

## **Agenda Item 12(b)**

### **Amendment to Motion - Giving Lewes District's children the best start in life**

Amendment submitted by Councillor O'Brien, shown highlighted below adding a second resolution to the Motion:

#### **Motion**

Therefore, the Council resolves:

1. To ask the Leader to write to the UK Government calling on the Government to scrap the two-child benefit cap and requesting that the Members of Parliament representing Lewes District support this call.
2. To support the request by Lewes District Cost of Living Partners action group and The Local Government Association by asking the relevant Government Minister to urgently reconsider the scrapping of the Household Support Fund after March 2024.

Demand for local welfare support is at record levels, with the cost of energy, housing and other essentials remaining exceptionally high. Some food banks in Lewes District have experienced a 60% increase in members in a year. A recent survey by Lewes District Food Partnership showed that the Household Support Fund is the second most important source of funding across emergency food projects, so this funding from Government is needed now more than ever to avoid local families falling into hardship and destitution.