

Our ref: C'ttee/Petitions/2015/1717

Date: 31st March 2015

Councillor John Cotton
The Council House
Victoria Square
Birmingham
B1 1BB

Dear Councillor Cotton

I am writing to confirm receipt of Petition Number 1717 that was presented by you to the meeting of the City Council on 3rd March 2015.

I am sure that you appreciate the scale of the cuts before the Council and that we are having to take a number of important decisions.

While the re-commissioning of the Supporting People mental health, learning disabilities, physical and sensory disabilities for contracts commencing 2016, will be under a reduced budget, I do not believe that this will mean that we will be "absent in our duty of care."

We intend to invite stakeholders, service providers and service users to contribute to the discussions and consultations with regards to the design of the right pathways for citizens seeking preventative services. This will include the types of services and outcomes to be commissioned for the future. We must acknowledge that at this stage there are no guarantees that the same services will be commissioned for each of the client groups in the future.

The strength of public opinion regarding these services has been acknowledged in that additional funding has been approved so that the proposed reduction of £400k for the financial year 15/16 has not been implemented.

Given the situation that we find ourselves in I do believe that there is a real opportunity to co-design the best outcomes for citizens within the budgets available.

I hope that this is satisfactory, but if you require any further information please contact Kalvinder Kohli on 0121 303 6132.

Please note that this has also been sent out to the first named petitioner.

Yours sincerely



Peter Hay
Strategic Director for People

Please reply to: Louise Collett

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Copies to:

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