

# WHO'S GOING TO PAY FOR SCHOOL REORGANISATION?

## YOUR CHANCE TO GET THE COUNTY COUNCIL TO ADMIT THEY DON'T KNOW

You may be one of the 35,000 people from Northumberland who signed a petition in the spring of 2004 opposing the County Council's plans to re-organise the structure of schools in the county. You may also have made your views known at other stages in the process. What is clear is that all of your efforts to convince the council that its plans were flawed fell largely on deaf ears - and in April of this year the council rushed through the plans to move to a two-tier system. But we think in rushing through the plans, the council has made mistakes that will have to be paid for by the people of Northumberland over many years to come.

Parents For Legal Action limited (PFLA) has been set up to raise funds in order to pursue a legal action against the County Council on the grounds that they failed to undertake any meaningful financial evaluation of their plans for the wholesale reorganisation of schools, even though they had committed to do so in December 2004 as part of the scrutiny process. Without such an evaluation, we do not know whether two-tier will be better value for money than three-tier; we do not know what the changes will cost; we do not know where the money will come from and, crucially, we do not know what the impact on other services such as road maintenance will be. We believe the County Council should be challenged to answer these questions - openly and honestly - before continuing with the changes.



**A High Court Judge has agreed that there is a case to answer and, PFLA has already lodged £10,000 with the Court (to cover the County Council's costs in the event that we were to lose) and there will be a Judicial Review on the 10 February 2006. We need to raise further money.**

We welcome people who may wish to organise fund raising events and planned events can be seen on the NEAG website at [www.neag.info](http://www.neag.info). PFLA has been set up as a company limited by guarantee which means you can join as a member with the knowledge that your sole liability on winding up of the company would be £1.00.

If you feel that your membership of PFLA may present a conflict of interest, for example because you work for Northumberland County Council, please feel free to make an anonymous donation.

Please let us know your views.

David Edwick, Secretary PFLA, Tel: 07906 220205, email [david.edwick@btopenworld.com](mailto:david.edwick@btopenworld.com)



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### PFLA – DONATION FORM

If you would like to make a donation then print this page, complete the form below and return it to us at the address specified. If you want your donation to be anonymous then please omit your contact details.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

• I enclose a donation of £ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make cheques payable to "Parents for Legal Action" and send to John Bettney, Lloyds TSB, Priestpopple, Hexham, Northumberland, NE46 1PA, UK. Alternatively, you could arrange an electronic transfer to PFLA's account at Lloyds TSB, Priestpopple, Hexham – Sort Code 30-94-19; Account number: 01019826.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please return form and payment to: John Bettney, Lloyds Bank, Priestpopple, Hexham, NE46 1PA