

COUNCIL MEETING – 18 JANUARY 2010

Amendment to Motion J (2009/10)

(Amendments are in bold and italics, deletions have been struck through)

This Council notes:

- The government's proposal to scrap excess payments to local housing allowance claimants where their rent is lower than the rate of the allowance
- That this plan would see over 2,000 of the poorest families in Haringey up to £15 a week and £780 a year worse off
- As a result, £1.5million would be taken out of the local economy
- ***The Government has responded to concerns on LHA reform and delayed the reform until 2011 and announced plans in the Pre Budget Report to launch of an immediate consultation to review Housing Benefit reform and affordability.***

This Council believes

- ***That it should remain committed to supporting those most in need in our society***
- ***That in tough economic circumstances the Council has an even greater responsibility to look at how it can help its residents through this difficult period***
- that these changes undermine the original objectives of local housing allowance which were to bring choice and fairness to the benefits system while combating poverty;

Therefore, this Council resolves

- ***To take part in the Housing Benefit Reform consultation to impress the impact this would have on Haringey residents.***
- ~~To write to the Chancellor for the exchequer to reverse the government's plan to scrap excess payments to local housing allowance claimants~~
- ***Continue to hold advice surgeries to help our residents claim all that they are entitled to***
- ~~Urges local MPs to sign Liberal Democrat Sarah Teather's EDM 2069 to back the campaign against the change in policy.~~

Proposer: Cllr Mallett

Secunder: Cllr Adje