

**Notice of Motion – School cuts**

Councillor Carpenter has submitted the following motion:

“This Council is appalled by the Government’s decision to take education spending to an historic low by cutting £8.9bn in real terms from the national schools budget.

Research by the National Union of Teachers and the Association of Teachers and Lecturers, building on analysis carried out by the Institute for Fiscal Studies, shows that over the next 5 years schools in Barking and Dagenham are set to lose an average of £312,198. Every primary school and all but one secondary school in the borough is projected to lose funding, in what equates to an average cut of £461 per pupil by 2021/22.

This Council is particularly concerned about the Government’s decision to cut the Education Services Grant (ESG) by £600m, which will see Barking and Dagenham lose £1.8m of education funding in 2017/18 alone.

The Education Services Grant is used to fund school improvement and essential services in our local schools, such as support for children with special educational needs who require occupational therapy. It will be reduced from £3.4m in 2016/17 to £1.6m in 2017/18, and we believe that this cut amounts to nothing more than a cost shunt from central Government on to Local Authorities.

This Council believes that these cuts will result in unavoidable impacts on teaching and learning, putting at risk the improvements to outcomes for children that we have made in recent years.

This Council therefore calls on the Government to commit to maintaining per-pupil funding, reverse the £600m cut to the Education Services Grant and think again on its proposals for education funding.”