



## Dear Damian Hinds, Secretary of State for Education

We, the undersigned, represent local government and education professionals who are deeply concerned for the provision of children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) in our care. The Government's recent cash injection for SEND does not introduce any new money into Local Authority budgets and this will not solve the long term challenges LAs and schools face in delivering effective SEND provision.

Lack of adequate SEND funding is limiting local authorities' ability to meet their statutory duties for children living with SEND. The result has been far-reaching reductions to SEND provision and nationally over 2,000 children and young people identified with complex needs with no education provision at all.

### We call for:

- A significant increase in High Needs Block funding to local authorities, which will allow LAs and schools to provide appropriate support to children and young people with the most complex needs
- An immediate increase in funding for schools which will allow them to deliver additional support for SEND children
- A fair, sustainable funding system for SEND that will respond to the individual needs of each local area and acknowledge the complexities of providing high quality SEND education

The Government must commit to working with local authorities and other stakeholders with an interest in SEND in order to achieve this. We urge the Government to act quickly on this matter, so that every child with SEND can receive the support they need to thrive.

Yours,  
The undersigned

### Local Authorities:

**Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council**  
Cllr. Tim Cheetham

**Barking and Dagenham London Borough Council**  
Cllr. Evelyn Carpenter

**Birmingham City Council**  
Cllr. Ian Ward

**Bolton Council**  
Cllr. Ann Cunliffe

**Bristol City Council**  
Cllr. Anna Keen

**Cambridgeshire County Council**  
Cllr. Lucy Nethsingha

**Cumbria County Council**  
Cllr. Stewart Young

**Ealing London Borough Council**  
Cllr. Yvonne Johnson

**Enfield London Borough Council**  
Cllr. Achilleas Georgiou

**Gateshead Council**  
Cllr. Gary Haley

**Hackney London Borough Council**  
Cllr. Anntoinette Bramble

**Halton Borough Council**  
Cllr. Mike Wharton

**Hammersmith and Fulham London Borough Council**  
Cllr. Larry Culhane

**Hartlepool Borough Council**  
Cllr. Brenda Harrison

**Hounslow London Borough Council**  
Cllr. Tom Bruce

**Islington London Borough Council**  
Cllr. Richard Watts

**Kingston London Borough Council**  
Cllr. Diane White

**Lambeth London Borough Council**  
Cllr. Jennifer Brathwaite

**Leeds City Council**  
Cllr. Lisa Mulherin

**Lewisham London Borough Council**  
Cllr. Chris Barnham and Mayor Damien Egan

**Liverpool City Council**  
Mayor Joe Anderson

**Middlesbrough Council**  
Cllr. Janice Brunton-Dobson

**Newcastle City Council**  
Cllr. Nick Forbes

**Plymouth City Council**  
Cllr. Tudor Evans OBE

**Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council**  
Cllr. Craig Hannaway

**Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council**  
Cllr. Gordon Watson

**Salford City Council**  
Cllr. Kate Lewis

**Sheffield City Council**  
Cllr. Jayne Dunn

**South Tyneside Council**  
Cllr. Iain Malcolm

**Southwark London Borough Council**  
Cllr. Jasmine Ali

**St. Helens Metropolitan Borough Council**  
Cllr. Martin Bond

**Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council**  
Cllr. Bob Cook

**Trafford Metropolitan Borough Council**  
Cllr. Jane Baugh and Cllr Ray Bowker

**Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council**  
Cllr. Chris Towe

**Waltham Forest London Borough Council**  
Cllr. Grace Williams

**Warrington Borough Council**  
Cllr. Russ Bowden

**Wigan Metropolitan Borough Council**  
Cllr. Jenny Bullen

**Wiltshire Council**  
Baroness Scott of Bybrook OBE

**Wokingham Borough Council**  
Cllr. Pauline Helliar-Symons

### Supported by the School Cuts coalition:

**Mary Boustead**  
Joint General Secretary  
National Education Union

**Kevin Courtney**  
Joint General Secretary  
National Education Union

**Tim Roache**  
General Secretary  
GMB

**Dave Prentis**  
General Secretary  
UNISON

**Geoff Barton**  
General Secretary  
ASCL

**Paul Whiteman**  
General Secretary  
NAHT

**Len McCluskey**  
General Secretary  
Unite

