



**This joyous  
Mother's Day  
snap was  
meant to be  
the reassurance  
we all needed  
— but has it  
backfired?**

**Rebecca English  
& Sarah Vine** PAGES  
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# TOWN HALLS' WOKED SPREE

**As Hunt demands end to public sector waste, bankrupt and  
'hard-up' councils double spending on diversity schemes**

**COUNCILS** have almost doubled their spending on 'ridiculous' woke jobs in the past three years, figures show.

Almost £52million of taxpayers' cash has been spent by local

By **Connor Stringer**  
and **Harriet Line**

authorities on Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) roles.

The amount spent by councils rose from just over £12million in 2020/21 to almost £23million in 2022/23.

It comes after the Chancellor Jeremy

Hunt ordered town halls to ditch diversity schemes as part of plans to clamp down on wasteful spending as more struggling councils risk going bust.

Nearly 200 councils across the UK have forked out cash on EDI roles since 2020, figures compiled by the TaxPayers' Alliance show.

They include the bankrupt Labour-

run Birmingham City Council, which hired an 'Assistant Director Community Services and Equality, Diversity & Inclusion' on an average salary of £103,165 in 2022.

Meanwhile Calderdale Council in West Yorkshire, also Labour, hired a 'Staying Well Team Manager (Agency)' – one of

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