

Council, 8 September 2009

Motion 3.2: Councillor Mike Freer

Growth Area Funding

Under Standing Order Part 4, Section 1, 31.5: if my item is not dealt with by the end of the meeting I ask that it be voted upon at the Council meeting.

Council notes the government's decision to cut the level of Growth Area Funding for Barnet in 2010/11 by 43% was made in order to reallocate funds to affordable housing provision.

Council notes that in Barnet these funds were allocated for use in regeneration schemes that would have provided thousands of affordable homes. The decision to cut Growth Area Funding has caused these plans to be reviewed or delayed.

Council notes significant investment has already been made planning for the use of these resources and believes that the last minute decision to drastically cut them will cause unnecessary waste.

Council believes that this last minute decision will cause a delay in the provision of affordable homes in the Borough of Barnet and is an unnecessary shuffling of resources.

Council believes this is another example of the Labour government's obsession with the failed model of central control and that local authorities are better placed to make decisions concerning local infrastructure and growth.

Council calls upon the Chief Executive to write to the Housing Minister requesting that the level of Growth Area Funding be reinstated in order that much needed new affordable housing is not subject to unnecessary delay.