



COUNCIL MEETING

17 DECEMBER 2015

GATESHEAD METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

AMENDMENT TO NOTICE OF MOTION

Councillor M Henry will move the following amendment:

In the first paragraph, insert commas as follows:

“Council notes, with regret, the decision of the Open University to close its Gateshead centre along with six others, despite the opposition of its own Senate.”

Delete paragraph three and four and replace with:

“Council welcomes the recent signing by Gateshead MPs of an Early Day Motion that opposes the closure and asks them to write to the Vice-Chancellor of the Open University to oppose these plans.

Council supports and endorses the Leader’s recent letter to the Vice-Chancellor of the Open University, copied to Gateshead MPs, the Current Chancellor of the Open University and its recent Chancellor and Gateshead Freeman, Lord David Puttnam. That letter outlines the importance of the Open University to our region and expresses strong concerns about the closure and its negative impact on Gateshead, the North East and local people. It also asks for details on what consultation in the region was undertaken by the OU, whether a regional impact assessment has been undertaken, and whether any steps are proposed to mitigate the effects of this proposal on regional take-up of Higher Education.”

Proposed by: Councillor M Henry

Seconded by: Councillor M Foy