

**Council: 2 November 2010**

**Motion 3.5:** Cllr. Kath McGuirk

**Child Benefit Cuts**

Council notes the decision of the Con-Dem coalition government to end universal child benefit.

Council also notes that the policy, as currently proposed, will mean a two-parent family with a joint income of £80,000 per annum will get child benefit, but a single Barnet parent earning only £45,000 per annum will have their child benefit taken away.

Council believes that this is not a fair policy and will mean many hard-working parents in Barnet whose income is at the lower end of that tax band will suffer as a result.

Council notes that during the General Election David Cameron gave a commitment not to cut child benefit, and that many lower middle income families will be financially squeezed as a result of his u-turn on this issue.

Council asks Cabinet to write to the Prime Minister setting out their opposition to this policy on child benefit for the reasons given above, and ask him to reconsider his proposal.

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.