

AMENDMENT TO **MOTION E** (2011/12)

(Deletions have been struck through and additions are in bold)

This Council believes:

- **That women in Haringey are sadly paying the price of the last Labour Government's disastrous failure to regulate the banks and keep public spending under control, and that responsibility for this country's severe economic problems, increased unemployment and the crippling public sector spending deficit lie squarely with the Labour Party**
- ~~The Coalition Government's changes to taxation, benefits and pensions are unfairly targeting women~~ **which includes the recent announcement of an increase in the basic tax threshold to £9,205 in 2013, help low-paid workers, the majority of which are women**
- ~~The changes to working tax credits in April 2012 will make life harder for many low paid women in part time work in Haringey~~ **Since May 2010 the government's changes to the lowest tax thresholds has reduced the tax burden on many local families and women**
- ~~The Government's equalities Minister has failed to recognise the impact of their damaging deficit reduction strategy on the economic security of many women~~ **continued to champion the rights of women. The government has extended the right to request flexible working, will set up scheme to recruit and train 5,000 mentor specifically to provide support for women to set up or grow their business, help women into work through individual plans in the work programme and ensure women are not penalised for working.**

This council notes:

- The recent IPPR analysis that showed how 33,000 more women were out of work between October and December 2011 compared to 16,000 more men **but notes that the overall rate of unemployed men (9%) is higher than that of women (7.7%)**
- More than one million women are now unemployed, the highest number in 23 years **and that this is a one of the consequences of one of the worst financial crashes in the last 70 years made worse by the last Labour government**

- ~~Around 8,500 women in Haringey will be adversely affected by the accelerated state pension age~~ **The delay in reforms to increase the state pension age to 66 due to concerns about the impact on women**
- ~~In Haringey, around 1880 families are likely to lose all of their working tax credits this April.~~ **Since 2010, 3,660 families in Haringey have been taken out of paying any income tax at all. By April 2013 this is set to increase to 5,830 and, in total, 80,000 families will have their tax burden decreased**
- ~~Around 1900 families in Haringey will be losing help with childcare costs.~~ **The government has provided £300 million for childcare support under the Universal Credit, on top of the £2bn already spent under the current system. This will allow around 80,000 additional families to benefit from childcare support.**
- **Labour's decision to reduce funding to Children's centres in Highgate, North Bank and Rokesley which provide childcare and which will severely impact on local women**

This Council resolves:

- To write to the chancellor **and the cabinet member for finance** asking ~~he~~ **that they** looks into the ~~disproportionate~~ affect the Government's tax and benefits changes **and the Council's budget spending decisions** are having on women

Proposer - Cllr Wilson

Secunder - Cllr Whyte