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To: consultationteam@bexley.gov.uk  
Subject: ERITH TOWN FORUM RESPONSE TO BEXLEY COUNCIL CUTS  
Date: Sat, 19 Feb 2011 12:54:38 +0000

Erith Town Forum members would like to register their strong opposition to the level of cuts currently proposed in services to the community, with particular reference to the closure of local libraries, and changes in the eligibility for access to funding and provision of services to those with special needs be it the elderly or children.

Some of the libraries in the borough named as under threat are in particularly low income areas where the residents rely more heavily on the facilities offered within these buildings. We have very recently seen tremendous improvements in Library provision and to now close some would be such a short-sighted option.

The reduction of services to those elderly or with special medical needs is also short term since such withdrawal of service will probably mean in the long run, a greater demand for medical incare for such people. Also the cutting of early intervention services to children will also store up greater demand in later years.

We appreciate the need to cut in the light of reduction of Government funding but would ask the Council members to think again about how these savings are to be made and not to target at the most vulnerable and least vocal in our community.

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Chair Erith Town Forum