

Council: 26 July 2016

Agenda item 15.6 - Amendment in the name of Cllr Barry Rawlings

Welcoming the new May Government

Delete all and replace with:

Council **notes** the Rt Hon Theresa May MP **is now** Prime Minister, and welcomes her pledge to lead a One Nation Government for the good of all the citizens of the United Kingdom.

Council welcomes the Prime Minister's statement, delivered in front of 10 Downing Street on the day she took office, that her Government will be driven not by the interests of the privileged few, but by the needs of ordinary, working-class families. She promised: "We will do everything we can to give you more control over your lives."

Council notes, however, that Mrs May has been part of previous Conservative Government decisions to slash funding for public services, introduce the draconian bedroom tax causing misery to some of the most vulnerable people in our community, cut welfare to disabled people, impose billions of pounds of debt on the NHS, increase insecure employment / zero hours contracts, cut funding for affordable homes trapping low and middle income workers on housing benefit, and divide the country with the EU Referendum. Council notes that at the same time millionaires were given tax cuts.

Council believes that if the new Prime Minister wants to lead a One Nation Government, she needs to do a lot better.

For Barnet, a top priority is the Government's ongoing review of the needs assessment formula which underpins central funding of local government. For example, Barnet receives less than half the funding per person that Camden does.

Council urges the new Government to usher in a new financial settlement for London that properly reflects the capital's changing landscape of need.

Council calls on the Leader to write to the new Chancellor of the Exchequer, the new Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, and the Mayor of London, to make this positive case for Barnet's residents.

Under Full Council Procedure Rule 23.5: if my item is not dealt with by the end of the meeting I ask that it be voted upon at the Council meeting.