

COUNCIL

27 JANUARY 2021

ITEM NO: 13

TITLE: “Call to immediately abandon plans to cut the level of Universal Credit in Greenwich”

PROPOSING COUNCILLORS: Denise Scott-McDonald, Danny Thorpe, Norman Adams, Olu Babatola, Linda Bird, Stephen Brain, Peter Brooks, Angela Cornforth, Ann-Marie Cousins, Gary Dillon, John Fahy, Leo Fletcher, Bill Freeman, David Gardner, Ian Hawking, Mick Hayes, Denise Hyland, Mark James, Rajinder James, Sizwe James, Adel Khaireh, Mehboob Khan, Chris Kirby, Averil Lekau, Chris Lloyd, Mariam Lolavar, Clive Mardner, Christine May, Dominic Mbang, Sarah Merrill, Matthew Morrow, Anthony Okereke, Maureen O'Mara, Gary Parker, Linda Perks, Aidan Smith, Jackie Smith, David Stanley, Ivis Williams, Miranda Williams

Council is appalled and horrified with the Conservative Government’s attack on the most vulnerable residents in Greenwich, with their plans to cut the £20 a week uplift to the 31,534 residents of the Royal Borough of Greenwich in receipt of Universal Credit.

It is our most vulnerable residents who are suffering the most because of this brutal virus. Many have lost their jobs, are struggling to pay the bills and falling further and further into poverty. On 30th April last year, the Prime Minister told the nation that austerity was “certainly not part” of the Government’s economic response. Yet, almost a year later, it now seems to be central pillar of his strategy.

This pandemic is far from over, and the full consequences of it will be felt for many years to come.

Council therefore calls on the Government to immediately abandon plans to cut the level of Universal Credit in Greenwich and maintain the current level offered.