

**The recipients:**

The Rt Hon Theresa May MP, Prime Minister  
The Rt Hon Justine Greening MP, Secretary of State for Education  
The Rt Hon Nick Gibb MP, Minister of State for School Education  
Lord Kerlake, Chair of UK Northern Powerhouse Advisory Board  
Directors of Children's Services, North West  
Members of Parliament, North West

**An open response to funding for secondary education in the North West**

We are writing to you to express our significant concerns regarding the unprecedented cuts to school budgets we face as headteachers of secondary schools in the North West of England.

We know that the Government requires schools to find £3bn in savings by 2019 / 2020. This figure is validated by the National Audit Office and is, in reality, an 8% cut to school budgets. The Department for Education has insisted that it has protected school budgets in real terms. As headteachers we can clearly demonstrate that this is not the case.

Secondary schools in the North West have already had to make savings to cope with over £97,000,000 of additional annual employment costs which schools now pay in the form of increased national insurance and pension contributions. This annual figure represents an actual cut to school budgets as these costs have not been funded by the Government.

We will have to find savings approaching £400,000,000 by 2020 without even factoring in the impact of inflation and the apprenticeship levy. The impact of this is potentially devastating, with schools already considering cuts to arts provision, the curriculum, and the ability to maintain current opening hours.

In addition, consultation documents for the National Funding Formula show that secondary schools in many areas of the North West will face further highly significant cuts to funding. When this is added to the additional employment costs which schools are required to fund, the impact on schools is likely to become unmanageable. For example, by 2020 Rochdale schools will face at least a £3,200,000 reduction in funding, Manchester schools a £7,000,000 reduction and secondary schools in Lancashire will see their annual budgets, in real terms, reduced by at least £9,600,000.

This combination of factors means that most local authorities will experience a cut in funding. Even areas which are projected to receive a slight increase in funding through the National Funding Formula, such as Stockport, Tameside, Warrington and St Helens will receive, in real terms, an overall cut to budgets due to the impact of additional employment costs.

This unprecedented cut in funding coincides with schools having to manage a period of significant change which includes a complete reform of the KS4 curriculum and GCSE examinations, academisation, KS3 reforms, rising pupil numbers and the third change to school accountability measures in seven years. This occurs against a crisis in teacher recruitment, which is particularly acute in the North West.

The future is potentially a bleak choice between making significant reductions in staff, with a constrained capacity to implement change, raise standards and offer a broad and engaging curriculum for children, or an untenable budget deficit.

This runs counter to the aspirations of creating a shared society and in particular the revitalisation of the North of England through 'The Northern Powerhouse' agenda.

We all became headteachers to make a positive difference to the lives of young people. We are extremely concerned that these budget cuts will harm the quality of education we are able to provide and ask that the Government addresses these issues and properly invests in our children by sufficiently funding education.

## LIST OF SIGNATORIES

Mr D Randle	Hollingworth Academy	Rochdale	OL16 3DR
Mr T Alderman	St Julie's Catholic High School	Liverpool	L25 7TN
Miss J Allen	Falinge Park High School	Rochdale	OL12 6LD
Mr J Appleyard OBE	Rochdale Sixth Form	Rochdale	OL12 6HY
Mrs D Atkinson	Blackburn Central High School with Crosshill	Blackburn	BB2 3 HJ
Mr R Baker	Siddal Moor Sports College	Heywood	OL10 2NT
Mrs D Ball	Kingsway Park High School	Rochdale	OL16 4XA
Mr J Barker	Marple Hall School	Stockport	SK6 6LB
Ms F Beach	Astley Sports College	Dukinfield	SK16 8LW
Mr J Beaton	Fazakerley High School	Liverpool	L10 1LH
Mr S Beeley	Wellington High School	Timperley	WA15 7RH
Mr T Beesley	St James' RC High School	Cheadle	SK8 6PZ
Ms S Beevers	Broadgreen International School	Liverpool	L13 4DH
Mr N Beischer	Wright Robinson College	Gorton	M18 6RL
Mr A Bever-Warren	New Park School	Eccles	M30 0RW
Mr A Birchall	Byrchall High School	Ashton-in-Makerfield	WN4 9PQ
Mr E Botwe	Tytherington School	Macclesfield	SK10 2EE
Mr P Bousefield	Abraham Guest Academy	Wigan	WN5 0DQ
Mr M Bowler	Longdendale High School	Dukinfield	SK16 5BL
Mr C Bramwell	Westleigh High School	Leigh	WN7 5NL
Mr A Bridson	Cardinal Langley RC School	Middleton	M24 2GL
Mr H Broekman	Liverpool College	Liverpool	L18 8BE
Mr P Brooks	Altrincham College	Altrincham	WA15 8QW
Mr S Bullen	Millfield Science and Performing Arts College	Thornton	FY5 5DG
Mr S Bullen	Montgomery High School	Bispham	FY2 0AZ
Ms S Burns	Sandbach School	Sandbach	CW11 3NS
Mrs L Burton	Atherton Community School	Atherton	M46 0AY
Mr I Butterfield	Hindley High School	Wigan	WN2 4LG
Mrs J Cahill	The Pendlebury Centre	Stockport	SK3 0RJ
Mr D Callagher	Christ the King Catholic High School	Preston	PR1 4PR
Mr S Campbell	The Hollins Technology College	Accrington	BB5 2QY
Mrs A Cavanagh	All Hallows RC High School	Salford	M6 8AA
Mr D Charlton	Weaverham High School	Weaverham	CW8 3HT
Mrs S Clarke	Broughton Hall High School	Liverpool	L12 9HJ
Mr A Cliffe	Brines Leas School	Nantwich	CW5 7DY
Mrs K Connolly	Brownhill Learning Community	Rochdale	OL12 0PZ
Mr A Conroy	Werneth School	Romiley	SK6 3BX
Mr S Cox	Ribblesdale High School	Clitheroe	BB7 4TW
Mr S Coyle	St John Fisher High School	Wigan	WN6 6RN
Mr J Cregg	Priestnall School	Stockport	SK4 3HP
Mrs A Crompton CBE	Middleton Technology School	Middleton	M24 2GT
Mr D Curry	Bishop Heber High School	Malpas	SY14 8JD
Mr A Dawson	St Mary's Catholic High School	Tyldesley	M29 7EE
Mr P Dickinson	Archbishop Beck Catholic Sports College	Liverpool	L9 7BF
Mrs P Dixon	Upton-by-Chester High School	Chester	CH2 1NN
Mr S Dool	Neston High School	Neston	CH64 9HN
Mr J Dowler	Helsby High School	Helsby	WA6 0HY
Mr B Duffy	Tottington High School	Bury	BL8 3LY
Mrs H Duggan	Archbishop Blanch School	Liverpool	L7 6HQ
Mr M Dumican	St Edmund Arrowsmith High School	Ashton-in-Makerfield	WN4 9TP
Ms L Emmett	All Saints Catholic College	Dukinfield	SK16 5AP
Mrs R England	Shuttleworth College	Padiham	BB12 8ST

Mr L Fazackerley	Lostock College	Stretford	M32 9PL
Mrs C Fisher	Wardle Academy	Rochdale	OL12 9RD
Mr C Foley	Holy Family RC and C of E College	Heywood	OL10 2AA
Mrs L Fox	Bramhall High School	Bramhall	SK7 2JT
Mrs J Galbraith	Latham High School	Skelmersdale	WN8 6JN
Mrs J Garretts	Fred Longworth High School	Tyldesley	M29 8JN
Mr I Gaughan	Holy Cross Catholic High School	Chorley	PR7 3LS
Mr D Gidman	St John Bosco Arts College	Liverpool	L11 9DQ
Ms S Gill	Altrincham Grammar Schools for Girls	Bowdon	WA14 2NL
Mrs A Gormally	Golborne High School	Golborne	WA3 3EL
Mr J Grant	Shevington High School	Shevington	WN6 6AB
Mr D Hallam	Darwen Vale High School	Darwen	BB3 0AL
Mr A Harrison	Westhill School	Stalybridge	SK15 1LX
Ms A Harrison	Winsford Academy	Winsford	CW7 2BT
Mr D Hayes	De la Salle Academy	Liverpool	L11 4SG
Mrs J Hazeldine	Flixton Girls' School	Urmston	M41 5DR
Mr R Hedge	Macclesfield Academy	Macclesfield	SK11 8JR
Mr B Heeley	The Whitby School	Ellesmere Port	CH66 2NU
Mr B Hesketh	Fairfield High School for Girls	Droylsden	M43 6AB
Mr M Hilton	Sandfield Park School	Liverpool	L12 1LH
Mrs C Hogg	St Thomas More Catholic High School	Crewe	CW2 8AE
Mr M Holland	Hartford C of E High School	Northwich	CW8 1LH
Mrs K Hopkins	Highfields PRU	Stockport	SK5 8DR
Ms C Hubert	The Derby High School	Bury	BL9 9NH
Mr J Inman	Buile Hill Visual Arts College	Salford	M6 8RD
Mr I Irwin	Stockport School	Stockport	SK2 6BW
Mr M Jackson	Haslingden High School	Haslingden	BB4 4EY
Ms A Jones	Longdendale High School	Hyde	SK14 8LW
Mr A Keen	Holly Lodge Girls' College	Liverpool	L12 7LE
Mr P Kennedy	The Belvedere Academy	Liverpool	L8 3TF
Mrs J Langley	The Albion Academy	Salford	M6 6QT
Ms S Lee	Tarporley High School and Sixth Form College	Tarporley	CW6 0BL
Mr S Lennox	Walkden High School	Worsley	M28 7JB
Mr B Loughran	Darwen Aldridge Community Academy	Darwen	BB3 3HD
Mrs J Lowe	The Kingsway School	Cheadle	SK8 4QX
Mr D Lythgoe	Deyes High	Liverpool	L13 1FB
Mrs J Mangan	Alsop High School	Liverpool	L4 6SH
Mr S Marshall	Mossley Hollins High School	Mossley	OL5 9DP
Mr L McConaghie	Broadoak School	Partington	M31 4BU
Mr J McDonald	New Heights High School	Liverpool	L27 1XY
Mr A McGlown	St Peter's High School	Wigan	WN5 8NU
Mrs J McGoran	Hawkley Hall High School	Wigan	W3 5NY
Mr A McGrath	Ashton Sixth Form College	Ashton-under-Lyne	OL6 9RL
Mrs L McGrath	Cheadle Hulme High School	Cheadle Hulme	SK8 7JY
Dr C Meehan	St Cuthbert's RC Business & Enterprise College	Rochdale	OL16 4RX
Mr R Middlebrook	Alsager School	Stoke-on-Trent	ST7 2HR
Mr M Milburn	Saddleworth School	Oldham	OL3 6BU
Mr P Mooney	St Mary's Catholic High School	Leyland	PR25 1BS
Mr M Moorhouse	Matthew Moss High School	Rochdale	OL11 3LU
Mr M Mullins	Stretford Grammar	Stretford	M32 8JB
Mr J Murray	The Catholic High School	Chester	CH4 7HS
Mrs L Nicholls	Sale High School	Sale	M33 3JR
Mr D Oliver	Holmes Chapel Comprehensive School	Holmes Chapel	CW4 7DX

Mr R O'Regan	Alder Community High School	Hyde	SK14 5NJ
Mr D O'Toole	Hopwood Hall College	Middleton	M24 6XH
Mrs J Owen	The Canterbury Centre	Salford	M5 5AG
Mrs H Phillips	Bedford High School	Leigh	WN7 2LU
Mr S Pidgeon	Redwood Secondary School	Rochdale	OL11 5EF
Mr A Pollard	Standish High School	Standish	WN6 0NX
Mr J Pollard	Lowton High School	Lowton	WA3 1DU
Mr F Power	The Fallibroome Academy	Macclesfield	SK10 4AF
Mrs C Preece	St Anne's Academy	Middleton	M24 6XN
Mrs A Radcliffe	Hyde Community College	Hyde	SK14 4SP
Mr A Rannard	Notre Dame Catholic College	Liverpool	L5 5AF
Mr N Ranson	Our Lady's Catholic High School	Preston	PR1 9AH
Mr L Ratcliffe	Calderstones Schools	Liverpool	L18 3HS
Mr L Rippon	St Francis Xavier's College	Liverpool	L25 6EG
Mr J Roberts	Gateacre School	Liverpool	L25 2RW
Mrs J Rowlands	Deanery High School	Wigan	WN1 1HQ
Ms J Saw	Audenshaw School	Audenshaw	M34 5NB
Mr D Shaw	New Charter Academy	Ashton-under-Lyne	OL6 8RF
Mrs D Shepherd	St Anne's Academy	Middleton	M24 6XN
Mr C Short	Reddish Vale High School	Stockport	SK5 7HB
Mr M Sibson	Hazel Grove High School	Hazel Grove	SK7 5JX
Mr K Simpson	Middlewich High School	Middlewich	CW10 9BU
Mr A Smith	Saint Aidan's Church of England High School	Poulton-le-Fylde	FY6 0NP
Mrs B Smith	King David High School	Liverpool	L15 6WU
Ms K Smyth	Cardinal Heenan Catholic High School	Liverpool	L12 9HZ
Mr M Southworth	Cansfield High School	Wigan	WN4 9TP
Mrs H Stead	Fearns Community Sports College	Bacup	OL13 0TG
Mr D Stenhouse	Christleton High School	Chester	CH3 7AD
Mr K Turmeau	Harrytown Catholic School	Romiley	SK6 3BU
Miss C Vile	Ellesmere Port Catholic High School	Ellesmere Port	CH65 7AQ
Mrs J Walker	Malbank School and Sixth Form College	Nantwich	CW5 5HD
Mrs R Wall	Urmston Grammar	Urmston	M41 5UG
Mrs S Walsh	Barton Moss Secure Care Centre	Eccles	M30 7RL
Mr J Watson	Oulder Hill Community and Language College	Rochdale	OL11 5EF
Miss L Watterson	Queens Park High School	Chester	CH4 7AE
Mr D Waugh	Poynton High School	Stockport	SK12 1PU
Ms C White	Shavington Academy	Shavington	CW2 5DH
Miss M Wicks	Wellacre Academy	Flixton	M41 6AP
Ms H Wilson	Manor Academy	Sale	M33 5JX
Mr I Wilson	Bishop Blue Coat C of E High School	Chester	CH3 5XF
Mr P Wilson	Droylsden Academy	Droylsden	M43 6QD
Mr S Wilson	Pendle Vale College	Nelson	BB9 6LF
Mrs D Wood	Rosebridge High School	Ince-in-Makerfield	WN1 3HD
Mr P Wood	Lytham St Annes Tech & Performing Arts College	Lytham St Annes	FY8 4DG
Mrs F Wright	St Antony's Catholic College	Urmston	M41 9PD
Ms S Yates	Blacon High School	Chester	CH1 5JH