

FAIRNESS COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION	2016 response: Work completed, planned or will be undertaken in response to the Commission’s recommendation.	2017 Update on Progress against the 2016 Response
<p>1. The council should develop an asset transfer policy by April 2017 and be proactive in implementing it.</p>	<p>An updated and Asset Transfer Policy is currently being scoped using best practice from other local authorities. (2017)</p> <p>Emma McDermott (BHCC); Angela Dymott (BHCC)</p>	<p>A Community Asset Transfer Policy has been developed by a cross council group of officers in consultation with the community buildings network and CVS representatives. It is being presented to BHCC NICE committee for recommendation to approve November 2017 and final approval at BHCC PR&G committee in January 2018. The policy has been delayed in production due to staff capacity.</p>
<p>2. All public sector procurement processes should give greater weight to social value and be explicit in how this influences decisions.</p>	<p>This recommendation has been fulfilled through the Social Value Framework and Guide approved at NCE committee and PR&G committee, July 2016. Training opportunities to be developed for commissioners, procurement and suppliers Autumn 2016.</p> <p>Emma McDermott, (BHCC); Cliff Youngman, (BHCC); Brighton and Hove Connected</p>	<p>Since adopting the Framework and Guide inclusion of Social Value is now being considered routinely in BHCC procurement tenders and commissions.</p> <p>In addition, Orbis is developing its own social value charter. Training for BHCC procurement officers and commissioners, and for providers is being organised for Autumn 2017. More work is required to attain the level of commitment to inclusion of social value in other public bodies procurement processes.</p>
<p>3. The Neighbourhoods, Communities and Equality Committee should take responsibility for proactive delivery on the rights enshrined in legislation including the Localism Act 2011, the Equalities Act 2010, the Care Act 2014 and</p>	<p>A number of actions will be taken in response to this recommendation: The terms of reference for the NCE Committee include responsibility for delivery on these areas. A number of actions will be taken in response to this recommendation: The Equalities and Inclusion Policy will be taken for approval to the NCE Committee in November 2016 with proposals for</p>	<p>The NICE committee’s work programme continues to be focused on championing the rights within the various Acts. Over the last year the committee has approved the Equality and Inclusion Strategy in January 2017, overseen and challenged delivery of the city’s Trans Needs Assessment action plan, approved the recommendations of reports to improve race equality in employment and remove barriers to employment for disabled people and those with long-</p>

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Human Rights.	<p>updating the Committee. As part of developing the Committee’s work programme for 2017/18 these areas will be considered by the Lead Member and Executive Director NCH. All decision making committees in the council take into account relevant legislative provisions and legal implications are provided with every report to ensure this takes place. Pages on website with regard to Assets of Community Value (Localism Act 2011) to be made more user friendly and accessible. The implications of the Care Act 2014 have been comprehensively reported to the Health and Wellbeing Board and action implemented.</p> <p>Emma McDermott (BHCC), Abraham Ghebre-Ghiorghis, (BHCC)</p>	<p>term/fluctuating health conditions, adopted to BSL charter, championed the social value framework to ensure impact, approved new community asset transfer policy, monitored the delivery and progress of the rough sleeping strategy, approved a Memorandum of Understanding with the Racial Harassment Forum.</p>
4. The council should work with City in Bloom, Community Works and the Trust for Developing Communities to support Friends of Parks groups in the city and help them to come together in a city-wide network to strengthen collaboration across groups and with the council around the future of the city’s parks.	<p>We acknowledge the valued contribution of a city-wide network of Friends Groups and other volunteers that has been created Community Works.</p> <p>City Parks works proactively with a wide range of community and voluntary organisations across the City. The Council has also recently launched its “big conversation” with regard the future management and maintenance of the parks and open spaces in the City and we would encourage all interested groups to participate in this consultation.</p>	<p>Following the completion of the ‘Big conversation’ consultation – which was the Council’s most successful on line consultation event, the resulting Open Spaces Strategy was considered and approved by ETS Committee in January 2017. An implementation plan has arisen from the results of the consultation, which are also being considered by the ETS Committee, which includes specific actions of volunteering activities and how collaborative working can be strengthened, in particular through the Community Works network and website. The Brighton and Hove Green Spaces Forum was</p>

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	<p>Richard Bradley (BHCC)</p>	<p>launched at the end of October 2017. The Forum is a coming together of the 'Friends of' groups and other voluntary organisations that care for and protect our parks and open spaces with the aim of sharing experience and support. http://bhgreenspaceforum.org.uk A further update to ETS is due November 2017.</p>
<p>5. The council should work with businesses and the Transport Partnership to raise awareness of the impact of street clutter on disabled people, older people and mothers with young children and ensure regulations are enforced.</p>	<p>The Highway Enforcement team licence and enforce regulations on A-boards, tables & chairs, skips, scaffolds, builders’ materials, overgrown hedges and hoardings. The policy for such placements was reviewed by Members in 2016, and was originally informed by the Street Access Scrutiny of 2010. A new IT system is being commissioned which will enable more efficient licensing and enforcement of skips, scaffolds and builders’ materials. The team works with businesses and other council sections to educate, inform and enforce. We undertake to review our current policies and practices, monitor impact of street clutter and use appropriate enforcement action, raise awareness with businesses.</p> <p>Mark Prior (BHCC); Brighton and Hove Connected</p>	<p>A new IT system is now up and running and skip and scaffolding companies can now apply online. The system has simplified the application process meaning that enforcement officers can spend more time out of the office dealing with obstructions.</p>
<p>6. Housing associations and private housing developers should look</p>	<p>Planning requirement for high level of energy efficiency City Plan SA6 Sustainable Buildings.</p>	<p>Work on the City Region’s One Public Estate Programme continues to be progressed. The programme governance</p>

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<p>at total housing costs, including energy efficiency, in planning new homes to reduce energy bills and contribute to greater affordability and the health and wellbeing of residents.</p>	<p>In response to this recommendation: BHCC is working in partnership with Southern Water on a project to support local residents to reduce their water use and water bills. The project will be running from 2016-20 and aims to work with 5,700 high water use households and 1,000 households who are struggling to pay their water bills across the city. The project includes home visits to offer advice and installation of small measures to increase water efficiency in the home. Southern water will also be offering advice to households struggling to pay their bills including debt advice and about different tariff options and other financial assistance schemes.</p> <p>BHCC is working with the Your Energy Sussex partnership to procure an energy supply partner to offer a competitive tariff and high quality service to residents and businesses across Sussex. Over 70% of domestic customers who have never or rarely switched supplier could save up to £300 per year by switching onto a more competitive deal.</p> <p>The Sussex Tariff aims to offer Sussex householders and businesses the opportunity to purchase their energy from a trusted source that will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer residents and businesses access to lower cost energy 	<p>arrangements are fully established and the Greater Brighton Strategic Property Board and Greater Brighton Public Sector Property Group are meeting regularly. This is in addition to the council's own Public Sector Property Group with local public sector partners.</p> <p>The Greater Brighton Economic Board committed to deliver 22,500 homes in ten years. This will require accelerated delivery on the current rate of completions against existing Local Plan targets (The City Plan states that council will make provision for at least 13,200 new homes to be built over the plan period 2010 – 2030 to help meet the city’s needs). To achieve this target, the City Region would need to do everything it can in terms of finding and bring forward sites, dealing with blockages such as transport and other infrastructure, ensuring a flow of finance and developing new delivery mechanisms.</p> <p>The National One Public Estate Programme and the DCLG have also launched new joint funding to create a wider support package for partnerships to unlock more surplus land and property. The Housing & Communities Agency also launched the Housing Infrastructure Fund this summer to unlock new homes and the council has recently submitted bids to secure funding.</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide excellent customer service • Ensure customers have easy to understand, more transparent energy bills • Develop Smarter metering and billing technology • Stimulate and support local energy generation <p>BHCC and the wider YES partnership can expect the tariff scheme to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the number of householders in or at risk of fuel poverty • Support the local economy • Meet local carbon reduction and renewable energy targets • Increase investment in local generation • Influence the types of tariffs on offer to maximise the benefit for residents in the city <p>The council’s New Homes for Neighbourhoods new build programme is building homes that are efficient to heat and run due to high sustainability standards, meet Lifetime Homes Standards and include wheelchair accessible units.</p> <p>In response to this recommendation we will review further application of consideration of lifetime costs of tenancies where this is within the Council’s control.</p>	

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	Martin Reid & Sam Smith (BHCC); Brighton & Hove Connected	
<p>7. As part of a wider drive to tackle homelessness in the city, all partners should create low-cost and “meanwhile” housing swiftly for homeless people on dormant development sites, like Preston Barracks, using converted sea containers that can be moved to other sites when development starts.</p>	<p>This recommendation supports the review of affordable housing delivery (joint venture) in progress, looking at range of temporary and permanent housing solutions. HERE.</p> <p>Estate Regeneration Board and Housing & new Homes Committee have also considered options for delivery of homes utilising modern method of construction with pilot schemes in progress / under review.</p> <p>Martin Reid (BHCC); Brighton & Hove Connected</p>	<p>The council will achieve learning and experience from the New Homes for Neighbourhoods modular and system build pilot seeking delivery of permanent affordable housing.</p>
<p>8. All partners should strengthen work on rent deposit guarantee schemes that help people on lower incomes into private rented accommodation.</p>	<p>Current scheme focussed on those most likely to be statutory homeless.</p> <p>The council is currently exploring an option for a pilot scheme whereby tenants in supported accommodation could access the private sector with funding provided by Discretionary Housing Payments and/or Credit Union funding with an insurance provider effectively acting as a rent guarantor. This work is in development with a view to an initial trial to test whether an extended scheme would be sustainable.</p>	<p>The Rent Smart partnership has been launched. It is a citywide partnership of organisations committed to supporting tenants in the private rented sector.</p>

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	<p>The Rent Smart partnership will be launched November 2016. It is a citywide partnership of organisations committed to supporting tenants in the private rented sector.</p> <p>Martin Reid & Sylvia Peckham (BHCC); Brighton & Hove Connected</p>	
<p>9. To raise awareness of available support services to those on low income or struggling with debt, all partners should actively promote The Advice Partnership, Citizens Advice Bureau, East Sussex Credit Union and Moneyworks, signposting or referring people to these services.</p>	<p>In order to achieve this communications team and the welfare reform programme have produced a fact sheet/toolkit referencing these and other relevant organisations and services. This is designed for front line staff.</p> <p>To successfully promote and embed this information throughout front line services the information will be fed down through management layers to front line teams.</p> <p>Graham Bourne & John Francis (BHCC); Michelle Pooley (BHCC); Brighton and Hove Connected</p>	<p>A new version of the fact sheet / toolkit is about to be published to coincide with the wider roll out of Universal Credit in Autumn 2017.</p>
<p>10. The council’s Welfare Rights team should be co-located in the new Advice Hub at Hove Town Hall to maximise value and joint working.</p>	<p>Currently the welfare rights team are central to the Revenues and Benefits service and it would not be strategically effective to move them away from the core services at this stage. The service is in the process of developing a ‘welfare framework’ which is designed, to make best strategic use of resources in the Council, and, in conjunction with voluntary sector partners, to provide an effective and cost efficient welfare</p>	<p>The 2017/18 Welfare Reform priority has been preparing for UC and the dominant strategic requirement for the Welfare Rights Team has been to design, promote and deliver UC related training to Council services and the third sector.</p>

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	<p>support network which meets the challenges the city is facing over coming years. The development of the framework includes a review of the welfare right functions and a rationalisation of the best use and location of support resources. If this strategic review concludes that there should be a specific council presence in the Advice Hub then this will be put into place.</p> <p>John Francis, (BHCC) Brighton and Hove Connected</p>	
<p>11. The council, working with city schools, should bring to Brighton & Hove the ‘Poverty-proofing the School Day’ initiative to ensure no child misses out on the opportunities and experiences at school because of low family income. This would also help to close the gap between the attainment results of children eligible for free school meals and others.</p>	<p>In response to this recommendation the council will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Make contact with Poverty Proofing the School Day’ (HF August 2016) 2. Discuss with school leaders and FCL colleagues to assess level of interest (Ellen Mulvihill) (September / October 2016) 3. Agree way forward with the scheme (SLT – November 2016) 4. Review progress / elements (Ellen Mulvihill Summer term 2017) 5. Closing the Gap Strategy will be reviewed (Jo Lyon’s SLT Autumn 2016) <p>www.povertyproofing.co.uk / www.children-ne.org.uk</p> <p>Initial contact with ‘Poverty-proofing the School Day’ has shown that the cost to implement the self-evaluation review scheme is £10,000 to train a group of reviewers and then</p>	<p>Following the decision that ‘Poverty Proofing the School Day’ would be offered to all schools in the city at no charge to schools a team of researchers from schools across the city was trained by Children North East in June 2017. Four schools took part in ‘Poverty proofing the School Day’ in the summer term. Schools have been contacted and the team will be in seven more schools by Christmas 2017. The research leader from Children North East is coming to Brighton & Hove the week beginning 9 October to support and review progress with us and to speak to head teachers to promote the programme.</p> <p>Feedback from the schools that have taken part has been very positive. We will be going back into the schools to talk about the impact of the report after six months. The aim is for all schools to have taken part in the audit by March 2019. (Hilary</p>

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	<p>have a license to review 5 schools. There would be negotiation around costs for further licenses.</p> <p><i>4 cost options have been identified for this work with priority being given to the North East model covering all schools in the city with a one off cost of £150k and a 2 year programme of work</i></p> <p>Hilary Ferries, (BHCC)</p>	<p>Ferris, BHCC)</p>
<p>12. The council should seek support from partners to offer free school meals in school holidays, focusing on the most deprived communities first, to make sure that no child goes without at least one proper and healthy meal a day.</p>	<p>Discussions with BHFP and Chomp identified a gap in provision in the west of the city. The school meals team facilitated a meeting with West Blatchington Primary to discuss and assess if the Chomp model could be adapted and used in a school environment (all other locations are churches/church halls). Funding is required to meet some costs (school site manager/room hire, provision of food & labour to produce meals) this is currently being met from the overall school meals budget.</p> <p>After the summer break Susie Haworth will review the pilot offer with Amy Goodwin from Chomp and possibly BHFP. BHCC to explore if grant funding would be available to support the clubs and as part of the review discuss other delivery models.</p> <p>The cost to roll out the scheme further is unknown and would wholly depend on the number of sites across the city. The</p>	<p>School Meals Team in partnership with schools and CHOMP this summer holiday extended the scheme to be available across 3 schools – West Blatchington, Benfield and St Marks CE – serving a total of 277 meals over the 5.5 week holiday. An average of 25 meals per session</p>

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	<p>pilot at West Blatchington averaged a cost of £2.13 per meal mainly due to the high cost of labour to the number of meals being produced as the numbers able to attend each club is limited. Pupil premium would not be a source of funding for this scheme, decisions as to how it is spent is a governing body decision and its expenditure directly linked to support the progress of pupils who qualify. There should be an awareness of budget pressures being faced by schools.</p> <p>The school meals budget will continue to support Chomp for the financial year 16/17 and hopefully through to the summer break of 2017, however, as there is a possibility of the mobilisation and demobilisation of the current school meals contract this would need to be discussed further. Other sources of funding maybe from grant sources, however, these may be more challenging to access as Eden (Interserve) are a private company. I am not aware what other budgets could be used other than through external support such as grants and gifts which may be small and not guaranteed.</p> <p>As part of the tender we will be considering support of such a scheme under social value criteria.</p> <p>It is important to highlight the challenges we may face just using the school meals/school infrastructure to deliver free meals during holiday periods. I believe that the service has a part to play in helping to reduce food poverty across the city, however, the financial responsibility for such a programme</p>	

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	<p>should not sit with schools/school meals service. Alternative delivery models to that employed at West Blatchington must be considered.</p> <p>Susie Haworth, (BHCC); The Food Partnership</p>	
<p>13. The council’s city wide Corporate Parenting Board should find new ways to genuinely include children and young people; especially those in or recently leaving care.</p>	<p>In response to this recommendation work is underway to write a new Corporate Parenting strategy with engagement activities with children & young people as part of this process including a 3 day activity programme with young people’s views and input being actively sought throughout.</p> <p>The website is in the final stages of implementation</p> <p>The Children in Care Council is being re-launched with a specialist worker to ensure it meets regularly and informs children & young people and offers engagement activities. The older sub-group of the Council, the Young People’s Panel is also being re-vitalised. Care leavers attend the Corporate Parenting Board, they are involved in member training and arrangements are being developed for members to visit care leavers at their Young People’s Panel meetings.</p> <p>All care leavers between 18-21 years are offered the opportunity of a ‘Moving on from Care’ interview to reflect upon their care experience and a range of surveys and</p>	<p>Corporate Parenting Strategy Completed and signed off at Corporate Parenting Board in January 17. The Strategy includes a section setting out “What we will do...” The following are updates on specific actions:</p> <p>Care Leavers Trust: Work is underway to establish a fund to support young people when they leave care at the age of 18 to increase the opportunities available to them. The aims are for the charity to be fully established by April 2018 and have a local fundraising effort underway.</p> <p>Social Work Profiles: As part of the relationship based social work, all workers have completed a ‘profile’ of themselves to share with children and families to support information sharing.</p> <p>Provide an additional mental health resource within PODs: This is currently underway with a pilot of 1 day a week Psychologist input in 2 social work PODs, and efforts been made to secure funding to extend this to a full time</p>

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	<p>questionnaires on specific areas of service delivery are used to gain as many views as possible. Gerry Brandon (BHCC)</p>	<p>psychologist post.</p> <p>An annual review of implementation of the Corporate Parenting Strategy with be undertaken at Corporate Parenting Board in Jan 2018</p> <p>Following the Youth Service Restructure a Participation and Advocacy Senior Youth Worker is in post since august 2017 and is taking forward the re-launch of the Children in Care Council to ensure it meets regularly and informs children & young people and offers engagement activities and consider how Children In Care and Care leavers meaningfully participate in the Corporate Parenting Board.</p> <p>All care leavers between 18-21 years are offered the opportunity of a ‘Moving on from Care’ interview to reflect upon their care experience and a range of surveys and questionnaires on specific areas of service delivery are used to gain as many views as possible- a report on this was presented to CPB in March 2017.</p>
<p>14. The council and its partners should adopt the Crawley model. A Town Access Group to take action on accessibility issues out and about in the city, including checking planning applications</p>	<p>Planning would need to consult a Town Access Group on all relevant public realm planning applications. Liz Hobden (BHCC)</p> <p>Discussed response & implementation at Brighton & Hove Connected Workshop 14 November 2016.</p>	<p>BHCC third sector engagement commission is being used to test accessibility of sites in the city to inform the Urban Design Framework. Planning, transport and communities team will be discussing how to best use of the commission over its lifetime 2017-2020.</p>

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and commenting on access issues.	Notes to be tabled at NCE Committee. Brighton & Hove Connected	
<p>15. To improve access and rights for Deaf people who use British Sign Language, the council should sign up to the British Deaf Association’s Charter for British Sign Language and implement the five pledges set out within it.</p> <p>a) Ensure access for Deaf people to information and services and for health care services this should follow the principles of the Accessible Information Standard</p> <p>b) Promote learning and high quality teaching of British Sign Language</p> <p>c) Support Deaf children and families</p> <p>d) Ensure staff working with Deaf people can communicate effectively in British Sign Language</p>	<p>Assessment of current activity against the five pledges of the charter will be carried out in response to this recommendation. Followed by an action plan to improve activity as required and appropriate within available resources.</p> <p>To start early 2017 following completion of EFLG assessment and equality and inclusion policy refresh with report scheduled for NCE committee April 2017.</p> <p>Emma McDermott (BHCC)</p>	<p>Council signed up to the BDA BSL March 2017 and is working with the deaf community to develop its action plan against the pledges. Progress will be reported to council’s NICE committee in early 2018.</p>

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e) Consult with our local Deaf community on a regular basis.		