

COUNTY COUNCIL – 12TH DECEMBER 2017**PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

No.	Question from:	Question to:	Question
1.	Ms Nicky Shepard [Asking as a concerned resident of the affected area.]	Councillor Steve Count, Leader of the Council	<p>Regarding the financial justification for the £900,000 cut in Under 5s provision. When these cuts were voted through on October 17th, the Conservative group members made a great deal of noise of the fact that they were adding back 7% of the budget in order to benefit hard-to-reach families.</p> <p>The Liberal Democrats spotted -and the council has now acknowledged - that the figure they gave is actually only 3%, scarcely more than inflation. I challenge the Council's whole financial justification for these draconian cuts.</p> <p>The latest Social Mobility report which shows (map and list, pp21/22) that Cambridge as a city makes the 18th worst provision in the whole country, out of 324 UK authorities, for its Under 5s. This is why Liberal Democrats and 4,000 local people who signed our petition are opposing these cuts. Until the Conservative Group can evidence that their budget savings will not further damage the lives of Under 5s in Cambridgeshire and will not affect any front-line employees or services, would the leader of the council please call a halt to any further damaging changes whilst the details of the plan are finalised and consulted on publically?</p>