

Council: Tuesday, 14 September 2010

Opposition Policy Item: Councillor Barry Rawlings

Cuts to Pensioners' Benefits

Council notes that, according to the Institute of Fiscal Studies, pensioners are one of the two groups that will be hit hardest by the Con-Dem government's regressive emergency budget.

Council also notes that since the emergency budget was announced the Con-Dem government have made it clear that pensioner benefits, such as the winter fuel allowance, free TV licences and free bus travel, are now under review – despite David Cameron's promise that these would be protected.

Council believes that the Con-Dem government should honour its pledge to pensioners and protect their benefits.

Council therefore calls on Cabinet to:

- write to the Prime Minister, and the Secretary of State, setting out Barnet's opposition to any cuts to pensioners benefits, and
- work with local pensioners' and voluntary sector groups, including Barnet 55+, to minimise the impact of any cuts to Barnet's pensioners.