

COUNCIL MEETING – 11 NOVEMBER 2015

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
White Paper	WP3	2/11/15	2/11/15

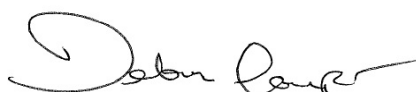
Submitted by:	Councillor Debra Coupar
Relevant Board/Regulatory Panel:	Executive Board
Executive Member/Chair:	Executive Member for Communities
Relevant Director	Director of Citizens and Communities

This Council remains incredibly concerned about the impact on households in Leeds of Government's plans to remove up to £13billion nationally in support from some of the most vulnerable people by 2020/21. Council is particularly disappointed to learn that the promise to avoid cuts to tax credits has been broken.

This Council has noted analysis by the Institute for Fiscal Studies, the Resolution Foundation and others which demonstrates that tax and wage changes will not offset the shortfall from tax credit cuts in full, particularly with lengthy delays before the minimum wage increase could reach £9 per hour.

Council believes children will suffer the most as a result of this decision given that 77% of in work families claiming tax credits have a household income of less than £20,000 a year, and 83% of those in-work families have at least one child. Locally in Leeds this Council continues to work hard to give children the best start in life but is concerned that Government has decided to withdraw vital support from families working hard for low pay.

Council notes that this Government has failed to achieve its own deficit reduction targets set out in 2010 and the national debt doubled over the last Parliament. In that context, Council does not believe it is the right priority for Government to help the wealthiest 4% of the population to benefit from tax changes, whilst placing the burden of its own failure on hard working families in Leeds. This Council calls on Government to withdraw these damaging cuts and maintain vital support for those who need it in our city. Council asks that the Executive Board member for Communities writes to central government to notify them of this resolution.



Deadlines for submission

White Papers	- 10.00 am on the day before the issue of the Summons
Questions	- 10.00 am on Monday before the meeting
Amendments (including references back)	- 10.00 am on the day before the meeting

(All submissions should be made to Governance Services for receipt to be recorded and distribution made)
