

Council, Tuesday 13 July 2010

Motion 3.3: Councillor Daniel Thomas

Housing Benefit Changes

Council believes Benefits should be designed to assist the neediest, and encourage people out of poverty.

Therefore, Council regrets the unsustainable levels of Housing Benefit that was paid to some individuals over a long period of time, which acted as a disincentive to work and provided long-term subsidised accommodation at a cost to hard-working taxpayers, in some of London's and Barnet's most expensive locations.

Accordingly, Council welcomes the new limits on Housing Benefit payments due in 2011 from the Conservative-led Government that Council believes, in combination with a number of other initiatives to be announced, will help encourage people off dependency and back into work.

Council calls on Cabinet to liaise with the Government in implementing this and other Benefits policies that will help break the cycle of dependency and poverty in Barnet and across the UK.

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.