular activities. We ask that the Government seeks to produce a truly fair funding formula for schools which protects funding levels in London and increases funding for other areas.

~~This Council requests that the Leader of the Council write to both of Haringey's MPs, urging them to raise the Council's concerns with the Secretary of State for Education.~~

This Council resolves to write a cross-party letter to the Secretary of State for Education to express our serious concerns about the Government's funding formula.

The full Labour amendment will therefore read as follows:

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Seconder: Cllr Peter Mitchell

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