

JWH/xst/DH

2 November 2018

Rt Hon Damian Hinds MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA



Tanbridge House School
Farthings Hill, Guildford Road
Horsham, West Sussex, RH12 1SR

Dear Mr Hinds

Following some correspondence with you, I was pleased to receive an invitation to meet Lord Agnew in order to further discuss school funding on behalf of the headteacher campaign group, Worth Less?

Lord Agnew has kindly proposed a meeting on 22 November and I will be happy to attend.

It seems important, however, to inform you that headteachers remain extremely concerned about the precarious situation relating to current and future school budgets. We are, of course, all very worried about the impact on our ability to provide the service that everyone wishes to make available to all pupils and their families across England.

Worth Less? now covers 6-7000 schools across the three main sectors. Our membership includes Special Schools, rural primaries, grammar schools, maintained schools and academies.

Following the Autumn Statement, headteachers from all parts of the country were universally "disappointed" by the underwhelming announcement made by the chancellor. The additional money for capital purchases was welcome, but our core financial needs were ignored.

After several years of being "relentlessly reasonable" headteachers across Worth Less? feel that "enough is enough". We now believe that many of our crucial, additional services are under threat and in order to make ends meet we are actively considering a number of highly unpalatable options which are being forced upon us.

The enclosed post-budget statement outlines these issues in greater detail. It is endorsed across our network of schools. It is on that basis that we are again requesting an urgent meeting with you and the Schools Minister Mr Nick Gibb MP.

We do understand that the government faces a challenging financial situation and that the Treasury is reluctant to provide the funding package that you would have liked. We would like to discuss how we can work more collaboratively in order to find some realistic solutions to the pressing problems that face us.

Yours sincerely

Jules White
Worth Less? Campaign Group

Cc: Nick Gibb MP
Lord Theodore Agnew