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Date: 26 March 2026

Dear Chancellor

Council Motion – Funding for Adult Social Care

I have been instructed to write to you on behalf of Stockton Council, in respect of a motion that was approved at the 18 March 2026 meeting of Full Council. The motion relates to funding for Adult Social Care and states:

“Council notes that:

Adult Social Care is a national statutory responsibility placed upon local authorities by Parliament, yet the current funding framework depends heavily on locally raised council tax, including the Adult Social Care precept. Because council tax bases vary significantly across England, residents in areas with lower property values are required to contribute proportionally more to raise the equivalent level of Adult Social Care funding as those in areas with stronger tax bases. This creates a structural and systemic inequity in the financing of what is, by law, a national service. Council further notes that, despite repeated commitments from successive governments to reform Adult Social Care funding, the present arrangements remain unchanged.

Council further notes that:

The continued reliance on local taxation to fund a national statutory service is both unsustainable and unfair. The responsibility for addressing this inequity, and for establishing a fair and resilient national funding model for Adult Social Care, rests squarely with Central Government.

The Rt Hon Rachel Reeves MP
Chancellor of the Exchequer
HM Treasury
1 Horse Guards Road
London
SW1A 2HQ

Sent by email to
public.enquiries@hmtreasury.gov.uk / rachel.reeves.mp@parliament

Council therefore resolves:

- (1) That the Chief Executive be instructed to write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer
 - a) seeking an immediate and definitive timetable for the introduction of a replacement national funding model for Adult Social Care; and
 - b) calling upon the Government to introduce, without delay, an interim national equalisation mechanism for the Adult Social Care element of council tax, such that residents in equivalent council tax bands contribute on a consistent basis across England regardless of variations in local tax base.
- (2) That the communication makes clear that this Council considers the current funding model inequitable and in urgent need of reform.
- (3) That any response received from the Chancellor of the Exchequer be reported to Full Council at the earliest available meeting.”

I am therefore writing to you requesting that you consider this motion. Any response that you send to this letter will be shared with all Members of the Council and made available to view with the relevant minutes from the meeting of Council (18 March 2026) on the Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council website.

Thank you in anticipation for your consideration of the above.

Yours sincerely



Mike Greene
Chief Executive