

PLYMOUTH CITY COUNCIL

5 JULY 2010

MOTION ON NOTICE No 2 10/11: BUDGET MEASURES

THIS COUNCIL

Notes that the Government -

- (1) plans to reduce the deficit much further and faster than the Labour Government with a consequent threat to the recovery and greater damage to public services;
- (2) has imposed additional in year cuts to local council programmes costing this council £1.8 million;
- (3) has chosen to increase VAT, a regressive tax bearing hardest on the least well-off;
- (4) has frozen child benefit, cut disability benefit and housing benefit, abolished free swimming, and abandoned the free school meals programme which would have helped 500,000 children;
- (5) and in so doing has penalised people on low and middle incomes while doing little to ensure that the well-off bear their fair share.

This Council resolves to -

- (a) call on the Government to re-think its regressive budget measures, which will hit hardest those who can least afford it;
- (b) consult with local councillors and the communities which they represent prior to implementing any changes to any frontline services;
- (c) work with its strategic partners to identify ways in which the Plymouth economy can be protected from the cuts to the public sector and the rise in VAT, which is likely to cost the economy in the region of £200 million over the next four years.

Proposed by Councillor Evans

Seconded by Councillor Williams