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LONDON ASSEMBLY



Leonie Cooper AM
Chair of the Economy Committee

Cllr Richard Watts
Council Leader of Islington London Borough Council
(Sent by email)

19 February 2021

Dear Cllr Watts,

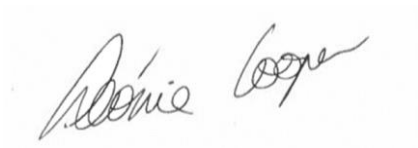
The London Assembly Economy Committee is exploring the potential role for Universal Basic Income (UBI) in London's economic recovery from COVID-19. This follows a motion being brought to the full Assembly in November and referred to the Economy Committee for in-depth consideration. The motion asks the Assembly to call on the Mayor to write to the Government calling for a fully evaluated basic income in the city, and for him to work with local authorities to help test UBI in London. The Committee has not yet voted on this motion, and is gathering further information before making that decision.

Our Committee is interested to examine the viability of calling for a pilot in London and the support that would need to be extended by relevant bodies for a pilot to be carried out. The Committee is aware that, in December 2020, Islington Council passed a motion calling on the Government to support a trial of UBI in your borough.

In order to help the Committee understand in greater detail the Government's position in supporting UBI trials in London, we would be very grateful if you were able to provide to us any subsequent correspondence your council has had with the Government on this motion.

I would be grateful to receive a response to our findings and recommendations by 26 February 2021. Please send your response by email to the Committee's clerk Lauren Harvey (Lauren.Harvey@london.gov.uk).

Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Leonie Cooper". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'L' and a long, sweeping tail.

Leonie Cooper AM
Chair of the Economy Committee