

**NOTICE OF MOTION****JOINT GREEN AND CONSERVATIVE GROUPS****FREE CHILDCARE FOR DISADVANTAGED TWO-YEAR-OLDS**

“This council welcomes the government initiative to extend the current entitlement of 15 hours a week free childcare for three and four olds to disadvantaged 2 year olds.

The proposal to extend to the most disadvantaged two year olds from September next year and then to the most disadvantaged 40% from September 2014 should make a real difference to these children’s lives. It will also enable parents to re engage with education and/or employment (paid or voluntary).

The importance of the first few years of a child’s life cannot be overstated. Children who have the right support in the foundation years enjoy better health, wellbeing, and achievement in school and later life. [1]

However, while we welcome this extension we ask the government to give us clarity on funding to support this, particularly for future years. We are concerned that the shortfall could mean in adequate provision of high quality free early education, particularly in the disadvantaged areas of our city.”

Proposed by: Cllr Shanks

Seconded by: Cllr Wealls

Supported by: Cllrs Bowden, Buckley, Davey, Deane, Duncan, Follett, Hawtree, Jarrett, Jones, Kennedy, A Kitcat, J Kitcat, Littman, Mac Cafferty, Phillips, Powell, Rufus, Sykes, Wakefield, West, G Theobald, Cox, Peltzer Dunn, Cobb, A Norman, K Norman, C Theobald, Brown, Simson, Mears, Hyde, Smith, Janio, Barnett, Wells, Pidgeon and Bennett

[1] *Supporting Families in the Foundation Years: Proposed Changes to the Entitlement to Free Early Education and Childcare Sufficiency*, Department for Education.

