

**COUNCIL – 14 JULY 2010**  
**ITEM 8 – NOTICES OF MOTION**  
**LATE MOTION ACCEPTED BY THE MAYOR AS URGENT**

**CANCELLATION OF THE BSF FUNDING FOR STEVENAGE SCHOOLS**

**‘That this Council notes -**

With disappointment and dismay, the removal of the funding for the Building Schools for the Future project for Barclay, Barnwell, John Henry Newman, Thomas Alleyne and Greenside schools and the reviews of Marriotts, Lonsdale and Nobel.

With regret that the opportunity this presented in terms of transformational change to the aspirations and attainment of our young people in Stevenage and elsewhere has not been recognised by the Conservative/Liberal Democrat government.

That this decision appears to have been taken with no regard to the local circumstances, the current progress of projects and with no local consultation.

With regret that the huge contribution to the project which has already been made by students, headteachers, staff, parents and governors went unrecognised during the chaotic process of the cancellation of the programme.

With regret that the huge amounts of money which have been spent on developing the Building Schools for the Future programme for Stevenage have been wasted.

With regret the significant loss of construction industry employment opportunities and the related economic benefit to the local economy due to the cancellation of this programme.

That this opportunity to close the achievement gap between young people in Stevenage and those elsewhere in the County has been cast aside.

**And Council resolves -**

To write immediately to the Secretary of State for Education raising our concerns about the impact of the abandonment of the Building Schools for the Future on the established need for raising educational attainment and aspiration in Stevenage.

To call upon our Member of Parliament to act as some other Coalition MPs have already stated they will on behalf of their constituencies, and oppose the cancellation of BSF

To take part in lobbying action to persuade the Secretary of State to change his mind and reinstate the BSF programme.'

Mover : Cllr. Sharon Taylor

Secunder : Cllr. John Gardner