

# *Students Stage Demonstration in London Over Austerity Measures*

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London, December 18 (RHC)-- Students have staged a rally in the British capital London to protest against the austerity measures planned by the city's mayor. On Wednesday, British students launched a demonstration outside the City Hall, the headquarters of the mayor of London, to show their opposition to Mayor Boris Johnson's plans to cut down on investment in education and youth services.

"Boris Johnson's plans are ridiculous. Youth services are already under attack, and many young people feel so low," said Kulsoom Mall, a protesting student from Kingston University. Mall went on to say that Johnson aims to decrease London's funding for youth and education schemes by 90 percent. Under his proposed plans, the city's investment in youth-related projects will shrink from £22.6 million to £2.3 million by 2017.

Many commentators have warned of the detrimental social impacts of Johnson's proposed austerity plans, saying they only target London's most vulnerable and deprived young people.

According to reports, British students leave universities with an average student debt of £44,000, which increases on an annual basis. They also suggest that 73 percent of students will fail to clear their debts and may only have them written off 30 years after graduating.

While the UK government suggests that the current economic policies are generating employment and prosperity for the people, the anti-austerity groups warn that the majority of Britons have experienced the

most serious decline in basic living standards.

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