

# MOTION ON NOTICE

City Council 14 September 2020



## Covid-19 Funding Crisis

Full Council notes that:

The Covid-19 crisis has had a profound impact on the council's staff, services and income. At the starts of the crisis, the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government urged all councils to do "whatever was necessary" to control the spread of the virus. The Secretary of State also promised full financial reimbursement to councils for the financial impact of the crises. Yet, despite three welcomed tranches of money, Plymouth City Council still faces an in-year financial gap that could be in excess of £27m.

The LGA estimates the financial gap facing the local government sector to be £7.4bn, and a recent IFS analysis reports that councils are facing a "perfect storm" of funding and that will leave many having to make in-year budget cuts as a result of the failure of Government to fully compensate for losses.

Plymouth City Council believes that the Government should honour their promise to reimburse councils in full for financial losses. There would be a national outrage if councils were forced to reduce services and lay off staff who have gone the extra mile to support our communities through this crisis.

Plymouth City Council resolves to:

1. Write to the Secretary of State again to ask him to honour his pledge to fund councils fully.
2. Sign up to the Unison Campaign "Back the #10BillionBailout for local services" (see <https://action.unison.org.uk/page/63837/petition/1?locale=en-GB> )
3. Campaign for a decent and fair settlement for local government in the forthcoming Spending Review
4. Do everything we can to limit the potential for compulsory redundancies and services reductions as a result of the crisis.

Proposed by Councillor Tudor Evans, OBE

Signed 

Seconded by Councillor Mark Lowry

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