



Media Statement

September 4, 2019

Statement on Government's pledge of extra funding for education

From James McInnes, Chairman of f40 education fair funding campaign group

James McInnes, Chairman of f40 and Cabinet Member for Children's Services and Schools at Devon County Council, welcomed the cash pledge and said the fact that the Prime Minister had also promised to level up funding for those areas historically under-funded and had unveiled a three-year funding proposal - things that f40 had long campaigned for – were particularly appreciated.

"This is an important beginning of Government accepting that education funding needs a long-term plan and is a huge step in the right direction that will go some way to repairing the damage caused by underfunding in recent years," said Coun McInnes.

"We are pleased that the Government has recognised that schools have been underfunded for too long and is injecting much-needed cash into our primary and secondary education during the next three years.

"The extra funding for Special Educational Needs is welcomed as schools and local authorities across the country have struggled to meet the growing need and have found it simply impossible to make their budgets stretch. We envisage Higher Needs continuing to grow for at least another few years, so more funding is required to enable realistic budget management.

"We look forward to further funding announcements, building on this start to enable all our children and young people to thrive in a world class education system."

Ends

For more information about this statement or the f40 group, call:

Karen Westcott, Secretary to the f40 group, on 07545 210067

About f40

The f40 campaign group was launched more than 20 years ago with the central aim of influencing significant change in the way Government allocates funding to local authorities and schools. The group is made up of 42 local authorities who are among the lowest funded for education in England.

f40 seeks fairness and equal opportunities in education for all children, regardless of where they live, and wishes to see schools properly funded and equipped to enable them to provide a quality education to meet the future needs of Britain.

For more information about f40, go to www.f40.org.uk