

NOTICE OF MOTION**END OF AUSTERITY****GREEN GROUP**

This Council welcomes the Prime Minister's announcement that 'Austerity' is finally at an end and that unprecedented cuts to public expenditure will be reversed¹.

As a result, this Council requests the Chief Executive:

- To write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer asking exactly how soon we can expect Government funding for public services, including but not limited to: The Revenue Support Grant to BHCC and all other Local Authorities; and funding for the Police service and other emergency services, to return to their 2009-10 levels.
- To write to the Prime Minister to ask when we can expect the UK will review welfare policies², such as the current form of Universal Credit³, and other policies that have disproportionate or adverse effects on women, children, and disabled people⁴.

Proposed by: Cllr Littman

Seconded by: Cllr Phillips

Supporting Information:

Should the Government's cripplingly damaging suite of policies collectively known as, 'Austerity' reached an end, then there is a need to know when the UK will return to the family of civilised nations in which Government's do not breach their Human Rights obligations by balancing budgets on the backs of their poorest residents.

¹October 2018: Prime Minister Theresa May announced the end of Austerity, including putting more money into public services.

²March 2018 Equality and Human Rights Commission report: "The decision to load austerity cuts excessively onto vulnerable groups contravenes the non-discrimination principles to which the UK is signed up under international human rights law"

³Even supporters of the basic idea of Universal Credit, such as the Institute for Government, state the Government's current approach to it "will cause immense hardship."

⁴November 2018 Report of the United Nations poverty envoy: "punitive, mean-spirited, and often callous" austerity policies fall disproportionately on the poorest.

