

AGENDA ITEM 13 - Amendment - Two Child Limit to Benefit Payments

Amendment submitted by Councillors Pattison and Crook;

Under 'This Council notes ...'

Amend Paragraph 1) to read;

'The two-child limit to benefit payments was introduced by the Conservative Government in 2017. This cap restricts Child Tax Credit and Universal Credit to the first two children for most households in receipt of these benefits'

Amend Paragraph 2) to read;

'Recent research conducted by the End Child Poverty Coalition has found that, following the end of the last period of Government ...'

Amend Paragraph 3 to delete the words 'New data reveals ...'

Amend Paragraph 4 to delete all text and replace with the words 'That positive steps are being taken by the new Labour Government towards putting an end to child poverty in a responsible and meaningful way, including through the constituting of a Child Poverty Taskforce.'

Under 'This Council believes...'

After the word 'payments' amend text to read '...has been a harmful policy that should be reviewed at the earliest opportunity and ultimately replaced by new measures designed to eliminate child poverty and mitigate deprivation. Research from the University of York has shown that its introduction has had no positive impact on employment and earnings. Instead, it has dragged thousands of families ...'

Under 'This Council, therefore, resolves to;

Amend Paragraph 1) to read;

'Instruct the Chief Executive to write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Prime Minister thanking them for their work towards putting an end to child poverty and for ending the cruel austerity policies of the previous administration. Also reminding them of the significant deprivation experienced by many of our communities here in Kirklees and the damage austerity, including the two child benefit policy, has done to our region.'

Amend Paragraph 2) to read;

'Further, instructs the Chief Executive to write to all MPs covering the Kirklees Council area, asking them to continue their public support for the campaign to end child poverty.'

Amend Paragraph 3) to read;

'Ensure the number of children a family has continues to be considered when a hardship grant is given out by this Council.'