Council	Agenda Item 40(d)
21 October 2010	Brighton & Hove City Council

NOTICE OF MOTION

LABOUR GROUP AMENDMENT

THE IMPACT OF CUTS ON CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Insert

"This Council recognises that children and young people are uniquely vulnerable. As a result they mostly depend on adults to voice their needs to government and in political debate, and we acknowledge that responsibility.

This Council notes that proposals by the national government and the Local Administration unfairly target children and young people by:

- Withdrawing funding for Connexions services;
- Restricting child benefit in a way which can unfairly penalise certain types of families;
- Withdrawing free school meals for those families on low incomes;
- Requiring significant cuts to the education budget whilst also preparing the way for increased university tuition fees;
- Significantly reducing road safety budgets when 13 children have been killed or seriously injured on the city's roads;
- Drastic NHS reorganisations and budget freezes which will inevitably impact the city's Children & Young People's Trust.
- ***Cutting the £1.1m playbuilder scheme that would have seen children's playgrounds across the city renovated or rebuilt.***
- ***Scrapping guaranteed 1to 1 tuition in schools.***

Excessive cuts have dampened the economy leading to a lack of job creation which risks a lost generation for our young people

This Council disputes the need for such rapid and hard hitting cuts especially when they affect the most vulnerable in our society and calls on the Cabinet to:

- Reconsider budget cuts affecting children and young people;

- Consider children and young people as a specific 'at risk' group in the equality impact assessment of the 2011-12 council budget;

- ***Carry out an urgent consultation with schools to assess their readiness to take any further responsibilities and capability to deal with the impact of the National Coalition Government's cuts to Children and Young People;***

- ***To carry out an Equality Impact Assessment to fully show how the impact of cuts will affect children and young people."***

Proposed by: Cllr Juliet McCaffery Seconded by: Cllr Melanie Davis