

COUNCIL MEETING – WEDNESDAY 7 FEBRUARY 2018

MOTION - STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE – SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

This Council is concerned by the Mayor of London's plan - brought forward without any consultation with Merton borough - to:

- cut funding for the almost 2,000 users of the Taxicard scheme in Merton by 13% in 2018/19;
- cut Neighbourhoods/Local Transport funding for Merton by almost 15% in 2018-19;
- reduce Merton's Major Schemes grant for highway design work on Morden town centre from £400,000 to £150,000; and
- pause all Principal Road Maintenance funding for the next 2 years except for safety critical works thereby depriving Merton's roads of some £455,000 a year for resurfacing and reconstruction works.

This Council therefore endorses the following statement by the Cabinet Member for Community and Culture as reported by Harry Phibbs on the ConservativeHome website and agrees to write to the Mayor conveying its disappointment and asking him to reconsider these funding cuts with immediate effect:

“Really disappointed – it's not what you're giving us it's what you're not giving us – we all budgeted in good faith and spent Officer time and now we're throwing all out of the windows – this will mean redundancy – chucking things at the last minute – we expected better from you. You should give us a fair amount of notice – in Merton we plan ahead four years we know what we're going to do, this sort of thing is just ridiculous, truly awful – it brings shame on the Mayor's office. I don't want angry rebuttals I want an apology.”

Cllr David Dean

Cllr Daniel Holden

Cllr David Simpson

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