

Bath and North East Somerset Council

Full Council meeting, Thursday 22 March 2018

Motion on Free School Meals

To be proposed by a member of the Liberal Democrat Group

Council notes:

- New government regulations, due to come into force on 1 April 2018, will restrict entitlement to free school meals for new recipients. Families receiving Universal Credit, earning more than £7,400 a year will no longer be eligible. These proposals will affect free school meals for children in year 3 and above. Transitional protections are proposed, so that no child currently receiving free school meals will have them taken away.
- The Children's Society suggests that 3,900 children living in poverty in B&NES would miss out on a free school meal under the new regulations.
- B&NES Council is currently encouraging local Universal Credit recipients to sign up for free school meals and promoting the additional Pupil Premium funding that schools receive.

Council resolves:

- Council calls on the government to continue their current policy of providing free school meals to all children on Universal Credit.
- Council requests that the Leader of Council communicate this position to the Department for Education, Department for Work and Pensions, relevant Ministers and local MPs.