

London Borough of Enfield

Council 30 September 2020

Amendment to Motion 6 in the name of Councillor Maguire

The motion currently reads:

“This Council notes the huge financial impact of the cost of dealing with the Covid 19 pandemic and statements from Government ministers that they would reimburse councils for those additional costs. Additional expenditure, loss of income and the impact on the savings programme is forecast to cost us a total of £64.3m. Funding received from the Government so far does not meet those additional costs.

This Council further notes that in the 10 years since 2010, funding from the Government has been cut by 60%, while demand for services has been increasing. Despite that, Enfield council had set a budget in February that was resilient and sustainable. The Council and Enfield residents should not be expected to shoulder the burden of the extra costs of dealing with Covid.

A large number of our residents and businesses have been adversely affected by the lockdown and it will take them a long time to recover.

In this period of economic uncertainty, what we need is the certainty of funding from the Government on a long-term, sustainable basis so that we can plan and budget with confidence. It is alarming, therefore, to hear rumours that the comprehensive spending review later this year will just cover one year. That will only add to the uncertainty. We call on the Government, therefore, to commit to funding the costs of Covid and to delivering long-term funding stability for this and other councils.”

Amendment

Councillor James Hockney proposes to amend the second paragraph of the motion by removing the crossed through words and replacing with those in red.

~~This Council further notes that in the 10 years since 2010, funding from the Government has been cut by 60%, while demand for services has been increasing. Despite that, Enfield council had set a budget in February that was resilient and sustainable.~~ However, the Council recognises the significant number of jobs that have been protected by the Government Furlough scheme. Ensuring families have been able to pay the bills and put food on the table. Furthermore, the many Government measures to supports business, (which includes grants, loans, rates relief) have helped many businesses in this challenging time.”