

15 JUL 2010 ¹



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Lord Hill of Oareford

Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Schools

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tel: 0870 0012345 ministers@education.gsi.gov.uk

Councillor Ivan Ould
Chair of f40
Lead Member for Children and
Young People's Services
County Hall
Glenfield
Leicester
LE3 8RA

SH July 2010

Dear Councillor Ould,

Thank you for your letter of 8 June to Nick Gibb, congratulating him on his appointment and raising a number of issues relating to the funding of schools. I am replying as the Minister with responsibility for school funding.

We have already committed to changes to the funding system through the introduction of a pupil premium for disadvantaged children. In considering the detailed operation of the premium and any other changes to the funding system, we will consider the responses made to the consultation begun under the previous administration, including of course from the f40 group. We expect to launch a new consultation on our plans for school funding in the near future. I hope you will find the time to read this and respond.

I note your particular concern that our policy objective of giving schools more freedom through increasing the number of Academies will add to cost pressures on local authorities. We have recently published guidance about the funding for Academies and what this means for local authorities which I hope will allay your concerns. We recognise that there are longer term issues that we need to consider, including the impact on local authorities as the number of academies increases. We will want to work closely with local authorities on this issue.

You have raised the possibility of a meeting to discuss your concerns. While I am more than happy to meet the f40, I hope you will appreciate that diary pressures mean that I am not able to do so at present. Please get in touch with my diary secretary Anna Nevin on 020 7925 6253 to arrange a suitable date.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jonathan Hill', written in a cursive style.

JONATHAN HILL