

## Notice of Motion

### School Surface Water and Highways Drainage Charges

Chorley Council notes:

1. That United Utilities is the body responsible for charging for drainage and surface water in Chorley and across the North West region from Cheshire to Cumbria.
2. United Utilities charging system for E15 Surface Water and Highways Drainage uses an area based calculation for School Water and Sewage charges.
3. The E15 water and sewage charges made to schools cover all water and sewerage from schools but excludes repairs or maintenance costs.<sup>1</sup>
4. Sefton Metropolitan Council produced a breakdown of charges comparing Regions and Local Education Authorities (LEAs) using Department of Education (DfE) information. The same data source<sup>2</sup> also contains figures for Lancashire and Chorley. The combined results are in the tables attached.
5. The North West is one of 10 Regions in England but pays over 29% of Schools Water and Sewage charges.
6. The South East region is the most similar to the North West both in terms of number of schools and number of pupils. The North West pays 2.4 times as much as the South East.
7. The LEAs most similar to Lancashire in numbers of schools are Kent, Hampshire and Essex. Lancashire pays between 1.7 and 2.8 times as much per school as the others.
8. The most similar LEAs to Lancashire in numbers of pupils are Kent, Birmingham and Hampshire. The Lancashire E15 Schools Water and Sewage charges per pupil is £34.63. This is twice the figure for Kent and 2.9 times the cost per pupil in Hampshire.

Chorley Council Believes

1. That data from Pupil Premium spending shows that increasing the spend per pupil has clear and measurable effects on children's development and future life chances
2. By removing money from the schools in Chorley to the extent of approximately £5,000 p.a. compared to comparable LEAs is proving a disadvantage to all children in the Borough and damaging to their futures.

Chorley Council resolves that

The Chief Executive writes to the Chair of United Utilities, The Water Regulator (OFWAT), The Secretary of State for Education, and the two Members of Parliament covering the Borough to express our complete dismay at the disadvantages being placed on the children in Chorley because public funds aimed at their education are being diverted to United Utilities' balance sheet.

**Proposed by:**

**Seconded by:**

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<sup>1</sup> Consistent Financial Reporting Framework: 2014 to 2015, Department for Education

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/performance/download\\_data.html](http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/performance/download_data.html)

## Extract from Sefton Council produced document about water and sewerage charges for schools in the North West

What the CFR data says at a national/regional level  
All regions water/sewerage charges 2012/2013

Region	E15 Water and sewerage	Rank	Percent of total
<b>North West Total</b>	£27,190,192.68	1	29.04%
<b>South East Total</b>	£11,170,358.42	2	11.93%
<b>West Midlands Total</b>	£10,204,799.98	3	10.90%
<b>Yorkshire and the Humber Total</b>	£8,062,738.94	4	8.61%
<b>North East Total</b>	£7,570,400.28	5	8.09%
<b>South West Total</b>	£6,929,752.54	6	7.40%
<b>East Midlands Total</b>	£6,509,263.08	7	6.95%
<b>East of England Total</b>	£6,300,259.03	8	6.73%
<b>Outer London Total</b>	£5,646,973.03	9	6.03%
<b>Inner London Total</b>	£4,035,013.03	10	4.31%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>£93,619,751.01</b>		

The North West and South East are 'similar' in terms of pupil numbers and numbers of schools

Region	North West	South East
<b>Number of Pupils (FTE)</b>	836,431	859,221
<b>Number of schools per region</b>	2,816	2,830
<b>E15 Water and sewerage</b>	£27,190,193	£11,170,358
<b>Water and Sewerage charge per pupil</b>	£32.51	£13.00
<b>Rank per pupil (1 highest, 10 lowest)</b>	1	7
<b>Average water and sewerage charge per school</b>	£9,656	£3,947
<b>Rank per school (1 highest, 10 lowest)</b>	1	8
<b>Percent of total charges paid per region</b>	29.04%	11.93%

What the data is saying in our region: Lancashire and Chorley

Most similar in terms of school numbers

LA name	Region	Number of Schools	E15 Water and sewerage	Average School Charge
Lancashire	North West	571	£4,910,883.36	£8,600.50
Kent	South East	460	£2,295,733.44	£4,990.72
Hampshire	South East	484	£1,621,341.19	£3,349.88
Essex	East of England	444	£1,347,357.13	£3,034.59

Most similar in terms of pupil numbers

LA name	Region	Number of Pupils (FTE)	E15 Water and sewerage	Water and Sewerage charge per pupil
Lancashire	North West	141,801	£4,910,883.36	£34.63
Kent	South East	136,544	£2,295,733.44	£16.81
Birmingham	West Midlands	133,279	£2,206,657.00	£16.56
Hampshire	South East	134,812	£1,621,341.19	£12.03