

From:

Open letter from a coalition of children's organisations (see below).

Correspondence contact: Anna Feuchtwang

Chief Executive

National Children's Bureau

We Work 115 Mare Street

London E8 4RU

afeuchtwang@ncb.org.uk

To:

The Rt. Honourable Theresa May MP

Prime Minister

Office of the Prime Minister

10 Downing Street

London SW1A 2AA

To:

Rt Hon Philip Hammond MP

Chancellor of the Exchequer

HM Treasury

1 Horse Guards Road

London SW1A 2HQ

Date: 17th October 2018

PUT CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE AT THE HEART OF GOVERNMENT SPENDING.

To the Prime Minister and Chancellor of the Exchequer

We are writing to you because there is compelling evidence that the services and support that children and young people rely on are at breaking point. We believe this is because children and young people are being ignored in the Government's spending plans.

- Ninety children are being taken into care every day – this is a record highⁱ;
- Fewer than a third of children and young people with a diagnosable mental health problem will get access to NHS funded treatment this yearⁱⁱ;
- Only three in a hundred families of disabled children think the health and care services available to their children are adequateⁱⁱⁱ;
- Almost three-quarters of school leaders expect they will be unable to balance their budgets in the next financial year^{iv};
- The number of children with special educational needs who are awaiting provision has more than doubled since 2010^v;
- Up to 3 million children are at risk of going hungry during school holidays^{vi}.

We have come together at this crucial time to urge you to put children and young people at the heart of government spending.


Signed:



Anna Feuchtwang, Chair of End Child Poverty and Chief Executive of the National Children's Bureau.



National Children's Bureau



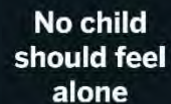
Julie Bentley, Chief Executive, Action for Children



Amanda Batten, Chair of the Disabled Children's Partnership



Matthew Reed, Chief Executive, The Children's Society



Dame Susan Bailey, Chair of the Children and Young People's Mental Health Coalition



Professor Russell Viner, President, Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health



Kate Fallon, Chair of the Special Educational Consortium



Laurence Guinness, Chief Executive,
The Childhood Trust



Dame Christine Lenehan, Director, Council for
Disabled Children



Kathy Evans, Chief Executive, Children England



Alison Garnham, Chief Executive, CPAG



Alison Penny, Director and
Professor Sir Al Aynsley-Green,
Patron, Childhood Bereavement
Network



Paul Whiteman, General Secretary, NAHT



Denise Hatton is Chief Executive
Officer at YMCA England & Wales



Dr Carol Homden CBE, Chief Executive



Mary Boustead and Kevin Courtney, joint general
secretaries, National Education Union





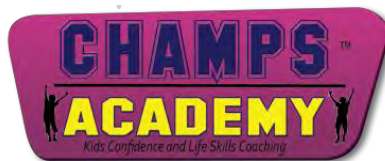
HEALTHY TEEN MINDS



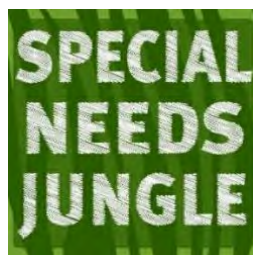
helps children communicate



Centre for Mental Health



The Charlie Waller Memorial Trust
Depression – let's get talking





Championing advice and counselling



The Matthew Elvidge Trust



Association of Mental Health Providers

Minds Ahead

YOUNG MINDS



together for short lives

bacp | counselling changes lives



Family Fund
Helping disabled children



ACP UK
ASSOCIATION OF CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGISTS

UNISON
the public service union

sense
connecting sight, sound and life

SC YJ
Standing Committee for Youth Justice

the Traveller Movement

Terapia

MINDFULNESS IN SCHOOLS CAMPAIGN

D Y T
driver youth trust

Challengers
— Serious about fun for all disabled children and young people —

Sebda | Promoting the social and emotional well being of children and young people

BACD
British Academy of
Childhood Disability

RC
PSYCH
ROYAL COLLEGE OF
PSYCHIATRISTS

together trust
real differences for real lives

prospect

RJ Working
Restorative Approaches to Harm

**Approachable
Parenting**

**Ambitious
about Autism**

**SUSSEX AGAINST
BULLYING**

Children
NORTH-EAST

Afasic
voice for life

PARTNERSHIP FOR
children
Good mental health for children - for life

**ROYAL COLLEGE OF
SPEECH & LANGUAGE
THERAPISTS**

**The
Mulberry
Bush**
Showing the way in therapeutic care

Natspec
The voice of
specialist further
education

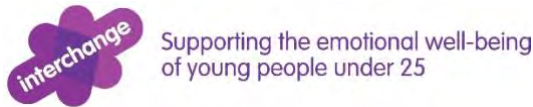
bccs
a children's charity for
Essex and East London



InterAct



nepacs
Supporting a positive future for prisoners and their families



National Network of Parent Carer Forums
'Our Strength Is Our Shared Experience'



Early Education
The British Association for Early Childhood Education





Article 39 FIGHTING FOR CHILDREN'S RIGHTS IN INSTITUTIONAL SETTINGS



BECOME.
THE CHARITY FOR CHILDREN IN CARE AND YOUNG CARE LEAVERS





MHFA England

BASW

The professional association for
social work and social workers

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- ⁱ In England and Wales 32,810 children started to be looked after in 2016-17
Department for Education, 2017, Children looked after in England (including adoption), year ending 31 March 2017
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/664995/SFR50_2017-Children_looked_after_in_England.pdf
- ⁱⁱ Government estimate for 2018/19 from Implementing The Five Year Forward View For Mental Health, 2016, NHS England <https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/fyfv-mh.pdf>
- ⁱⁱⁱ Disabled Children's Partnership survey of 2,600 parents, 2017
- ^{iv} National Association of Head Teachers (NAHT), 2018 , Breaking Point 2017/18, A snapshot of the continuing crisis in school and academy funding
<https://www.naht.org.uk/news-and-opinion/news/funding-news/breaking-point-a-report-of-the-school-funding-crisis-in-2016-17/>
- ^v Between 2010 and 2018 the number of children with a statements or Education Health and Care Plans awaiting provision has risen from 701 to 2,060 children
Department for Education, 2018, Statements of SEN and EHC plans: England, 2018,
<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/statements-of-sen-and-ehc-plans-england-2018>
- ^{vi} Estimate from The All Party Parliamentary Group on Hunger, 2017, Hungry Holidays - A report on hunger amongst children during school holidays,
<https://www.feedingbritain.org/Handlers/Download.ashx?IDMF=f1305288-754c-4a73-80c9-094331cdd4e1>