





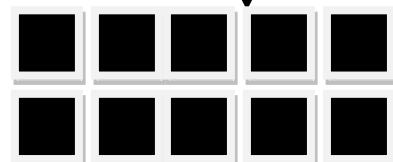
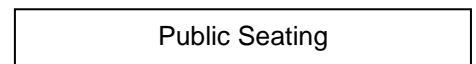
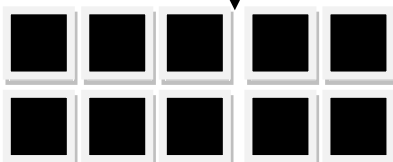
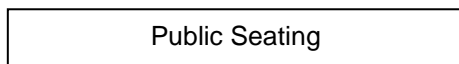
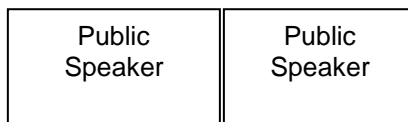
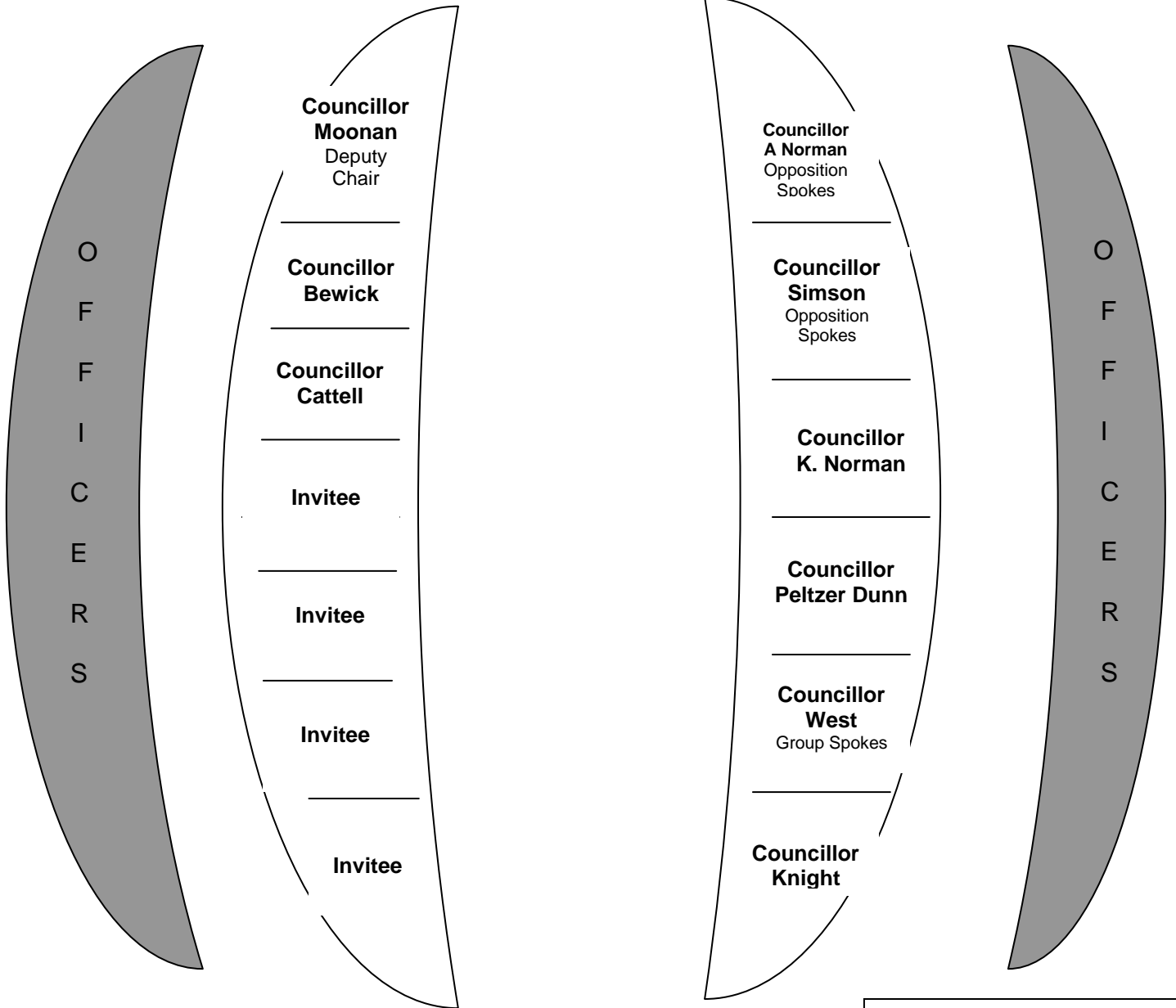
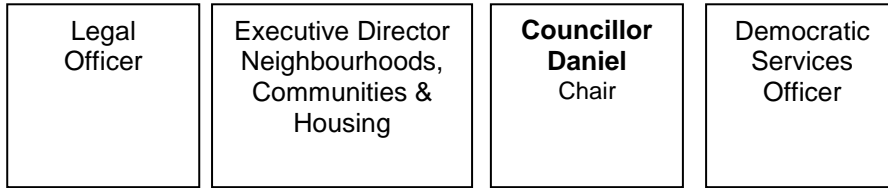
**Brighton & Hove
City Council**

Neighbourhoods, Inclusion, Communities & Equalities Committee

Title:	Neighbourhoods, Inclusion, Communities & Equalities Committee
Date:	19 March 2018
Time:	4.00pm
Venue	Council Chamber, Hove Town Hall
Members:	Councillors: Daniel (Chair) Moonan (Deputy Chair), A Norman (Opposition Spokesperson), West (Group Spokesperson), Bewick, Cattell, Knight, K Norman, Peltzer Dunn and Simson,
Invitees:	Representative (Clinical Commissioning Group); Joanne Martindale (Hangleton & Knoll Project); Anusree Biswas Sassidharan (BME Police Engagement Group); Representative Sussex Police
Contact:	Penny Jennings Democratic Services Officer 01273 291065 penny.jennings@brighton-hove.gov.uk

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Democratic Services: Neighbourhoods, Inclusion, Communities & Equalities Committee



AGENDA

63 PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

- (a) **Declarations of Substitutes:** Where councillors are unable to attend a meeting, a substitute Member from the same political group may attend, speak and vote in their place for that meeting.
- (b) **Declarations of Interest:**
- (a) Disclosable pecuniary interests;
 - (b) Any other interests required to be registered under the local code;
 - (c) Any other general interest as a result of which a decision on the matter might reasonably be regarded as affecting you or a partner more than a majority of other people or businesses in the ward/s affected by the decision.

In each case, you need to declare

- (i) the item on the agenda the interest relates to;
- (ii) the nature of the interest; and
- (iii) whether it is a disclosable pecuniary interest or some other interest.

If unsure, Members should seek advice from the committee lawyer or administrator preferably before the meeting.

- (c) **Exclusion of Press and Public:** To consider whether, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, the press and public should be excluded from the meeting when any of the following items are under consideration.

Note: Any item appearing in Part Two of the agenda states in its heading the category under which the information disclosed in the report is exempt from disclosure and therefore not available to the press and public.

A list and description of the exempt categories is available for public inspection at Brighton and Hove Town Halls and on-line in the Constitution at part 7.1.

64 PRESENTATION(S)

Before proceeding to the formal business of the meeting there will be a brief presentation outlining the work of the St Giles' Trust.

The Trust offers intensive help to young people exposed to or at risk of violence, vulnerability and exploitation. The work encompasses gang work and family support as well as child exploitation and human trafficking and seeking to prevent disadvantaged young people from becoming

involved in gang crime and serious youth violence. It offers interactive sessions in schools, pupil referral units and colleges which offer practical tools and knowledge to young people on how to steer clear from violence and crime.

Following the presentation Members will have the opportunity to ask questions after which there will be a short break before proceeding to the main business of the agenda.

65 MINUTES

1 - 14

To consider the minutes of the meeting held on 22 January 2018 (copy attached).

66 CHAIRS COMMUNICATIONS

67 CALL OVER

- (a) Items (68 – 75) will be read out at the meeting and Members invited to reserve the items for consideration.
- (b) Those items not reserved will be taken as having been received and the reports' recommendations agreed.

68 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

To consider the following matters raised by members of the public:

- (a) **Petitions:** To receive any petitions presented by members of the public to the full Council or at the meeting itself.
- (b) **Written Questions:** To receive any questions submitted by the due date of 12 noon on the 12 March 2018.
- (c) **Deputations:** To receive any deputations submitted by the due date of 12 noon on the 12 March 2018.

69 MEMBER INVOLVEMENT

To consider the following matters raised by Members:

- (a) **Petitions:** To receive any petitions referred from Full Council or submitted directly to the Committee;
- (b) **Written Questions:** To consider any written questions;
- (c) **Letters:** To consider any letters;
- (d) **Notices of Motion:** to consider any Notices of Motion referred from Full Council or submitted directly to the Committee.

70 PROGRESS UPDATE ON BRITISH SIGN LANGUAGE CHARTER 15 - 40

Report of the Executive Director, Neighbourhoods, Communities and Housing (copy attached)

Contact Officer: Emma McDermott Tel: 01273 296805
Ward Affected: All Wards

71 OXFORD COURT PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER CONSULTATION SUMMARY 41 - 52

Report of the Executive Director, Neighbourhoods, Communities and Housing (copy attached)

Contact Officer: Simon Bannister Tel: 01273 293925
Ward Affected: St Peter's & North Laine

72 ST JAMES COURT PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER 53 - 60

Report of the Executive Director, Neighbourhoods, Communities and Housing (copy attached)

Contact Officer: Matt Easteal Tel: 01273292152
Ward Affected: Queen's Park

73 REVIEW OF PARKS AND OPEN SPACES PUBLIC PLACES PROTECTION ORDER 61 - 88

Report of the Executive Director, Neighbourhoods, Communities and Housing (copy attached)

Contact Officer: Peter Castleton Tel: 01273 292607
Ward Affected: All Wards

74 UPDATE ON POVERTY PROOFING THE SCHOOL DAY 89 - 98

Report of the Executive Director, families, Children and Learning (copy attached)

Contact Officer: Hilary Ferries Tel: 01273 293738
Ward Affected: All Wards

75 VIOLENCE, VULNERABILITY AND EXTREMISM 99 - 106

Report of the Executive Director, Neighbourhoods, Communities and Housing (copy attached)

Note: An update will be given at the meeting outlining the work to be undertaken going forward.

Contact Officer: Jo Player Tel: 01273 292488
Ward Affected: All Wards

76 ITEMS REFERRED FOR FULL COUNCIL

To consider items to be submitted to Council for information.

In accordance with Procedure Rule 24.3a, the Committee may determine that any item is to be included in its report to Council. In addition, any Group may specify one further item to be included by notifying the Chief Executive no later than 10am on the eighth working day before the Council meeting at which the report is to be made, or if the Committee meeting take place after this deadline, immediately at the conclusion of the Committee meeting

The City Council actively welcomes members of the public and the press to attend its meetings and holds as many of its meetings as possible in public. Provision is also made on the agendas for public questions to committees and details of how questions can be raised can be found on the website and/or on agendas for the meetings.

The closing date for receipt of public questions and deputations for the next meeting is 12 noon on the fifth working day before the meeting.

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Meeting papers can be provided, on request, in large print, in Braille, on audio tape or on disc, or translated into any other language as requested.

Electronic agendas can also be accessed through our meetings app available through www.moderngov.co.uk

For further details and general enquiries about this meeting contact Penny Jennings, (01273 291065, email penny.jennings@brighton-hove.gov.uk) or email democratic.services@brighton-hove.gov.uk

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For further details and general enquiries about this meeting contact Penny Jennings,

NEIGHBOURHOODS, INCLUSION, COMMUNITIES & EQUALITIES COMMITTEE

(01273 291065, email penny.jennings@brighton-hove.gov.uk) or email
democratic.services@brighton-hove.gov.uk

Date of Publication Friday, 9 March 2018

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL

NEIGHBOURHOODS, INCLUSION, COMMUNITIES & EQUALITIES COMMITTEE

4.00pm 22 JANUARY 2018

WHITEHAWK LIBRARY

MINUTES

Present: Councillor

Also in attendance: Councillor A Norman (Opposition Spokesperson), West (Group Spokesperson), Bewick, Cattell, Miller, K Norman, Peltzer Dunn and Penn

Invitees : Lisa Bell (Sussex Police); Joanna Martindale (Hangleton & Knoll Project) and Anusree Biswas Sassidharan (Brighton & Hove Ethic Group)

PART ONE

48 PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

48 (a) Declarations of substitutes

48.1 Councillor PennHill was present as a substitute for Councillor Councillor Moonan, Councillor was present as a substitute for Councillor Simson. It was also noted that Councillor Knight had given her apologies.

48 (b) Declarations of Interest

48.2 There were none.

48 (c) Exclusion of press and public

48.3 In accordance with section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 ("the Act"), the Committee considered whether the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during an item of business on the grounds that it was likely, in view of the business to be transacted or the nature of proceedings, that if members of the press and public were present during that item, there would be disclosure to them of confidential information (as defined in section 100A(3) of the Act) or exempt information (as defined in section 100(I) of the Act).

48.4 **RESOLVED-** That the press and public not be excluded

49 MINUTES

49.1 **RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the meeting held on 27 November 2017 be approved and signed as a correct record.

50 PRESENTATION(S)

50.1 The Committee received a presentation from Fiona Sharp and Linda Beanlands outlining the work of the International Women’s Network which had been developed as a result of the work of the One Voice Partnership.

50.2 It was explained that the network provided a platform for women from diverse cultures and backgrounds to share experience and knowledge and support one another. Meetings were held regularly at venues across the city with the intention of reaching into neighbourhood groups and sharing resources enabling those attending to share food and information, exchange ideas and build friendships. Those attending spoke a number of languages and were able to translate for one another and represented a wide age range, children were always welcome and the oldest attendees were over 80 years of age.

50.3 The network sought to take account of past and emerging national and local policy and practice and strategically they aimed to offer routes into employment and training opportunities, English language assistance, education and digital skills development, community and individual safety, parenting and family support, civic life and a voice to influence.

50.4 Those giving the presentation then went on to outline their proposed activities for 2018/19 which included establishing a list of Community Leads and contacts, establishing a “telephone tree” for potential outreach, offering the network as a resource to neighbourhood and city wide community and third sector groups and agencies to enable them to extend the reach and achievement of their objectives, develop the networks Facebook page and other communication resources, find a permanent meeting place and secure some funding to meet expenses. Additionally the network hoped to establish its programme of key social/befriending/general support activities such as its sewing, dance groups and meal sharing alongside developing its programme of activities on routes into employment, training, education, digital skills, apprenticeships and setting up small businesses (including the Food Market stall), establish a professional mentoring programme including entry into civic life, establish its English language offer including one to one and home support, ensure that its responses on community and individual safety, safeguarding, parenting and family support were appropriate, informed, complied with statutory referral arrangements and all other requirements, decided on its level of personal support and advocacy, defined and described its offer and limitations and encouraged more women to volunteer within the network, particularly those from diverse cultures and backgrounds.

- 50.5 Following the presentation Members had the opportunity to ask questions before proceeding to consider the remaining business on the agenda and thanked them for their presentation applauding the work they had been doing.

51 CHAIRS COMMUNICATIONS

- 51.1 The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting at Whitehawk Library and reminded all present that the meeting was being recorded and would be capable of repeated viewing via the online webcast. Several important events would be taking place in the near future which the Chair stated she would like to draw to the attention of the Committee and members of the public who were present.

Holocaust Memorial Day

- 51.2 On Wednesday 24 and Thursday 25 January Brighton and Hove Holocaust Project would be holding a series of events at Brighton College and Brighton & Hove High School to commemorate Holocaust Memorial Day. Sir Eric Reich a kinder transport refugee would be speaking, and attendees would also be able to hear of the experiences of the Sinti Roma. Additionally, there would be a "Power of Words" poetry workshop at which art work and poetry by pupils at Carden Primary School and Brighton & Hove High School would be on display.

Angel Day

- 51.3 On Saturday 10 February an "Angel Day" would be held at Brighton Museum organised by the Interfaith Contact Group. This would be a free, family friendly, fun day providing the opportunity to learn about the role played by angels in many faiths and also about the angels (statues for example) which could be found in the city. There would be art, music, storytelling an angel trail and an angel competition.

LGBT History Month

- 51.4 February was LGBT History month and during that time there would be many events and activities across the city: a repeat of the successful "B Right On Festival" held the previous year. Numerous community and fundraising events supporting older people, those affected by domestic abuse and, mental health organisations, HIV charities, LGBT families, disabled people and the homeless community all within the Phil Starr Pavilion, a multifunctional, fully accessible, heated performance and conference space with a licensing at Victoria Gardens.

Emergency Planning in the Wake of the Grenfell Tower Tragedy

- 51.5 The Chairman referred to the meeting of the Committee held on 9 October 2017 at which members had considered a report of the Executive Director, Neighbourhoods, Communities and Housing relating to "Emergency Planning and Resilience, Preventing and Responding to Emergencies". One of the resolutions of the Committee had been that the Chief Executive should write to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government raising various matters arising in the light of the Grenfell Tower tragedy. A copy of response received had been forwarded to all members of the

Committee. Copies of the minute of that meeting and the response received were also available any members of the press and public who were present.

51.6 **RESOLVED** – That the contents of the Chair’s Communications be received and noted.

52 CALL OVER

52.1 All items appearing on the agenda were reserved for discussion with the exception of the following which were agreed without discussion:

Item 57 – “Equality and Inclusion Strategy – Progress Update”; and
Item 58 – “Trans Needs Assessment Action Plan Progress”

53 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

53(a) Petitions

53.1 There were none.

53(b) Written Questions

53.2 There were none.

53(c) Deputations

53.3 There were none.

54 MEMBER INVOLVEMENT

54(a) Petitions

54.1 There were none.

54(b) Written Questions

54.2 There were none.

54(c) Letters

54.3 There were none.

54(d) Notices of Motion

54.4 There were none.

55 COMMUNITY SAFETY AND CRIME IN BRIGHTON AND HOVE

55.1 The Committee considered a report of the Executive Director, Neighbourhoods, Communities and Housing explaining that under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, there is a requirement for statutory and other partners to formulate a plan every three years to

tackle crime and disorder and monitor progress. This report provided an update on the work undertaken by the Safe in the City Partnership in relation to the Community Safety and Crime Reduction Strategy focussing on performance in the first quarter of 2017/18.

- 55.2 The Head of Community Safety, Peter Castleton, and Chief Superintendent Bell gave a presentation setting out the context and background to the information in the report, the headline indicators and those areas which had shown an increase. Chief Superintendent Bell accompanied the Head of Community Safety in order to answer any questions members might have.
- 55.3 It was explained that the upward trend in crime over the last three years followed a long term decline over the preceding years. Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) had undertaken an audit of crime recording practices in 2013/14 and as a consequence improvements had been made within forces including Sussex Police. This had had an impact on the figures for some of the types of crime set out in the report, particularly violence against the person, as well as contributing to the number of total crimes recorded. As the HMIC audit had been an on-going process, this had contributed to the ongoing upwards trend in recorded crime. Domestic violence, sexual violence and hate crimes were among those crime types which were now more accurately recorded resulting in better services and outcomes for victims. It should also be noted that the increases shown also reflected the changes which had been made to the manner in which incidents were recorded and to increased reporting of some crimes.
- 55.4 Both nationally and locally there had been concern regarding right-wing extremist sentiment expressed on-line in the aftermath of terrorist incidents and in response to news reports on individual cases. A Communities Co-ordinator had been appointed to continue work with community groups and develop projects countering extremism, including online, and to develop a campaign around shared values and the unacceptability of hate incidents and crimes. In answer to questions, the Head of Community Safety explained that whilst there had been a "spike" in certain types of hate crime in the city post Brexit, but that this had not followed the pattern which had been seen elsewhere in the country.
- 55.5 Councillor Miller referred to the figures provided in relation violent crime and to the changes to the way in certain types of crime were defined and recorded seeking clarification regarding whether it was possible to break down the figures down further for example, the figures for the incidence of domestic violence against women. Chief Superintendent Bell referred to the tools used in relation to the conversion rate for certain types of crime for example in relation to public and private places and to improved reporting practices in relation to the night time economy. This impacted on the figures overall and it should not be lost sight of, that notwithstanding concerns expressed or the need to address them, that the city remained a safe place, with relatively low incidence of crime.
- 55.6 Councillor Bewick stated that he welcomed the input which had been provided by Chief Superintendent Bell noting the collaborative working/ referral arrangements between the Police, Council Officers and other partners. Notwithstanding that however, he considered that the figures were a reflection of the leadership of the Police and Crime Commissioner. Whilst the precept paid to the Police had increased, on street neighbourhood policing had decreased and crime continued to rise. The reduction of

PCSO's and beat officers on the street had decreased this was of a matter of concern to the public and did not appear to be being addressed.

- 55.7 Councillor Peltzer Dunn stated that he found it difficult to extrapolate from the figures provided in order to enable meaningful comparisons to be drawn with other areas and in order for members to be sure that they were comparing like with like. The Head of Community Safety explained that the headline information contained in the report needed to be considered in the context with the tables set out in the appendix. It was agreed that subject to capacity further thought would be given to how the available information was set out in subsequent reports.
- 55.8 Councillor West concurred with what had been said stating that the Police Commissioner should attend a meeting of the Committee and to explain the approach being adopted, there were a number of questions which he would like to ask. The Chair, Councillor Daniel, drew attention to the fact that that one of the report recommendations requested that it forwarded to the Commissioner with a copy of the minutes and a response requested in relation to the rise in figures for recorded crime and the strategies being put into place to address that.
- 55.9 **RESOLVED** – (1) That the Committee notes the information contained in the report which provided an update on work being undertaken by the Safe in the City Partnership in relation to the Community Safety and Crime Reduction Strategy 2017-20; and
- (2) That the Committee requests that officers send a copy of this report and the minutes of the meeting to the Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner seeking a response to the matters raised and that officers report back to a future Committee with details of the response.

56 NEIGHBOURHOODS AND COMMUNITIES PORTFOLIO – PROPOSED FIELD OFFICER ROLE BUSINESS CASE

- 56.1 The Committee considered the further report of the Executive Director, Neighbourhoods, Communities and Housing setting out the business case for a new Field Officer role. The report was introduced by the Environmental Health Manager, Environmental Protection.
- 56.2 It was noted that consideration of the recommendations contained in the "Proposed Field Officer Business Case" report put forward to the previous meeting of the Committee on 27 November had been deferred.
- 56.3 The Environmental Health Manager, Environmental Protection, explained that the proposed implementation dates and timetables detailed in the report and recommendations 2.2, 2.4, 2.5, and 2.6 had been updated to address concerns raised by members at the November meeting. The Risk Log in Appendix 1 had also been amended accordingly. Concerns raised had included resourcing of the programme, loss of the Noise Patrol service, and the scale and management of the programme. The proposed controls to address these concerns were referred to in risks 1 – 4 of the Risk Log. Concerns about delivery and implementation of an effective mobile platform the ICT and Digital First had also been addressed and the timetable had also been updated

to reflect the progress being made with implementation of the tablet and trialling of the associated UNIFORM applications, this was also detailed in Appendix 1.

- 56.4 The Environmental Health Manager explained that the Business Case for the Field Officer role had been developed in collaboration with staff and service heads, external partners, unions and also information collated from recent community workshops. Similar work being carried out by other local authorities had also been considered, with further work undertaken since the previous meeting of the Committee regarding models used elsewhere. The Business Case had been presented to and received full support of the Corporate Modernisation Delivery Board and in addition detailed presentations had been given to each of the political groups. In answer to questions the Environmental Health Manager explained that this role would complement existing specialist officers and would provide a more streamlined service without duplication and would require approval of the Policy, Resources and Growth Committee to the necessary amendments to the Council's existing "Scheme of Delegations to Officers" before the Field Officers started in post.
- 56.5 Councillor West stated that he did not consider that the report had addressed any of the earlier issues raised to his satisfaction. He explained that he still had major concerns in terms of cost, suitability, workload and managing expectations. Councillor West stated that the report currently put forward for consideration differed very little from that submitted previously in his view and his preference was still that a pilot scheme should take place first; the risks had been "dumbed down", the concerns expressed by the unions were well made in his opinion.
- 56.6 The Executive Director, Neighbourhoods, Communities and Housing, stated that aims and objectives of the proposed Field Officer role were consistent with those of the Communities and Neighbourhoods Portfolio, namely of putting communities at the heart of service delivery, whilst at the same time supporting delivery of savings and making the most effective use of resources. The rationale for operating a "city wide" approach to service delivery was to avoid dividing the city into different models of service delivery with the attendant risk of creating hotspots and varying degrees of enforcement and would provide a single point of contact. The 4 different rota options set out in Appendix 1 had different hours of delivery and different costings but had been budgeted for and had been updated following consideration of the previous report and had also been addressed both in considering the financial implications and within Appendix 1.
- 56.7 Councillor Peltzer Dunn stated that whilst he had some concerns in relation to the practicalities of delivering some of the interface with the noise patrol team, he considered that it was also important to take a global view and on that basis he was happy to support the report recommendations. He did consider however that it was important for the Committee to be advised regarding progress requesting that a further update report be provided to the Committee in 12 months. Councillor Miller concurred and it was confirmed that this would be done.
- 58.8 Councillor Miller stated that he welcomed this initiative which provided the opportunity to deliver improvements for residents. He considered that in the longer term it was important to ensure that there was no conflict or duplication and that expectations were managed. The Executive Director, Neighbourhoods, Communities and Housing explained that these posts would complement existing roles and would provide greater

flexibility by being available at weekends. They would not however replace the wider remit of specialist officers e.g., housing officers.

- 58.9 Councillor Cattell stated that she had supported these proposals when the earlier report had been considered by the Committee at its meeting in November 2017. The further information provided in the report reinforced that and she was happy to support the recommendations.
- 58.10 Councillor Penn confirmed that she also supported the report recommendations which she considered would provide innovative, robust and flexible solutions at local level. The collaboration with other partners was also welcomed. It was important to ensure that measures were put into place to ensure officer safety
- 58.11 Councillor A Norman confirmed that the clarification provided in respect of the various issues raised at the previous meeting was welcomed and she was satisfied by the reassurance it provided. Her only remaining concerns were in respect of ensuring that staff who were rendered potentially vulnerable in consequence of lone working were properly protected. It was confirmed that a range of measures including call – in arrangements, buddying etc., would be put in place to ensure staff safety.
- 58.12 Councillor Bewick also welcomed the report but was also in agreement to ensure that realistic expectations were set.
- 58.13 Councillor K Norman also welcomed the report citing the changes in process which were anticipated in relation to invoking Public Space Protection Orders. The incidence of certain types of offence in the absence of a flexible and pro-active response was recognised.
- 56.14 A vote was taken and on a vote of 8 to 1 the recommendations in the report were agreed.
- 56.15 Councillor West requested that the report be referred to Council for information in view of its far reaching in his view, implications. A further vote was taken on whether the Committee wished to refer the report to full Council which was lost on a vote of 8 to 1. Councillor West was advised that it would be possible for the Green Group to write to the Chief Executive formally requesting that the report be referred.
- 56.16 **RESOLVED** – (1) That the Committee agrees to the creation of a Field Officer Team as set out at Option 1 of the Business Case on Page 12 of Appendix 1 to the report;
- (2) Agrees the revised proposed of functions and services based on the outcome of workshops with frontline staff and managers as set out at paragraphs 3.43 to 3.50 of the report;
- (3) Agrees the funding and resources required for the set-up of the Field Officer support role as set out at paragraphs 3.29 to 3.42 of the report and pages 16 to 20 of Appendix 1 to the report;

(4) Notes the timetable; for implementation and associated communication and engagement work with key stakeholders as set out in section 5 of the report (paragraphs 5.1 to 5.12), and pages 28 and 29 and pages 38 to 39 of Appendix 1;

(5) Notes the updated risks and mitigation actions set out in pages 21 to 26 of Appendix 1;

(6) Notes the updated Digital First timetable for delivery as set out on pages 27 to 28 of Appendix 1; and

(7) Notes that the detailed amendments to the Scheme of Delegations to Officers referred to at paragraphs 3.16 to 3.19 of the report will be reported to the Policy Resources and Growth Committee for approval before the Field Officers started to exercise Council functions.

57 EQUALITY & INCLUSION STRATEGY PROGRESS UPDATE

57.1 The Committee considered a report of the Executive Director, Neighbourhoods, Communities and Housing which provided an update on the Equality and Inclusion Strategy.

57.2 **RESOLVED** - That the Committee note the contents of the report and the updates given against the Equality and Inclusion Strategy objective and commitments.

58 TRANS NEEDS ASSESSMENT ACTION PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

58.1 The Committee considered a report of the Executive Director, Neighbourhoods, Communities and Housing detailing progress on the Trans Needs Assessment Action Plan.

58.2 **RESOLVED** – That the Committee notes the contents of this annual report describing progress against the recommendations of the Trans Needs Assessment 2015.

59 COUNTY LINES

59.1 The Committee considered a report of the Executive Director, Neighbourhoods, Communities and Housing which explained what county lines was (a police term used to describe urban gangs supplying drugs to market and coastal towns across the country using dedicated mobile phone lines) and, gave an overview of how this might be impacting in Brighton and Hove. The report also went on to consider the next steps the council would take alongside the police and other agencies to reduce the impact of this problem.

59.2 The Head of Community Safety, Peter Castleton, further explained that gangs often used children and vulnerable people too move drugs and money between different locations. Gangs established a base, typically by taking over the homes of local vulnerable adults (who were often drug users) by force or coercion which was known as cuckooing. This activity with its associated violence, drug dealing and exploitation had a major impact on young people, vulnerable adults and local communities and was a major cross-cutting issue involving drugs, violence, gangs, safeguarding, criminal child exploitation, modern slavery and missing persons. Drugs supplied through county lines

were primarily heroin and crack cocaine, although cannabis was also supplied by runners as a secondary drug as an independent side-line to generate extra income.

- 59.3 Chief Superintendent Bell, explained that the national response to this problem involved the police, the National Crime Agency, a wide range of government departments local government and the voluntary and community sector and the London Borough of Islington was leading a cross party call from lead members for children's services from 19 London boroughs for the Government to help protect vulnerable young people. Locally, there was no doubt that County lines was operating in the city as the Police and Council had closed down over 20 premises over the past two years using Closure Orders under the 2014 Anti-social Behaviour, Policing and Crime Act. Sussex Police sought to disrupt drug dealing on a regular basis as part of a comprehensive operation using specially trained officers from out of force to identify dealers. Such operations would continue as they were having an impact on drug supply, however, demand in the city meant that new drug dealers quickly took the place of those who had been arrested.
- 59.4 There were robust working practices in place in the city for dealing with premises which had been cuckooed, including gathering intelligence, executing drugs warrants and closing premises quickly using ASB Act powers when necessary to bring relief to neighbours, supporting vulnerable and displaced residents and taking direct action against the perpetrators. Where County lines existed there was significant impact on neighbours and the wider neighbourhood and in instances where this had happened as appropriate meetings had taken place to reassure communities and to take the opportunity to encourage reporting of incidents. Officers had met with the Metropolitan Police and the Home Office who were keen to establish the profile and extent of drugs use in the city. County lines operated in the city because there was a substantial demand for drugs and County lines evolved and adapted quickly to meet that demand. This work would be linked to the County Lines Action Plan being established by the Community Safety Partnership. It was acknowledged that the initial action plan would need to be sufficiently flexible to meet changing needs to address this issue.
- 59.5 This was a complex issue which was prevalent in metropolitan areas and was becoming increasingly commonplace in towns and cities across the country where there was sufficient drugs demand. Officers would continue to work with communities to build confidence in reporting issues and to make links elsewhere in the country with colleagues who were undertaking new work to tackle county lines and to bring that learning to bear locally where appropriate.
- 59.6 The Chair, Councillor Daniel welcomed the report, which she considered was very informative. It was distressing to note the levels of coercion and violence associated with this activity but heartening to note the degree of collaboration between the different agencies. The public health implications which existed on a number of levels were major and concerning and the necessity for a joined up approach by all agencies was key in combatting this problem. The picture being painted was a scary one but it was good to note that further joint working was envisioned going forward and that an Action Plan was in the process of being drawn up.
- 59.7 Joanna Martindale and Anusree Biswas Sassidharan commented on the on-going importance of learning from experiences gained and of linking in to local communities in seeking to address this problem.

59.8 Councillor West welcomed the information provided by the report although it made very depressing reading and sought clarification as to how it would link in with community safety. Councillor West also considered that it was important to ensure that Local Action Teams were kept informed of and involved in the process within their individual areas.

59.9 Councillor Penn expressed concern regarding the potentially high level demands that would be placed on services across the board bearing in mind that children and vulnerable people were targeted and the levels of coercion and violence involved.

59.10 Councillor Bewick referred to the fact that social housing seemed and those who were vulnerable such as young care leavers seemed to be particular focuses for this criminal activity. It was important to work not only with communities but also pro-actively with private sector landlords, other social landlords and with the council's own housing offices in order to deliver an adaptable and agile response to tackle this problem.

59.11 **RESOLVED** – (1) That the Committee notes the adoption of “Tackling County Lines” as a priority for the Community Safety Partnership and requests that the Community Safety Partnership reports back to Committee on action taken in six months; and

(2) That the Committee requests that officers of the council share this report with the Local Children’s Safeguarding Board and the Safeguarding Adults Board and to bring the Boards’ respective responses back to this committee.

60 INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS IN BRIGHTON AND HOVE A PART OF THE JOINT NEEDS STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT PROGRAMME

60.1 The Committee considered a report of the Executive Director, Neighbourhoods, Communities and Housing which provided a comprehensive analysis of the needs and assets of the city’s migrant populations which would be used to inform commissioning service planning and delivery across the city to improve outcomes and reduce inequalities.

60.2 It was explained that “International Migrants in Brighton & Hove” provided a comprehensive analysis of the needs of the city’s migrant populations and that it would be used to inform commissioning, service planning and delivery across the city to improve outcomes and reduce inequalities.

60.3 The Public Health Consultant, Alistair Hill, explained that the definition of migrant which had been used was that used by the United Nations, Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) that it applied “to any person who lives temporarily or permanently in a country where he or she was not born.” Generally those whose intention was to stay in the UK for at least twelve months had been included, whilst short term visitors, short term students or tourists had been excluded. The definition included those who had migrated voluntarily (for work or study, for example), and those who had been forced to migrate such a refugees, asylum seekers and those who were trafficked to the UK. The children of migrants had also been included within the scope of the report even if they had been born in the UK.

- 60.4 Anusree Biswas Sassidharan referred to presentation which had been given earlier in the meeting relating to the work of the International Women’s Network; stating that it was very important to link this work into that being undertaken by this organisation and others in order to utilise the skills and assets that already existed to greatest effect. By doing so this would also help to foster and improve community cohesion. It was confirmed that funding for “Building a Stronger Britain” had been secured from the Home Office and that more details about how and where that was to be spent across the city would be provided going forward through the year. In response Anusree stated that she welcomed the proposal to carry out a mapping exercise in order to link into and work in partnership with the third sector. Whilst recognising all of the good work that was taking place it was important to ensure that good practice was adopted as well as a joined up approach to funding and learning.
- 60.5 Councillor Bewick welcomed the report stating that the work undertaken served to illustrate how wonderfully diverse the city was. It was important to celebrate that and to champion their integration.
- 60.6 Councillor Penn concurred stating that it was also important to ensure that there was a streamlined approach to ensuring that the appropriate levels of support were available for children who on arrival in the city did not have English as their first language. It was important to know that not robust measures were in place and that potential barriers to that process were recognised as well. Often women could be more socially isolated, it was very important therefore to ensure that there was effective outreach into those communities.
- 60.7 Councillor West also welcomed the report, stating that the Committee had considered a number of inter-related considered that afternoon had been packed with information which was really informative and he hoped the strategies proposed would become engrained. He considered that social media had in important role to play as did civic roles, for instance that of the mayoralty. He referred to his own year as Mayor and how he had been able to link into various organisations and to raise awareness of an issue (for instance the needs of those with sensory impairments), considering that how that role could be utilised was worthy of greater exploration.
- 60.8 Chief Superintendent Bell welcomed the report stating that the Police had an interest in this area of work as they were aware that crimes against the migrant community remained under-reported an issue which the Police wanted to address.
- 60.9 The Chair, Councillor Daniel, thanked officers for their informative report and for the valuable contributions and suggestions made by the Committee.
- 60.10- **RESOLVED** – (1) That the Committee endorses the findings of the research and its recommendations;
- (2) That the Committee considers the implications of the research when undertaking future work; and
- (3) That Officers report back to the Committee on an annual basis regarding progress on implementing the recommendations.

Note: Councillors Miller and Peltzer Dunn were not present during consideration of the report referred to above.

61 ITEMS REFERRED FOR FULL COUNCIL

61.1 There were none. Although it was noted that the Green Group wished Item 56 “Neighbourhoods and Communities Portfolio – Proposed Field Officer Role – Business Case” to be forwarded for information.

62 VENUE FOR NEXT MEETING, MARCH 2018

62.1 It was noted that the next scheduled meeting of the Committee on 19 March 2018 would be held from 4.00pm in Brighton Central Jubilee Library, Jubilee Street, BN1 1GL.

The meeting concluded at 7.25pm

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of

Subject:	Progress update on British Sign Language (BSL) Charter	
Date of Meeting:	19th March 2018	
Report of:	Executive Director Neighbourhoods, Inclusion, Communities & Housing	
Contact Officer:		
	Name:	Emma McDermott
		Tel: 291577
	Email:	Emma.mcdermott@brighton-hove.gov.uk
Ward(s) affected:	All	

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND POLICY CONTEXT

- 1.1 Following feedback received during the 2016 Fairness Commission from Deaf and British Sign Language (BSL) User communities in the city, the Commission's recommendations included:

'To improve access and rights for Deaf people who use British Sign Language, the council should sign up to the British Deaf Association's (BDA) Charter for British Sign Language and implement the five pledges set out within it.'

- 1.2 Agreement to sign the BDA's British Sign Language (BSL) Charter was made at Neighbourhoods, Inclusion, Communities & Equalities Committee in March 2017. This report provides an update over the last twelve months.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That Committee note the progress that has taken place against the pledges contained within the BSL Charter during phase 1 of the project.
- 2.2 That committee approve the action plan (appendix 1) which has been drawn up from feedback received during phase 1 engagement with local D/deaf communities.
- 2.3 That committee instructs officers to bring a further progress report, on the delivery of the action plan.

3. CONTEXT/ BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 The BSL Charter is designed as a vehicle to remove direct and indirect discrimination, empower local D/deaf communities and resolve conflicts between service providers and D/deaf people.
- 3.2 The BDA's process to comply with the Charter has several phases:

- official and public acknowledgement by the council to sign the BSL Charter
- self-assessment of what the council is currently doing to provide services to the D/deaf community (appendix 2)
- building relationships with local D/deaf communities to establish sustainable engagement pathways to gather views and experiences; identify gaps in service provision; explore solutions; look creatively at resources and partnership working
- action planning to identify improvements to service delivery
- implementation of actions (phase 2)
- review (phase 3)

3.3 The BSL Charter comprises five pledges and although the council initially undertook to sign up to three of the pledges within the first stage of the project:

- i) Consult with the local D/deaf community on a regular basis
- ii) Promote learning and high quality teaching of BSL from suitably qualified teachers
- iii) Support Deaf Children and families

The remaining two pledges below have also been included in phase 1 engagement work and progress has been made in these areas:

- iv) Ensure access for D/deaf people to information and services
- v) Ensure staff working with D/deaf people can communicate effectively in BSL.

4. PROGRESS OVER THE LAST TWELVE MONTHS

4.1 Agreement to sign the BDA's BSL Charter was made at Neighbourhoods, Inclusion, Communities & Equalities Committee in March 2017 which was attended by D/deaf people.

4.2 The council officially signed the BSL Charter on 10th June 2017 at Hamilton Lodge School for Deaf Children during their community fete. Signatories were the Mayor, Cllr. Mo Marsh, Leader of the Council, Cllr. Warren Morgan, Mr Paul Redfern on behalf of the BDA and Miss Ayeshaa Denny, a student at Hamilton Lodge School, who signed on behalf of the D/deaf community.

4.3 The council's Communities Equality & Third Sector Team (CETS) and the CCG has jointly held two 'Working Together' engagement workshops with D/deaf representative groups, voluntary and community sector and service providers and commissioners from across the city. The focus of the workshops was on 'how the council and CCG can make sure people who are D/deaf have a good experience every time they use a service' and 'how can we work together to make this a reality'. The workshops have provided an excellent medium to build relationships, understand the barriers the community faces when trying to engage with the council and forge partnerships with providers to improve service delivery.

- 4.4 In October the CETS team also held a specific engagement event to look at the pledges within the BSL Charter, particularly focusing on learning and teaching of BSL and support for Deaf children and their families. The event was held at Hamilton Lodge School for Deaf Children and was hosted by DeafCOG, a local representative BSL user representative group. Approximately fifty people attended the event which also included parents of Deaf children, teachers and Deaf students.
- 4.5 At the engagement events we heard feedback that D/deaf people found it difficult to communicate with staff at the council's reception areas. In response the CETS team have organised to trial SignLiveⁱ in Bartholomew House Customer Service Centre for a period of six month starting in March 2018. Using the links made with D/deaf community, some individuals will 'mystery shop' the new provision.
- 4.6 To help improve communication in BSL for staff, the council's Workforce Development Team has commissioned basic BSL awareness courses. Fourteen members of staff attended the first one which took place in September/October 2017. The next course started in January/February 2018 has fifteen members of staff currently attending. Cllr. Warren Morgan will attend the basic BSL course starting in June 2018.
- 4.7 The council has developed an Accessible Information Guide for staff based on the Accessible Information Standard for Health and Adult Social Care Services. The guide was developed to improve our communications with service users and colleagues and defines a consistent approach to make sure people with a disability, impairment or sensory loss can access and understand the information they need. It includes suggestions to improve the way staff communicate face-to-face, on the phone and in writing, as well as advice on producing information in different formats such as large print, audio, easy read, translations or braille, or providing BSL interpreters and other communications support.
- 4.8 As a result of the engagement workshops – a Deaf Liaison Group, comprising local D/deaf representative groups, has been set up and held its first meeting on 5th February 2018 at which it was agreed to work collaboratively for the benefit of D/deaf communities in the city. The group will meet three times a year and at the first meeting it was agreed to take forward five specific projects:
- i. Social media mapping and management – to establish the best ways to communicate with the D/deaf community
 - ii. Complete place and contact map with individual contact details - this piece of work was originally started during the Deaf Engagement Workshops in 2017.
 - iii. Consultation on D/deaf individuals experience of NHS primary care services including GPs, referrals to hospital and pharmacies
 - iv. Consultation on D/deaf individuals needs for and access to advocacy
 - v. Mystery shopping during the six month trial of SignLive at Bartholomew House Customer Service Centre (see 4.5)
- 4.9 The council is carrying out an audit of all assistive hearing systems in their civic buildings to improve awareness, maintenance and general communication. BHCC Property & Design Team has recruited a technical officer who will carry

out an audit of hearing systems in the council's civic buildings, and be responsible for regular testing; identifying faults and suggesting alternatives to ensure civic buildings are fully accessible for D/deaf customers and colleagues. The council's Access Officer will also be publishing guidance outlining how to use portable loops, permanent induction loops, infra-red portable and permanent system etc.

- 4.10 As a result of feedback from the Hamilton Lodge School engagement event, the council's Sports Facilities Team has worked with our commissioned service provider, Freedom Leisure, to ensure that all city leisure centres and Mytime active golf courses have had either a counter hearing loop installed at reception or a portable loop is available. They have also booked Action for Hearing Loss to conduct Deaf Awareness training for sixteen Freedom Leisure staff in March 2018.
- 4.11 Revenues and Benefits are currently working with SURDI, a local D/deaf representative group, on a Digital Inclusion project to improve the digital service provided to D/deaf communities.
- 4.12 Next steps will be to move to phase 2; including agreement of the action plan and submitting this to the BDA for guidance; leading to delivery of the action plan.

5. ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 5.1 The recommendation for the council to sign up to the BSL Charter was one of the fifteen Fairness Commission recommendations prioritised by the cross party working group in late 2016 and agreed at NCE committee in November 2016. Therefore no other options were considered.

6. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & CONSULTATION

- 6.1 The council's Communities Equality & Third Sector Team (CETS) and the CCG has jointly held two 'Working Together' engagement workshops with D/deaf/BSL Users, representative groups, voluntary and community sector and service providers and commissioners from across the city. The focus of the workshops was on 'how the council and CCG can make sure people who are D/deaf have a good experience every time they use a service' and 'how can we work together to make this a reality'. The workshops have provided an excellent medium to build relationships, understand the barriers the community faces when trying to engage with the council and forge partnerships with providers to improve service delivery.
- 6.2 The setup of a Deaf Liaison Group will ensure D/deaf representation and feedback to the community as laid out in the terms of reference (appendix 3).

7. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 7.1 There are no immediate financial implications arising from this report. Any resource implications arising from the action plan, will be met from within existing budgets or referred to Policy, Resources & Growth Committee for approval. The

costs of liaising with the BDA, completing the self-assessment and developing the action plan have been met from within the resources of the Communities, Equalities and Third Sector (CETS) service.

Finance Officer Consulted: Michael Bentley:

Date: 07/02/18

Legal Implications:

- 7.2 Signing the BSL charter is a commitment to undertake a self-assessment with the support of the BDA and with a view to creating an action plan to ultimately achieve one or more of the 5 pledges. The report indicates that this work will be undertaken within existing officer resources.

Lawyer Consulted: Name: Elizabeth Culbert

Date: 280218

Equalities Implications:

- 7.3 The purpose of the report is to ensure the D/deaf and BSL Users community have an opportunity to be involved and engaged in council services/plans and that council services are not inadvertently or actively discriminating against these people.

Sustainability Implications:

- 7.4 Communities in which different groups of individuals face inequality and exclusion and/or where relations between groups are not good are unsustainable socially and economically and present both an immediate and long term financial, legal and reputational risk to the local authority.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 7.5 There are no crime & disorder implications.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

- 7.6 Signing the BSL Charter provides the council with the opportunity to challenge current practice and explore options for improving engagement and service provision for D/deaf and BSL Users.

Public Health Implications:

- 7.7 The Brighton & Hove Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) includes a section on sensory impairments that notes the needs of the community. Signing the BSL Charter will support the priorities cited within the JSNA, including improving accessibility for hearing impaired users of social and health care services and increasing awareness amongst public and universal services with regard to communication and accessibility.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

- 7.8 Signing the BSL Charter provides the council with the opportunity to show leadership and shared learning in improving engagement and service provision for D/deaf community in Brighton & Hove.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. 2018-19 Action Plan
2. Self- Assessment review of internal findings 31st March 2017 - March 2018
3. Terms of Reference Deaf Liaison Group

Documents in Members' Rooms

1. None

Background Documents

1. None

ⁱ SignLive is a deaf-owned organisation based in the UK providing online video interpreting services through its Video Relay Service (VRS) and Video Remote Interpreting (VRI). This allows Deaf people anywhere in the world to communicate with anyone, at any time, using an app which connects them to a qualified British Sign Language Interpreter.

Brighton and Hove Deaf Services Liaison Forum - Terms of Reference

The Deaf Services Liaison Forum brings together organisations who have a stake, expertise and interest in championing and working to increase equality for D/deaf communities in Brighton and Hove.

Background

The Forum has emerged from two workshops in 2017 involving D/deaf residents, voluntary sector organisations, Brighton and Hove City Council and Brighton and Hove Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) exploring how working together they can improve services to D/Deaf residents in the city. The workshops resulted in a range of recommended actions one of which was for an ongoing forum for service providers working with and for D/deaf residents to meet with the council and the CCG.

What is the purpose of the Brighton and Hove Deaf Services Liaison Forum?

- To work collaboratively towards improving services for D/deaf people in the city
- To bring together a range of perspectives including feedback from D/deaf residents to inform service development and changes and provide an 'expert' panel where changes can be 'tested'
- To participate in start-finish task groups where possible and appropriate
- To agree a set of annual projects for forum members to carry out and oversee
- To provide an ambassadorial function, taking key messages out to D/deaf residents and other stakeholders

How will the group operate?

Brighton and Hove City Council and Clinical Commissioning Group will share secretariat and administrative support to the forum. This will include convening three meetings a year with a minimum of 4 weeks' notice of date, time and venue. A record of meeting contents will be produced and circulated to the group within 3 weeks of meeting.

The Forum will be facilitated by the council and the CCG.

Member organisations will nominate a member of staff to represent their organisation at meetings. Where possible, if the primary representative can't attend, another member of staff will attend.

Members will respect and co-operative with each other and keep all information shared in forum meetings confidential unless otherwise declared.

The forum is a collaborative structure with no formal decision making power.

You said... (Feedback from D/deaf community engagement)	We will..... (BHCC Actions)	When
Pledge 1 - Consult formally and informally with the local Deaf community on a regular basis		
Deaf people should have the right to be consulted on services or changes to services that affect them. Deaf people who use BSL are able to have input into consultations either separately or alongside other forums and user groups, thus enabling the Deaf community to be a resource that can be used to improve the design of services for Deaf people and the wider community. Organisations that have a contractual obligation to provide public services should ensure that this is included as part of their business activity.		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure future consultations planned include direct engagement with the local Deaf community where relevant, or actions taken to ensure Deaf community can be involved in engagement events by providing information in a format that is accessible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BHCC Communities, Equality and Third Sector (CETS) Team to provide guidance and advice to BHCC services in engaging with Deaf community – ongoing activity CETS team to influence teams to engage with Deaf community when carrying out EIA and through equality groups such as Directorate Equality Groups (DEGs) and corporate Equality Steering Group CETS to create a Deaf Services Liaison Group to collaborate with on engaging with D/deaf residents Anticipated engagements/consultations planned for 2018: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revenues & Benefits – Deaf User Group for new digital forms Active for Life/Healthy Lifestyles Team – to understand the sports needs in the city for Deaf Users Digital Team – Deaf User Group for testing pages on council’s new website ASC – advocacy needs of D/deaf people Mystery shopping of new SignLive facility at Bartholomew House (see pledge 4) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> February 2018
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure lessons are learned, capturing feedback and taking action as a result 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CETS to capture feedback on D/deaf people’s experience of engagement via the Deaf Services Liaison Forum to inform their advice and guidance to other BHCC services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> February onwards
Pledge 2 – Ensure access for Deaf people to information and services		
Deaf people face many barriers when trying to access information or services, either through lack of awareness or language barriers. Many Deaf people are often unable to access written information.		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement the Accessible Standards across the council – using simple language not technical words 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ASC to develop Accessible Information Guidance for staff based on Accessible Information Standard for Health & Adult Social Care and promote this to staff on the Wave and through DEGs and Directorate Management Teams. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed November

23

You said... (Feedback from D/deaf community engagement)	We will..... (BHCC Actions)	When
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer of translation to BSL or option of video to explain leaflets 		2017
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make the website fully accessible with live chat facility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digital First to explore instant messaging/live chat option 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2018 as part of developing new website
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve understanding of interpreting and clarify whose responsibility it is to organise BSL interpreters 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CETS to include awareness raising of whose responsibility it is to organise BSL interpreters. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New council buildings and improvements to old ones, need to ensure good acoustics are specified and taken into account to improve acoustic qualities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BHCC Property and Design Team has recruited a technical officer who will carry out an audit of hearing systems in the council's civic buildings, and be responsible for regular testing; identifying faults and suggesting alternatives to ensure civic buildings are fully accessible for D/deaf customers and colleagues. The council's Access Officer will also be publishing guidance outlining how to use portable loops, permanent induction loops, infra-red portable and permanent system etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 months
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not all D/deaf people want interpreting but would rather communicate with a deaf professional in specific fields 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HR support all services to review their job description and person specification when recruiting to a new/vacant post including reflection for need of specific skills including BSL sign language. However there are currently few job roles that require specific BSL language. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consistency across contracts in terms of expectations for providing services to D/deaf people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As part of equality impact assessment carried out by all services when considering service changes and/or new policy/strategies the needs of D/deaf individuals are considered • Equality requirements are built into all commissioning contracts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing

Pledge 3 - Support Deaf children and families

Services that work with children and young people recognise the importance of being able to access information and support on a par with their hearing peers. Some services will be able to provide a bilingual/bicultural approach enabling full access for all children and young people meeting the aims of the Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) reforms.

<p>You said... (Feedback from D/deaf community engagement)</p>	<p>We will..... (BHCC Actions)</p>	<p>When</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support Workers need appropriate level of BSL skills to work with Deaf YP • Head Teachers, teachers and staff supporting Deaf YP need Deaf awareness training i.e. keeping eye contact, appropriate noise levels, giving time, physical contact • Teaching assistants using online resources and teaching skills – need to make sure D/deaf students understand what is required. • Schools need to ensure the right technology is available to link hearing aid/implant for Deaf oral children • Deaf parents need qualified BSL interpreters booked for parents evenings at schools and longer time given for the meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Families Children & Learning Directorate to produce guidance for schools with recommendation for Deaf Awareness Training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunities for hearing and Deaf young people to attend activities to help learn social skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deaf Services Liaison Forum to explore opportunities for developing a young person 'our space' similar to the all-ages Our Space meetings organised by DeafCOG 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May 2018
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raise awareness with council staff and help change culture by supporting the annual Deaf Awareness Week 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As part of internal equality communication campaign, Communications and CETS to include information about Deaf Awareness Week 15th – 21st May 2018 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May 2018
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set up a Deaf parent peer group to support Deaf parents whilst their child is going through education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BHCC SEN team to increase number of parents participating in their Parents Carers Council Group 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2018
<p>Pledge 4 - Ensure staff working with Deaf people can communicate effectively using British Sign Language</p> <p>Staff providing frontline services can feel confident in being able to communicate with Deaf people and respond appropriately. Members of staff at all customer service points will have basic BSL skills and know how to call upon other staff with higher level skills or BSL/English interpreters using remote access where available. Specialist workers with Deaf people should aim for their own skills to be extensive enough to enable them to deliver a high level service to a wide range of Deaf people without needing BSL/English interpreters in non-complex situations.</p>		

You said... (Feedback from D/deaf community engagement)	We will..... (BHCC Actions)	When
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide Staff training to – – increase awareness of Deaf culture and issues – increase confidence in communicating with Deaf people – Raising awareness and signposting to specific services – provide front line staff with basic BSL awareness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The council’s Workforce Development Team is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ commissioning provision of deaf awareness training particularly for front line staff ○ including specific Deaf and BSL User care studies within e-learning and workshop training modules ○ promoting BSL Basic Awareness courses for reception/security staff • The Museum Service is increasing its number of basic BSL trained staff including front of house staff at Brighton Museum • CETS are trialling SignLive (BSL interpreting video relay service) for 6 months March-September 2018 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Throughout 2018
<p>Pledge 5 - Promote learning and high quality teaching of British Sign Language</p> <p>The organisation recognises that it is essential to support the local infrastructure of teaching and assessment of BSL. It tackles this in conjunction with local economic development agencies and funding bodies. This is to ensure that anyone who wants to learn BSL, whether they are parents/guardians of deaf children, young people, local authority or public service employees, can do so. Everyone learning BSL should receive excellent quality teaching in BSL.</p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific actions other than those described under pledge 4 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CETS to continue to explore what other Local Authorities are doing to meet this pledge 	2018

British Deaf Association – British Sign Language Charter

Brighton & Hove City Council Self-Assessment (updated February 2018)

BSL Charter commitments	Results from BHCC Review
<p>Pledge 1 - Consult formally and informally with the local Deaf community on a regular basis</p>	
<p>Deaf people who use BSL are able to have input into consultations either separately or alongside other forums and user groups, thus enabling the Deaf community to be a resource that can be used to improve the design of services for Deaf people and the wider community. Organisations that have a contractual obligation to provide public services should ensure that this is included as part of their business activity.</p>	
<p><i>Benefits</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to services has better focus and it reduces the likelihood of poor access for Deaf people which often leads to wastage of resources • Deaf people are more involved in any decision-making processes, with knock-on benefits such as improvements in access to services for Deaf people • In turn, Deaf people are empowered by improved access to services, freeing them to contribute more to the local community 	
<p>Consulting with local Deaf communities on a regular basis to ensure that services are responsive to local needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In October 2017 the Communities, Equality & Third Sector Team held an engagement event at Hamilton Lodge School for Deaf children specifically to ask for views and experiences using council services and particularly those for Deaf young people and their parents relating to the BSL Charter. There was a good turnout of approx. 50 people, a fifth of whom were young people. • Generally our consultation events tend to be across a range of protected characteristic groups in the community and voluntary sector rather than a specific group. There have been occasions when the views of Deaf people have been sought specifically, although these have not necessarily included BSL Users. • Hamilton Lodge School holds an annual survey for parents/carers – the results of which are examined and action taken by school governments as appropriate. • Some examples of general consultations include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Adult Social Care – August 2016 Review of needs assessment for adults with physical and sensory disabilities to see if there were any particular issues/themes arising for people with sensory needs or if they had the same top presenting issues of finance/benefits and housing. Possability People (Get Involved Group) carried out the survey. Some of the respondents were Deaf or had hearing impairments. – Library Services – detailed service review and needs analysis in 2015 carried out via interviews and exit surveys with library users; Lapsed Borrower survey; focus groups and interviews; Systems Thinking research involving open conversations; Equal Access Services involving interviews with people in residential homes and sheltered

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Brighton & Hove City Council Self-Assessment (updated February 2018)

BSL Charter commitments	Results from BHCC Review
	<p>housing; feedback from service users such as Home Delivery recipients, participants in activities and events; feedback from project partners.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Housing – Star Survey – this is a perception based survey of tenants which provides social housing landlords with the means to compare satisfaction results with each other. No specific consultation with Deaf and BSL users – however, a sample of 3,000 tenants was taken from the council’s tenant database and this highlighted where there was a disability so it would have covered a broad range including, for example, physical disability, mental health, visual and hearing impairments. We received 829 responses of which 59% indicated that they had a disability (includes tenants and household members). – Education - SEN Team sends out bi-annual questionnaires to families of all pre-school children on their caseload to receive feedback. They also hold termly Children’s Hearing Services Working Group meetings which include Health and two parent reps.
<p>28 Supporting Deaf people and their representatives so that they can engage fully in the consultation process.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2013 the Communities Equality & Third Sector Team commissioned disability engagement work as part of their first Communities & Third Sector Prospectus. Critical to this work was the role of DeafCOG and other Deaf representative groups to develop a more effective understanding of how the council and voluntary sector could begin to work with deaf people. • In the Communities & Third Sector Prospectus monitoring return (April – September 2016) DeafCOG reported sustained and improved engagement and communication with the Deaf and BSL Users community; stronger relationship building with Action Deafness, and improved and raised profile of Deaf and BSL users at various meetings held with local organisations. • Other disability engagement hubs taking place across the city under the Prospectus include working with LGBT HIP, who have been providing support to LGBT disabled people to enable ongoing engagement and consultation leading to co-production. This engagement activity has had some key results in terms of building links between groups supporting LGBT people and as a result of this five people have attended No Holds Barred and are now part of the organising committee, which offers a variety of activities, such as sign language, yoga and circus skills to people from marginalised groups including LGBTQ and disabled people. • During 2017 members of the Communities Equality & Third Sector Team met with various Deaf representatives to build relationships and seek advice on the way forward to engagement with the wider Deaf community including meetings with DeafCOG, Surdi, Action on Hearing Loss and Action for Deafness.

British Deaf Association – British Sign Language Charter

Brighton & Hove City Council Self-Assessment (updated February 2018)

BSL Charter commitments	Results from BHCC Review
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Also during 2017 the Communities Equality & Third Sector Team held two engagement workshops with Deaf people, representative groups, voluntary & community sector and service providers and commissioners to explore a framework for engaging with D/deaf people and BSL Users, 31 people attended. Sessions at the workshop included the questions - What makes good services good/bad?; What improvements could be made?; How can we make sure people who are D/deaf have a good experience every time they use a service?; How can we ensure D/deaf people are involved so we can work together to make this a reality?. These workshops have led onto the establishment of the Deaf Services Liaison Forum and future engagement events/activities. • On 10th June 2017 the council signed the BSL Charter at Hamilton Lodge School for Deaf Students during their summer fete. The Leader of the Council, Cllr. Warren Morgan, pledged to take a BSL course during the year.
<p>Pledge 2 - Ensure access for Deaf people to information and services</p> <p>Deaf people face many barriers when trying to access information or services, either through lack of awareness or language barriers. Many Deaf people are often unable to access written information. Information linked to their health in England under NHS England is covered by the Accessible Information Standard.</p> <p>Objective: The organisation recognises and values all its customers, including those who use BSL. It aims for its Deaf customers to have the same quality of provision, information, standards and right to be informed as others in the wider community. Services should ensure that all contracts involving provision of information or services have clauses stipulating equality of access including access through BSL.</p> <p>Benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Services are accessible to a wider section of the local community, including those lacking good English • Customer care is improved with stress on staff and customers reduced • Deaf people can access services independently • Effective communication between the service and Deaf BSL users is maximised • Services become compliant with the Equality Act 2010 and SCC11605 	
Ensuring staff receive BSL Awareness/Deaf	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our Workforce Development Team commissioned two courses in October 2017 and January 2018 for staff to learn basic skills in BSL. There is also a Level 1 accredited course proposed – subject to funding.

British Deaf Association – British Sign Language Charter

Brighton & Hove City Council Self-Assessment (updated February 2018)

BSL Charter commitments	Results from BHCC Review
Equality training, including information about how to communicate with Deaf people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our Workforce Development Team has provided this training in the past and consideration of any future training opportunities would be subject to availability of budget and demand. • Our corporate training encompasses all protected characteristics including disabled people but is not specific to any one impairment or condition.
Using qualified and registered BSL/English interpreters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The council uses qualified and registered BSL interpreters. The council's Communication Team uses the council's Intranet to provide information to staff on interpreting, translation and hearing impairment services (Appendix 2) http://wave.brighton-hove.gov.uk/supportingyou/communications/TranslationsInterpreting/Pages/default.aspx.
Adapting public information to be more BSL accessible, for example on DVD or websites, and using technology such as SMS messaging ¹ , textphones ² , faxes and ideophones ³ /webcams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The council's website does not currently conform to Level AA of the <u>Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0</u>, and is currently undergoing modernisation to improve access to information and services through self-serve forms (2 year timescale). • Signposting on the council's website to information to support people with hearing loss to aid communication, mobility and access to information - including specialist information, support, advice, equipment and adaptations, needs assessments, contact details for Access Point and local support groups and useful websites. http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/content/social-care/health-and-wellbeing/support-people-hearing-loss • BHCC used BSL signed DVDs to convey key public messages e.g. the Fairness Commission⁴ and webcams for public council meetings. • BSL translation videos were commissioned for the Neighbourhoods, Communities & Equality Committee on 13th March 2017, and to promote the "Working Together" workshop in June 2017 and BSL Charter signing at Hamilton Lodge School on 10th June 2017.

¹ SMS = Short Message Service and is also commonly referred to as a "text message". With a SMS, you can send a message of up to 160 characters to another device. Longer messages will automatically be split up into several parts. Most mobile phones support this type of text messaging

² Textphones can be used to communicate if you are unable to hear on an amplified telephone. You can either type or speak your part of the call and receive text back that you can read on the textphone's screen.

³ Ideophones are marked words that depict sensory imagery - they are found abundantly in Asian and African languages, as well as in some Amerindian languages. As a class of words, they are relatively rare in Indo-European languages

⁴ Interpretation, editing and producing approx. £750 – provider was DeafCOG

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Brighton & Hove City Council Self-Assessment (updated February 2018)

BSL Charter commitments	Results from BHCC Review
<p>Ensuring all public information is accessible to Deaf and BSL Users</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BSL Interpreters are booked for events where it is anticipated Deaf people will attend, otherwise they are booked on request. Before attending interviews, training, conferences etc. all people are asked if they have any access needs. • Corporate training available for all staff – Accessible Information Course – which includes how to communicate more clearly; ensuring written information is accessible and producing accessible materials with a focus on people with learning disabilities; disabilities/impairments and sensory loss • This is a sample of what is currently available in civic buildings and across the council directorates (there is an audit due in 2018): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Brighton Town Hall Switchboard/Reception – hearing loop installed at reception; TypeTalk operated assisted telephone service; how to communicate with Deaf customers guidance for staff. – Bartholomew House Customer Services – portable hearing loops on request; SignLive trial starting March 2018. Currently reception staff communicate with Deaf customers via the PCs in the Customer Service Centre by typing questions and then moving the screen and keyboard between the officer and the customer – alternatively using pen and paper. – Hove Town Hall – hearing loop – Council chambers have hearing loops/webcam provided at committee meetings. BSL signers are booked on request for school admission appeals. – Leisure Centres – some fitted with hearing loops. There is a hearing loop proposed for the new Aquarium station at Volks Railway. – Brighton Centre – the venue has achieved Gold Status with the Attitude is Everything Charter, which covers the whole process a Deaf or Disabled customer will make from seeing the show announced/advertised, through buying a ticket, getting to and around the venue, watching the show, and then leaving; this has involved: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Making the website accessible and including a comprehensive access statement which is also available in easy read format ▪ Changing the process of buying tickets for Deaf and Disabled customers, including introducing an address book system where customers can register their specific details for three years to speed up their buying process and no longer capping the amount of free Personal Assistant tickets offered on a performance ▪ Where there are long running shows of five performances of the same event in one week, working with the promoter to include assisted performances including BSL interpreted, Captioned and Audio Described.

British Deaf Association – British Sign Language Charter

Brighton & Hove City Council Self-Assessment (updated February 2018)

BSL Charter commitments	Results from BHCC Review
32	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Providing staff with a video showing basic sign language to assist customers – this has been produced with Amaze (community & voluntary sector group). ▪ Induction loops at all “spoken word” areas i.e. box office, wristband exchange, information desk, security desk, merchandise stand, bars. ▪ Contracts have been rewritten with promoters to include a statement that ‘should a customer get in touch and request an accessible facility put in place within a reasonable timeframe’ the Centre would do it with their support (e.g. needing a BSL interpreter) ▪ Providing Disability Awareness training to all staff at the venue, including casual stewards, show control, bar staff etc. (150+ people) ▪ In addition all public telephone staff (Box Office and Information Desk) are trained in and accept calls from customers using Type Talk, and hearing loops are made available in the main auditorium for all shows – Registrars - BSL trained Registration Officer who is able to register births, deaths and officiate at marriages using basic skills. Hearing loops installed in Regency and Fitzherbert ceremony rooms. – Adult Social Care: a number of services are commissioned all of which are listed on My Life Brighton & Hove - an easy to use online directory listing local and national organisations and services to support everyday living including providing support and information for Deaf and BSL Users. All of the services have BSL trained staff: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Action on Hearing Loss – provide community support to people in their own homes. They also provide social groups but these are not funded by the council. ▪ Sussex Deaf Association – provide community support to people in their own homes. They also provide advice and a range of equipment but this is not funded by the council. ▪ About Me Care & Support – provide community and specialist assessment to Deaf people and Deaf/Blind people (recently withdrawn in the Brighton & Hove area due to not being able to recruit into support worker post). ▪ Under section 250 of the Health & Social Care Act 2012 the Accessible Information Standard aims to be included in all 0commissioned services contracting processes. – Housing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Housing has an account with Action on Hearing Loss to provide specific services to meet individual needs ▪ Portable hearing loops are available in local housing offices and at the Housing Centre ▪ Provision of a portable hearing loop for resident meetings

British Deaf Association – British Sign Language Charter

Brighton & Hove City Council Self-Assessment (updated February 2018)

BSL Charter commitments	Results from BHCC Review
33	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Liaising with Dimensions, specialist supported housing for profoundly deaf adults with additional needs. – Library Services – a number of services are provided: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Monthly BSL signed Storytime for under 5s and their parents/carers at Jubilee and Hove Libraries ▪ Tactile Bag Book sets available to loan for disabled children or adults ▪ Space in libraries available for community groups to meet – Brighton Deaf Café meets at Jubilee Library on alternate Tuesdays ▪ Titles to support Deaf people and their families and titles for learning BSL and Makaton purchased and available for loan ▪ Hearing loops in all libraries ▪ Library staff who deliver Baby Boogie and Storytime have had Makaton training and use some Makaton signs during these sessions (some Deaf children/adults use Makaton instead of BSL if they have additional needs e.g. learning difficulties) – Life Services (Funerals): Co-ordinated by private funeral directors - the council provide equipment and space including hearing loops installed in the chapels. – Parking Services: 1 member of staff has training in BSL, another is due to be trained – Revenues & Benefits: Minicom – Welfare Rights – 8 different Welfare Rights training courses and bespoke training are offered by the team – there is no cost to community and voluntary groups and BSL interpreters are provided on request. – Royal Pavilion & Museum Services: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Access Advisory Group (includes Deaf and BSL Users) meets every 3 months (since 2011) originally to assist in the development of the World Stories Gallery, but continuing in the role for other consultation and feedback projects including the development of the audio and BSL guides and ‘A Night at the Deaf Museum’ event. ▪ Website access information ‘Planning your visit’ has full information on making visits fully accessible. Full access statements can also be downloaded from the website. ▪ Basic BSL is currently being learnt by 2 museum curators – Active for Life/Healthy Lifestyles: On request, Action Deafness interpreters are used for clients with hearing loss in order to access service. Active for Life report that Deaf people do take part in services including Healthwalks.

British Deaf Association – British Sign Language Charter

Brighton & Hove City Council Self-Assessment (updated February 2018)

BSL Charter commitments	Results from BHCC Review
Ensuring buildings are accessible with clear signage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All new or altered council buildings requiring building approval, comply with 'Access to and use of Approved Doc M to the building regulations and good practice guidance'. The council's visual identity guidelines are designed as a practical tool containing the rules council services should follow when producing communication materials and signage and approved by RNIB. The guidelines are in place to make it easier for residents to recognise and understand what we do and how to access our services.
Ensuring staff receive BSL Awareness/Deaf Equality training, including information about how to communicate with Deaf people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Our Workforce Development Team commissioned two courses in October 2017 and January 2018 for staff to learn basic skills in BSL - so far this training has been available for 30 members of staff. There is also a Level 1 accredited course proposed – subject to funding. No specific Deaf Awareness training is currently carried out corporately or through Adult Social Care/Education commissioned services or through eLearning. However, our corporate Workforce Development Team have provided this training in the past and consideration of any future training opportunities would be subject to availability of budget and demand. Our corporate training encompasses all protected characteristics including Disabled people but is not specific to any one impairment or condition.
Using qualified and registered BSL/English interpreters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The council uses qualified and registered BSL interpreters. The council's Communication Team uses the council's Intranet to provide information to staff on interpreting, translation and hearing impairment services (Appendix 2) http://wave.brighton-hove.gov.uk/supportingyou/communications/TranslationsInterpreting/Pages/default.aspx.
<p>Pledge 3 - Support Deaf children and families</p> <p>Deaf children and their families require good communication from when the diagnosis of deafness is made and throughout their formative years. The BDA believes that the majority of Deaf children will realise their potential through a bilingual/bicultural approach to learning using both BSL and English. 40% of Deaf children and young people have additional needs requiring intensive communication support. Organisations that provide information or services need to be mindful that they should not exclude children who are difficult to reach. In particular, services that have a responsibility for safeguarding issues must meet legal requirements.</p> <p>Objective: Services that work with children and young people recognise the importance of Deaf children and young people being able to access information</p>	

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Brighton & Hove City Council Self-Assessment (updated February 2018)

BSL Charter commitments	Results from BHCC Review
<p>and support on a par with their hearing peers. Some services will be able to provide a bilingual/bicultural approach enabling full access for all children and young people meeting the aims of the Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) reforms.</p> <p>Benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deaf children and young people have choices in how they can communicate and contribute to their local communities The family life of deaf children is enhanced by the improved communication between the child and their parents/carers and siblings More Deaf children and young people will achieve academically on a par with their hearing peers leading to more Deaf young people progressing to further and higher education and accessing job opportunities Services such as police, health and social services will be able to deal with safeguarding issues by offering access for deaf children who need support or want to report issues 	
CS Providing opportunities for parents/guardian to learn BSL with their children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The council's SEN specialist teachers and Family Support Worker provide 6-8 week training in BSL to parents, siblings and grandparents as part of the National Deaf Children's Society Sign Language curriculum.
Ensuring teachers, teaching assistants, communication support workers and other staff working closely with Deaf children have, or are working towards, advanced BSL signing skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The council's Educational Psychology and Learning Support Services provides specialist advice and support where needed, especially in the areas of autism, hearing impairment and visual impairment. Bevendean School has a specialised hearing support facility for moderate to profoundly deaf children who may also have significant language delay or other educational needs. Many profoundly deaf children from an early age are able to have cochlear implants which allow them to enter mainstream schools with age appropriate levels of speech and language, but some families may choose to use BSL in the pre-school years. Pre-school children's families are offered BSL support and children will have access to Makaton at nursery.
Providing opportunities for Deaf children to meet with Deaf peers and role models	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The SEN Team Family Support Worker is a Deaf role model for the mainstream children. Bevendean School and Balfour Primary both have a Deaf teaching assistant. The team also promote National Deaf Children's Society (NDCS) activities which give children opportunities to meet other deaf children and run the 'springboard' and 'time out' events for deaf children across the city.

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BSL Charter commitments	Results from BHCC Review
Ensuring Deaf young people are offered the opportunity to improve and accredit their BSL Learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The SEN Team will support BSL supported and statemented students who wish to accredit their BSL learning but this is offered on a one to one basis as required. For example, our Family Support Worker is supporting a student from Cardinal Newman School to progress in BSL and also providing one to one support for child/family i.e. teaching a child's peers BSL at Hertford School
Raising awareness of BSL and Deaf culture within children's services and education	<p>Our specialist SEN teachers and Family Support Worker also provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Signed library stories to children/parents in Jubilee and Hove libraries monthly Springboard for pre-schoolers to encourage them in BSL at Blatchington Court Trust Time Out for key stage 2, 3 and 4 once every half term at various venues, e.g. pizza making at Pizza Express Coffee morning every half term at Dottie's café (run by Deaf people) with families who have done the NDCS Family Sign Language course to continue support BSL classes weekly for staff at Bevendean Hearing Support Facility BSL taught to families in their homes
Ensuring parents who are Deaf are fully involved in our strategies for improving parenting skills down	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The council's Integrated Team for Families and Parenting Services have parenting DVDs for deaf parents produced by a charity for deaf people. They have used Triple P with a family where they had a signing interpreter who was filmed so that the family could then refer to the parenting information on their own. Triple P also has a DVD that is subtitled in their training programme. BSL signers would be provided if requested to allow access to other courses. The SEN team hold termly Children's Hearing Services Working Group meetings which include Health and two parent reps.
<p>Pledge 4 Ensure staff working with Deaf people can communicate effectively using British Sign Language All staff working in public services or local authorities that interact with the public should be able to communicate with all sections of the local community including Deaf people.</p> <p>Objective: Staff providing frontline services can feel confident in being able to communicate with Deaf people and respond appropriately. Members of staff at all customer service points will have basic BSL skills and know how to call upon other staff with higher level skills or BSL/English interpreters using remote access such as Skype, FaceTime or VRS where available. Specialist workers with Deaf people should aim for their own skills to be extensive enough to enable them to deliver a high level service to a wide range of Deaf people without needing BSL/English interpreters in non-</p>	

British Deaf Association – British Sign Language Charter

Brighton & Hove City Council Self-Assessment (updated February 2018)

BSL Charter commitments	Results from BHCC Review
<p>complex situations.</p> <p>Benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is good customer care • There is a reduced need for BSL/English interpreters in specialist services for Deaf people • Quality staff development for Deaf and hearing staff members contributes to good customer care 	
<p>Identifying relevant posts where BSL skills are needed</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are only a small number of posts within the council where it is an essential requirement for the postholder to have BSL skills e.g. SEN posts detailed above. In most cases, services rely on a few individual members of staff who have received BSL training since joining the council to enable Deaf people to access services.
<p>Ensuring staff that have daily or involved contact with Deaf people have, or are working towards, advanced BSL signing skills</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our Workforce Development Team has commissioned two courses in October 2017 and January 2018 for staff to learn basic skills in BSL - so far this training has been available for 30 members of staff. There is also a Level 1 accredited course proposed – subject to funding. • The following departments report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Housing – Trained BSL signers have now left the department and this resource is now accessed via Action on Hearing Loss. – Adult Social Care – 1 social worker in the Assessment Team uses BSL and carries out assessments with Deaf and BSL Users – Libraries - There are currently four members of library staff who had BSL training in 2014. However, due to lack of opportunity to use these skills they have lapsed, other than using for a simple greeting. Another member of staff has studied BSL up to Level 2 and can cope with basic conversation, but would like more practice. – Revenues & Benefits – 1 x Benefits Officer (Deaf and BSL User) can assist users who call in to the office and require a signer. – Royal Pavilion & Museums – 2 currently being trained – proposal to train 12 front of house staff in Basic BSL in 2017 – Active for Life/Healthy Lifestyles Service –1 BSL speaker – Brighton Centre – 1 member of staff is a Basic BSL speaker and approx. 7 members of staff have had very basic supportive training (and access to a training video described on page 4)
<p>Providing opportunities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are currently no opportunities in house to retain and develop BSL skills other than contact with other BSL User

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Brighton & Hove City Council Self-Assessment (updated February 2018)

BSL Charter commitments	Results from BHCC Review
for staff to retain and develop their BSL skills	customers and staff
Recruiting Deaf staff and ensuring their professional development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The council is not legally able to advertise specifically for Deaf people to carry out job roles unless a Genuine Occupational Requirement applies. However, the council is committed to recruiting disabled staff, including those who are Deaf or hard of hearing, at all levels of the organisation. To facilitate this, the council is committed to making any reasonable adjustments a Deaf person may need during the recruitment and selection process and, if appointed, to enable them to perform their job effectively. In addition, disabled applicants are guaranteed an interview where they meet the minimum essential criteria for the role for which they are applying. The council was accredited with the ‘two ticks’ disability symbol which has now been replaced with the Disability Confident Scheme. The council is currently at Level 2 and will be required to submit a self-assessment under Disability Confident in 2018. https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/564822/disability-confident-employer-pack-level-2.pdf.

Pledge 5 - Promote learning and high quality teaching of British Sign Language

There is a need for more BSL courses in order that more people have the opportunity to learn BSL.

Objective:

The organisation recognises that it is essential to support the local infrastructure of teaching and assessment of BSL. It tackles this in conjunction with local economic development agencies and funding bodies. This is to ensure that anyone who wants to learn BSL, whether they are parents/guardians of deaf children, young people, local authority or public service employees, can do so. Everyone learning BSL should receive excellent quality teaching in BSL.

Benefits:

- There are more BSL courses on offer leading to a range of opportunities for people wishing to learn BSL.
- More people using BSL leads to greater opportunities for Deaf people to be integrated within the wider community and have improved

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Brighton & Hove City Council Self-Assessment (updated February 2018)

BSL Charter commitments	Results from BHCC Review
<p>access to public services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family members/guardians/carers of Deaf children and young people have an opportunity to learn BSL which will improve bonding and communication with their own deaf children and young people 	
<p>Ensuring that we employ BSL teachers who are native/fluent in BSL and actively engaged with the Deaf community with a comprehensive knowledge of Deaf culture. They should possess relevant qualifications, have undertaken recognised teacher training and are committed to their own Continuing Professional Development (CPD).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Sensory Educational Needs (SEN) Team within Brighton & Hove’s Inclusion Support Services (BHISS) supports approx. 250 deaf children from 0 – 19 with varying degrees of impairment from mild to profound, most of whom are in mainstream provision. The SEN specialist teachers and Family Support Worker are either native/fluent in BSL or have BSL Level 1. They work with caseload children, parents and families of Deaf children in the city’s mainstream schools and pre-school settings. All families are offered BSL with a child at pre-school age. Hamilton Lodge, an independent special school in Brighton, specialises in educating and caring for pupils who are Deaf or hearing impaired and provides a continuum of provision. The school have trained teachers of the Deaf, Speech and Language Therapists and BSL tutors with qualifications ranging up to BSL NVQ Level 6 who deliver BSL courses for Level 1, 2 and 3, as well as holding the Assessor’s qualification to assess candidates up to BSL Level 3 standard. The school aims for students to achieve up to Level 3 in BSL and this gives them a qualification equivalent to GCSE, using “Signature”, a national body accredited by the Office of Qualifications and Examination Regulations (Ofqual).

Subject:	Oxford Court Public Space Protection Order Consultation Summary		
Date of Meeting:	19th March 2018		
Report of:	Executive Director Neighbourhoods Communities and Housing		
Contact Officer:	Name:	Simon Bannister	Tel: 01273 293925
	Email:	Simon.bannister@brighton-hove.gov.uk	
Ward(s) affected:	St Peters & North Laine		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE/

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND POLICY CONTEXT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to feedback to committee on the statutory consultation which was carried out regarding the proposed Oxford Court Public Space Protection Order, and to recommend action based upon this.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the committee grant the proposed Oxford Court Public Space Protection Order (See appendix 1)

3. CONTEXT/ BACKGROUND INFORMATION

3.1 Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO's) and access restriction.

Using powers within the Anti-social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014 (ASBCPA), a council can grant a Public Space Protection Order as a response to crime and antisocial behaviour. PSPOs are intended to be used to deal with a particular nuisance or problem in an area that is detrimental to the local community's quality of life by imposing conditions on the use of that area. PSPO's can restrict access to public spaces (including certain types of highway) where that route is being used to commit anti-social behaviour.

- 3.3** A council can make a PSPO after consultation with the Police, the Police and Crime Commissioner, and other relevant bodies and communities. The following criteria must be met in relation to the behaviour being restricted:

- be having a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality;
- be persistent or continuous;
- be unreasonable.
- justifies the restrictions imposed.

The maximum duration of a PSPO is three years. At any point before expiry, the council can extend a PSPO by up to three years if they consider that it is necessary to prevent the original behaviour from occurring or recurring

3.4 Following the decision at the Neighbourhoods Inclusion and Equalities Committee meeting of November 2017, a statutory consultation for a Public Space Protection Order which would have the effect of restricting access to the Oxford Court alleyway took place:

- The draft order (see appendix 1) was placed on the council website and promoted using BHCC social media channels
- Copies of the draft order were displayed in the alleyway and in Oxford Court carpark
- A paper copy of the draft order was posted to addresses adjoining and close to the Oxford Court carpark
- A draft order with background information was placed on the London Road Local Action Team website and was discussed at two meetings of the LAT
- The proposed order received media attention with an item on Brighton & Hove News
- Sussex Police, the Police & Crime Commissioner (PCC), and BHCC offices – Parking Strategy, Community Safety, and Highways were invited to comment on this proposal

The consultation ran for a thirty day period from 11th December 2017 to 10th January 2018.

3.5 Consultation Responses - community:

During the consultation period, no responses were received from the public. Because those directly affected – occupants of nearby properties – had already provided supportive testimony as part of the pre consultation, it is likely that they felt no need to respond further. No views in opposition to the proposal were received. The consultation process was felt to be suitably rigorous as described above, and this outcome supports the conclusion that this proposal to restrict access as described in the draft order is not seen as locally problematic.

3.6 Consultation responses – statutory agencies

Sussex Police: “From a police perspective we will support this”

Police & Crime Commissioner: A request has been sent to the Sussex PCC for comment, however no response has been received as yet.

Ward Councillors: Ward councillors were informed of the consultation and invited to comment. Although no formal response was received, Cllr West has been involved in the development of this scheme and proposes to support the scheme if agreed, using his ward member budget allocation.

BHCC Community Safety: The implementation of the PSPO as outlined in this report is likely to lead to a reduction in ASB and an increase in safety and perceptions of safety for people in the vicinity.

BHCC Parking strategy: Concerned that if alleyway is gated this may push the ASB and drug dealing into other parts of the car park. “We may have to look at the lighting in there to see if it’s sufficient and include the car park with our mobile security team checks”.

3.7 Oxford Court draft PSPO proposal

The proposal which has been developed, is for closure of the alleyway 24/7 by placing a gate at its junction with Oxford Street and a second gate at the point of entry into the carpark, to the rear of 25 Oxford Street, with access restricted to

all, with the exception of those whose properties adjoin the alleyway for the purpose of accessing their properties.

- 3.8** In meeting the statutory tests, evidence from residents' testimony and the community safety survey, as well as comment from Sussex Police indicates that the problems experienced by the community are having a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality, are persistent or continuous, and unreasonable.
- 3.9** In terms of the impact of the proposed restriction on the broader community, this measure would restrict access to and from the carpark at this location, meaning that all carpark users would be required to use the main entrance. The proposed restriction would add approximately 30 metres to a pedestrian journey from Ditchling Road. Because the alleyway does not offer step free access into the carpark, it is not felt that the proposed restriction would have undue impact on people with disabilities.

4. ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 4.1** Alternative interventions – aside from access restriction – have been considered, but, because of the nature of the activities taking place, and the role that the alleyway has in this, no other approach has been identified which would resolve matters effectively. In recent years attempts have been made to improve the alleyway as a useful route, by clearing planting and other obstructions and painting out graffiti, but this has not impacted upon the issues of current concern. Of the reported activities, street fouling, drug use and drug dealing are all offences at present, with existing enforcement tools to address them, which suggests that additional enforcement powers would not be helpful in this situation, however restricting access to the alleyway would offer protection for residents and traders, and may make existing enforcement tools more effective as removing the alleyway as an escape route from the carpark may assist local policing, and impact on the levels of crime and antisocial behaviour taking place in and around the carpark.

5. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & CONSULTATION

- 5.1** This proposal has been in development since early 2017, and residents in the immediate vicinity, as well as those in the wider community have been involved in this via the Local Action Team and through the community safety survey. The statutory consultation, described above, has provided further opportunity to comment on and shape the final scheme.
- 5.2** For this proposal to go ahead – if granted by committee – the local community will be responsible for funding the gates permitted by this order and taking responsibility for management and upkeep, and this arrangement is outlined in the Oxford Court PSPO Community Agreement (see appendix 2).

6. CONCLUSION

- 6.1** Significant reported incidences of crime and antisocial behaviour taking place in the Oxford Street/Oxford Court area have been linked to the alleyway – either as

an access route or a venue. The nature of activities reported are detrimental to public safety and impact upon those using the carpark or local shops on Oxford Street, and this impact is such that it is felt to justify the restricts imposed by this proposed order.

7. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

7.1 Financial Implications:

The council has no identified resources to deliver an intervention of this nature, but will work with the community to help develop and implement a project. For this project, the council – led by the Communities, Equalities and Third Sector Team – will carry out the work to secure a PSPO, and – if a PSPO is granted – the community will be responsible for funding the cost of purchasing and installing gates and the maintenance and upkeep of gates and locks.

To date £1,000 has been pledged to the scheme from Cllr West, making use of the ward member budget. A further £1,000 will be required to implement the scheme, and local residents and traders have indicated that they will jointly fund this.

To support this proposal, the Oxford Court PSPO Community Agreement has been developed – see appendix 2

Finance Officer Consulted: Name Michael Bentley Date: 07/02/18

7.2 Legal Implications

A PSPO may be used to restrict the public right of way over a highway in order to prevent anti-social behaviour and may authorise the installation, operation and maintenance of barriers for enforcing the restriction.

The alleyway linking Oxford Street and Oxford Court car park does not fall within the category of highway over which the public right of way may not be restricted under ASBCPA.

PSPOs are intended to cut down on consultation requirements by only requiring local authorities to comply with “light touch” consultation requirements in order to save costs. The consultation recommended referred to in this report fulfils the requirements of the ASBCPA.

The impact of the restriction has been considered as detailed in this report.

Lawyer Consulted: Stephanie Stammers Date: 07/02/18

7.1 Equalities Implications:

The impact of this proposal will be to restrict access along the alleyway which leads to the Oxford Court carpark, and as a part of this process we are obliged to consider the impact of this restriction on the population generally and upon those with a disability which is identified as a protected characteristic under the terms of the Equality Act 2010. At present the alleyway which is to be restricted is not a fully accessible route as it is at a lower level than the carpark surface and requires negotiation of a step to enter the carpark. The alternative route is along Oxford Street and into the main carpark entrance – a distance of approximately 30 metres – which is along a step free pavement and into a level carpark. Because the route which will be restricted is currently fully accessible, it is not felt that the proposed restriction will have a significant impact upon carpark users, and feedback during the statutory consultation has not raised this as an issue.

Sustainability Implications:

- 7.2 This proposal has been developed following concerns raised by small businesses based on Oxford Street, concerned that the level of criminal and antisocial behaviour taking place within and around the alleyway was having a significant impact upon the trading environment. This proposal will contribute to community safety and support the development of a sustainable trading environment for independent traders on Oxford Street. The operation of the scheme will be carried out by local traders/residents bordering the alleyway and the outcome of this, including the funding arrangements, aims at maximising community ownership and ongoing community management increasing longer term operational sustainability.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Oxford Court Public Space Protection Order 2018 DRAFT
2. Oxford Court PSPO Community Agreement

Documents in Members' Rooms

None

Background Documents

None

DRAFT ORDER

BRIGHTON AND HOVE CITY COUNCIL (Oxford Court) PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER 2018

Brighton & Hove City Council in exercise of its powers under Section 59, 64 and 72 of the Antisocial Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 ("the Act") hereby makes the following Order:-

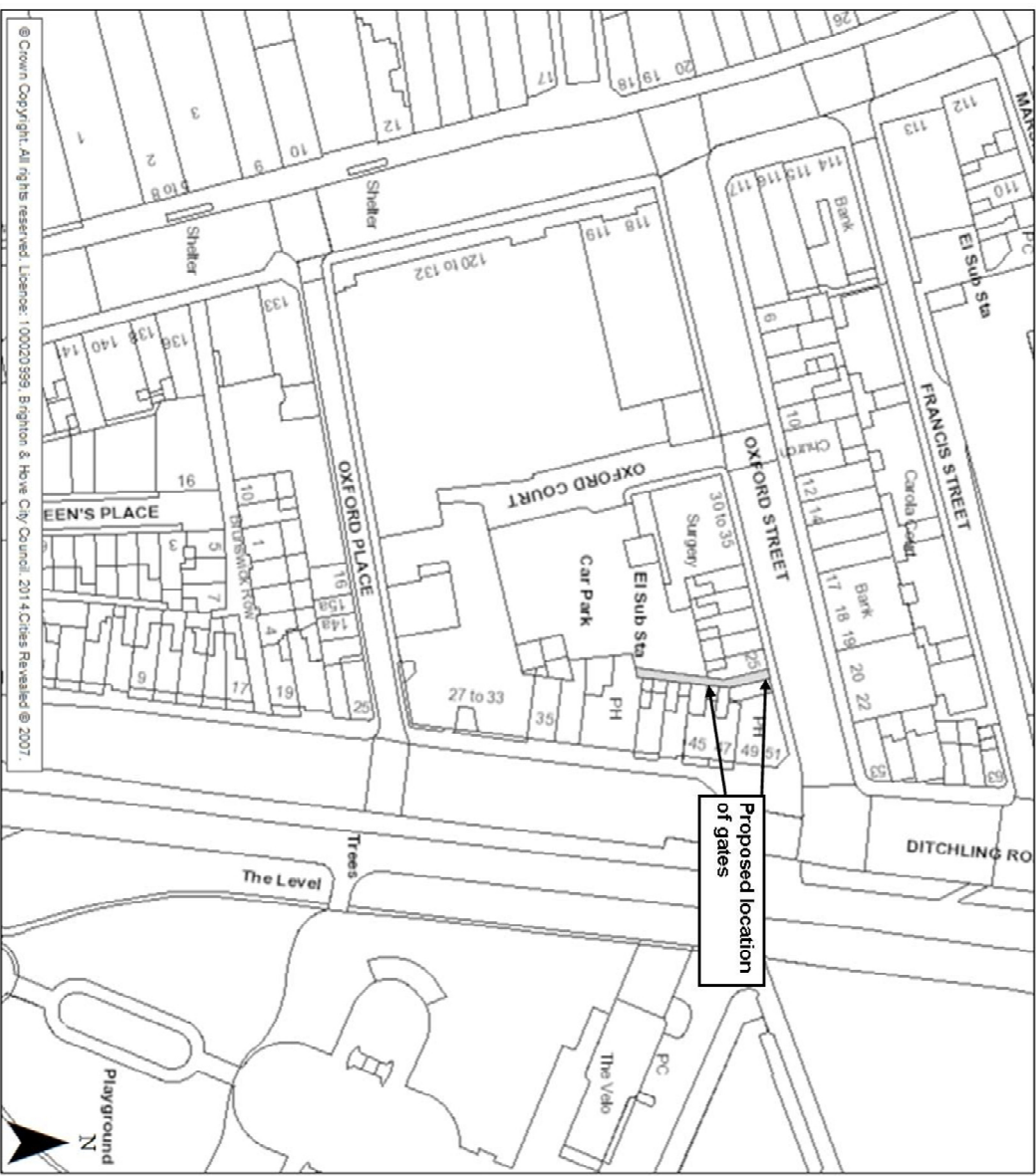
1. This Order shall come into operation on on xxxxxxxxxxxx and shall have effect for a period of 3 years thereafter, unless extended by further orders under the Council's statutory powers.
2. This Order relates to the footpath linking Oxford Street with Oxford Court Carpark as shown on the attached Plan
3. The effect of this Order is to restrict the public right of way over the highway shown on the attached plan at all times except for owners or occupiers of property adjoining the highway affected by this order needing to access the property.

This Order authorises the installation lockable gates at either end of the affected highway, as shown on the attached plan

4. The alternative route for pedestrians will be along Oxford Street
5. Responsibility for the maintenance of the gates will lie with the residents and will be jointly managed by the Council and residents and will be governed by a joint management agreement which will be put in place before this order is enacted.
6. The Council is satisfied that the conditions set out in Sections 59, 64 and 72 of the Act have been satisfied and that it is in all the circumstances expedient to make this Order for the purposes of reducing crime and antisocial behaviour in and around the affected area. The Council makes the Order because criminal and antisocial behaviour in and around the affected area has had a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality. The effect or likely effect of this is of a persistent or continuing nature such as to make this unreasonable, and justifies the restrictions imposed by this Order.
8. If any interested person desires to question the validity of this Order on the grounds that the Council had no power to make it or that any requirement of the Act has not been complied with in relation to this Order, he or she may apply to the High Court within six weeks from the date on which this Order is made.

Legend

- Footpath Highways



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Scale 1:1,000

THIS AGREEMENT is made the day of Two thousand and
eighteen **BETWEEN** (*insert names of community representatives*) (hereinafter
together called “the Community”) of the one part and **BRIGHTON & HOVE
CITY COUNCIL** of Hove Town Hall, Norton Road, BN3 3BQ acting by the
officer who has signed this document (hereinafter called “the Council”) of the other
part

WHEREAS

(1) The Council is the highway authority for Brighton and Hove for the purposes
of the Highways Act 1980 (“the 1980 Act”) and is empowered to make a public
space protection order pursuant to Section 59, 64 and 72 of the Antisocial
Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 restricting access into Oxford Court alley
for the purposes of reducing crime or anti-social behaviour

(2) The Council has resolved to make the Oxford Court Public Space Protection
Order (PSPO) 2018 permitting the erection of gates at both entry points to the
Oxford Court alley subject to the provision and day to day operation of the gates
being procured, installed and operated by interested residents

(3) The Community have agreed to finance and operate the Gates in accordance
with the provisions hereinafter appearing

WITNESSETH

I. **THE** Community hereby jointly and severally agree as follows:

- (i) To work in close partnership with the council to install the
Gates and thereafter to maintain the same to the satisfaction
of the Council

- (ii) To maintain and replace when necessary combination padlocks on both gates
- iii) To ensure that the area between the gates remains free of litter and debris, liaising with BHCC City Clean where necessary
- iv) To ensure that BHCC Highways, Cityclean and out of hours service are informed of any change to the combination code or access arrangements
- (iv) To remove the Gates within 14 days of the termination of this Agreement pursuant to paragraph 3. below

2. **IT IS HEREBY AGREED AND DECLARED** that all costs associated with this Agreement (and which for the avoidance of doubt include the installation maintenance and removal of the Gate) shall be borne by the Community jointly and severally

3. THE Council reserves the right to terminate this Agreement should there be any default by the Residents in the terms of the same or should the Council be satisfied that the restriction imposed by the Public Space Protection Order is no longer expedient in all the circumstances for the purpose of reducing crime or anti-social behaviour

4. Nothing contained or implied in this Agreement shall prejudice or affect the rights discretions powers duties and obligations of the Council under all statutes by-laws statutory instruments orders and regulations or other enabling power in the exercise of its function as the highway authority for Brighton & Hove.

SIGNED by the said

SIGNED by the said

SIGNED by the said

SIGNED BY

For and on behalf of Brighton & Hove City Council

DATED _____ **2013**

- and -

Brighton & Hove City Council

AGREEMENT

To erect and maintain gates at the Oxford Court alley
Brighton

Abraham Ghebre-Ghiorghis
Head of Law
Brighton and Hove City Council
Hove Town Hall
Hove BN3 3BQ

Subject:	St James Court Public Space Protection Order		
Date of Meeting:	19th March 2018		
Report of:	Executive Director Neighbourhoods Communities and Housing		
Contact Officer:	Name:	Matthew Easteal	Tel: 01273 292152
	Email:	matt.easteal@brighton-hove.gov.uk	
Ward(s) affected:	Queens Park		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE/

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND POLICY CONTEXT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to describe concerns around criminal and antisocial behaviour taking place in and around the alleyway at the southern end of George Street Brighton, and to consider the value of a Public Space Protection Order authorising a gating scheme partially closing the alley to general access as a remedy to these concerns. (For site plan see appendix 1) and seek approval for the statutory public consultation required to deliver a Public Space Protection Order.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the committee approve a statutory public consultation on the draft St James Court Public Space Protection Order (See appendix 1)

3. CONTEXT/ BACKGROUND INFORMATION

3.1 Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO's) and access restriction

Restricting access to public alleyways as a response to crime and antisocial behaviour has previously been delivered using powers under the Clean Neighbourhoods & Environment Act 2004, however following the introduction of the Anti-social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014 (ASBCPA), these powers have fallen under the scope of Public Space Protection Orders, and all existing gating schemes transitioned to PSPO's in October 2017.

- 3.2 PSPOs are intended to be used to deal with a particular nuisance or problem in an area that is detrimental to the local community's quality of life by imposing conditions on the use of that area. PSPOs can restrict access to public spaces (including certain types of highway) where that route is being used to commit anti-social behaviour, but not where it forms the principal means of access to residential premises.

- 3.3 Councils can make a PSPO after consultation with the Police and Crime Commissioner, the police and other relevant bodies and communities. The

following criteria must be met in relation to the behaviour being addressed by the order:

The behaviour must

- be having a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality;
- be persistent or continuous;
- be unreasonable;
- Justify the restrictions imposed.

3.4 Where a PSPO is used to restrict a public right of way, the council must consider a number of things.

- Can they restrict access? A number of rights of way may not be restricted due to their strategic value.
- What impact will the restriction have? For instance, is it a primary means of access between two places and is there a reasonably convenient alternative route?
- Are there any alternatives? Previously gating was the only option, but it may be possible under a PSPO to restrict the activities causing the anti-social behaviour rather than access in its totality.

There are also further consultation requirements where access is to be restricted to a public right of way. This includes notifying potentially affected persons of the possible restrictions. This could include people who regularly use the right of way in their day to day travel as well as those who live nearby. Interested persons should be informed about how they can view a copy of the proposed order, and be given details of how they can make representations and by when. The council should then consider these representations.

3.5 Issues and concerns around St James Court

At the St James Community Action Group AGM meeting of March 2017, people living and/or working around St James Court attended and raised issues of crime and antisocial behaviour taking place in the area, and particularly around the Southern most entrance outside residential properties. The issues people raised included reported drug dealing and public drug use, persons publicly injecting and overdosing, street fouling, disorderly and intimidating behaviour.

3.6 Over July and August 2017 further meetings were held with Ward Councillor Adrian Morris, residents and traders in St James Street and George Street to consider the issues. The clear view of those living or working in the area was that significant problems were caused by the presence of the alleyway.

In particular:

- The alleyway, being an established and regular venue for drug misuse with needles and drug paraphernalia regularly present.
- As a location with no natural public surveillance it provides a sheltered and hidden place which attracts antisocial behaviour and crime.

- Used by injecting drug users it has been necessary for residents to call emergency services to deal with overdoses which would be unnoticed from the street.
- The alleyway was reported as a venue for regular and persistent street fouling.
- Residents and traders met at that time felt strongly that the alleyway should be closed.

3.7 In July, the Communities Team carried out a community safety survey which was directed toward all residential and business properties bordering the alleyway. The survey was also placed on the St James Community Action Group website. Responses received via the website, post and collected by a local business. All respondents who commented were in favour of restricting access to the alleyway.

Comments included:

People gather who don't live here and I can never open my back gate – the alley is sometimes full of excrement and I often see people urinating – its really horrible and a gate will help.
People take drugs here and deal – a gate would make it less attractive as there wouldn't be an escape route at both ends. People urinate through my letter box.
It's not a through route and only used by people who don't live here for bad reasons.
I often find syringes, broken bottles, puddles of urine and worse outside my home.
Restricting the alley would be a deterrent for people using it as a public urinal, and should limit the access to drug dealers and users. I would definitely feel safer coming home at night and it would encourage owners to make the place nicer.

3.8 In developing this proposal, the following offices have been contacted for comment:

- Sussex Police
- BHCC Highways
- BHCC Parking Services
- Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner
- BHCC Community Safety Team

3.9 St James Court draft PSPO proposal

The proposal which has been developed, and for which consent is sought to consult, is for partial closure of the alleyway by placing a lockable gate at its southern most entrance, with access restricted to all, with the exception of those whose properties adjoin the alleyway for the purpose of accessing their properties. It would not be lawful to gate at both ends, as the alley is designated public highway and forms the principal means of access to residential homes. The rationale behind placing the gate at the southern end is that by restricting access at this southern entrance it will block an “escape route” and therefore make the area less attractive for anti social activity.

3.10 In meeting the statutory tests, evidence from residents' testimony and the community safety survey, as well as comment from Sussex Police indicates that the problems experienced by the community are having a disproportionate and detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality, and are persistent, continuous, and unreasonable.

3.11 In terms of the impact of the proposed restriction on the broader community, this measure would close access to the alley from the southern access point location. The proposed restriction would add approximately 20 metres to a pedestrian journey to premises in the alley. The proposed restriction would not have undue impact on people with disabilities and a full Equalities Impact Assessment will be carried out as part of the development of this order should permission to consult be approved..

3.8 The local ward councillors have contributed £800 toward the cost of the gate from their Ward Member Budget. Residents have successfully raised additional funds including a donation from a local business (Purezza St James Street) to finance the purchase and installation of the gate. Residents have further agreed to sign a community agreement for maintenance and repair which commits the residents and nearby businesses to cover expenditure to maintain the gate for the lifetime of this order should this application be approved.

4. ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

4.1 Alternative interventions – aside from access restriction – have been considered, but, because of the nature of the activities taking place, and the role that the alleyway has in this, no other approach has been identified which has successfully resolved matters effectively on a sustained basis. In recent years more regular and directed police patrols of the alleyway have taken place but this has not impacted upon the issues of current concern. Of the reported activities, street fouling, drug use and drug dealing are all offences at present, with existing enforcement tools to address them, which suggests that additional enforcement powers would not be helpful in this situation. However, restricting access to the alleyway would offer protection for residents and traders, and may make existing enforcement tools more effective as removing the alleyway as an escape route from the may assist local policing, and impact on the levels of crime and antisocial behaviour taking place in and around the alleyway.

5. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & CONSULTATION

5.1 The local community, via the Local Action Team and through the community safety survey have been informed and engaged in developing this proposal, and other agencies including the police, ward councillors and council officers have been consulted.

5.2 If consent is given to proceed with a statutory consultation on this proposal, the draft order shall be displayed on site, delivered to those closest properties, placed on the council website and placed on the St James Community Action

Group website. Additionally a formal response shall be sought from Sussex Police and the Police & Crime Commissioner, and the results of the full consultation process shall be returned to this committee for consideration before making a final decision on a PSPO for this location.

6. CONCLUSION

- 6.1 The nature of activities reported are detrimental to public safety and impact upon those living and operating businesses in the area, and this impact is such that it is felt to justify the access restrictions imposed by this proposed order.

7. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

7.1 Financial Implications:

The council has no identified resources to deliver an intervention of this nature, but work with the community to help develop and implement this project with the St James Community Action group has led to the resources being donated from a local business. For this project, the council – led by the Communities, Equalities and Third Sector Team – will carry out the work to secure a PSPO, and – if a PSPO is granted – the community will be responsible for raising the funding including the cost of purchasing and installing gates and the maintenance and upkeep of gates and locks.

Working in partnership with the community to fund this initiative follows the approach used successfully for the Farman Street Gating Order (pspo) in 2013.

Finance Officer Consulted: Name Michael Bentley

Date: 07/02/18

7.2 Legal Implications

A PSPO may be used to restrict the public right of way over a highway in order to prevent anti-social behaviour and may authorise the installation, operation and maintenance of barriers for enforcing the restriction.

However under the ASBCPA a PSPO may not restrict a public right of way over a highway for occupiers of premises adjoining or adjacent to the highway or where it is the only or principal means of access to a dwelling. The installation of a gate at the southern end of the alleyway at this location will not restrict the public right of way for occupiers of premises but will be a means of trying to reduce anti-social behaviour.

PSPOs are intended to cut down on consultation requirements by only requiring local authorities to comply with “light touch” consultation requirements in order to save costs. The consultation recommended in this report fulfils the requirements of the ASBCPA.

PSPOs are intended to cut down on consultation requirements by only requiring local authorities to comply with “light touch” consultation requirements in order to save costs. The consultation recommended in this report fulfils the requirements of the ASBCPA.

The impact of the restriction has been considered as detailed in this report.

Lawyer Consulted: Stephanie Stammers

Date: 2nd March 2018

Equalities Implications:

A full Equalities Impact Assessment will be carried out as part of the delivery process prior to installation of the gates should this application to consult be approved.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. St James Court Public Space Protection Order 2018 DRAFT

Documents in Members' Rooms

None

Background Documents

None

DRAFT ORDER

BRIGHTON AND HOVE CITY COUNCIL (St James Court) PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER 2018

Brighton & Hove City Council in exercise of its powers under Section 59, 64 and 72 of the Antisocial Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 ("the Act") hereby makes the following Order:-

1. This Order shall come into operation on on xxxxxxxxxxxx and shall have effect for a period of 3 years thereafter, unless extended by further orders under the Council's statutory powers.
2. This Order relates to the footpath linking Oxford Street with Oxford Court Carpark as shown on the attached Plan
3. The effect of this Order is to restrict the public right of way over the highway shown on the attached plan at all times except for owners or occupiers of property adjoining the highway affected by this order needing to access the property.

This Order authorises the installation lockable gates at the southern end of the affected highway, as shown on the attached plan

4. The alternative route for pedestrians will be along George Street
5. Responsibility for the maintenance of the gates will lie with the residents and will be jointly managed by the Council and residents and will be governed by a joint management agreement which will be put in place before this order is enacted.
6. The Council is satisfied that the conditions set out in Sections 59, 64 and 72 of the Act have been satisfied and that it is in all the circumstances expedient to make this Order for the purposes of reducing crime and antisocial behaviour in and around the affected area. The Council makes the Order because criminal and antisocial behaviour in and around the affected area has had a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality. The effect or likely effect of this is of a persistent or continuing nature such as to make this unreasonable, and justifies the restrictions imposed by this Order.
8. If any interested person desires to question the validity of this Order on the grounds that the Council had no power to make it or that any requirement of the Act has not been complied with in relation to this Order, he or she may apply to the High Court within six weeks from the date on which this Order is made.



Subject:	Review of Park and Open Spaces Public Spaces Protection Order		
Date of Meeting:	Monday 19th of March 2018		
Report of:	Executive Director Neighbourhoods, Communities and Housing		
Contact Officer:	Name:	Jo Player	Tel: 01273 292488
	Email:	jo.player@brighton-hove.gov.uk	
Ward(s) affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND POLICY CONTEXT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to consider the effectiveness of the Parks and Open Spaces Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) that was implemented in April 2017 under section 59 of the Anti-social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014.
- 1.2 The report documents the proactive approach taken by the council in monitoring the Parks and Open Spaces PSPO which is in place until January 2020.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the committee notes the review undertaken in relation to the impact and enforcement of the Parks and Open Spaces PSPO as set out in the report.

3. CONTEXT/ BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 PSPOs are intended to be used to deal with a particular nuisance or problem in an area that is detrimental to the local community's quality of life by imposing conditions on the use of that area that apply to everyone. They are designed to ensure people can use and enjoy public spaces safe from anti-social behaviour (ASB).
- 3.2 Analysis was undertaken of ASB in parks and open spaces where people were reporting that areas were blighted by anti-social behaviour. Consultation took place with people using those areas including residents, park users and those that might be impacted upon by the suggested prohibitions. This resulted in the Parks and Open Spaces PSPO being drawn up and agreed by Policy, Resources and Growth Committee in July 2016. The order came into effect in January 2017 and was implemented in April 2017.
- 3.3 The order covers the following areas where there was substantial evidence of ASB:

- Greenway (New England Quarter)
- Hollingbury Park
- Lawn Memorial Cemetery and adjacent land (Woodingdean)
- Preston Park
- Rottingdean Recreation Ground
- The seafront including the A259 from Black Rock to Hove Lagoon
- Sheepcote Valley and East Brighton Park
- St Helens Green
- Stanmer Park
- Surrenden Field
- Waterhall
- Wild Park

3.4 The PSPO includes the following prohibitions and positive requirements:

Prohibitions:

- Occupying any vehicle, caravan, tent or other structure
- Driving any vehicle on grass
- Littering or fly tipping
- Lighting or maintaining a fire
- Defecating or urinating

Positive requirements:

- Removing any vehicle, caravan, tent or other structure within 12 hours
- Disposing of items as directed
- Permitting a council, police or fire officer to extinguish a fire
- Providing name, address and date of birth when required to do so by a council or police officer

3.5 Breaching a PSPO is a criminal offence. A fixed penalty notice (£75) can be issued or a summons can be served. No fixed penalty notices have needed to be issued in Brighton & Hove to date. Many verbal warnings have been given and 123 warning letters were issued between April and September 2017. These have largely led to compliance with the order.

3.6 People staying in these locations at the time the order was implemented include Gypsies and Travellers who tend to use large caravans and towing vehicles, new travellers who use a variety of older large vehicles including caravans, people who sleep in tents rather than rough sleep in the open and in some instances people camping whilst visiting Brighton. In relation to the tent encampments, these include a broad range of people often with vulnerabilities.

3.7 The implementation of the order was delayed until April 2017 when the council had opened a transit site for Gypsies and Travellers to enable officers to encourage Gypsies and Travellers to move to that site from locations where they had set up in the city.

- 3.8 During 2017 the city saw an increasing number of people occupying tents rather than sleeping rough. In the majority of instances joint working between commissioned rough sleeping services, the council and the police have enabled these people to receive support and/or to move on from areas where ASB was being reported and, where possible in to accommodation or to be reconnected with support in areas outside of the city in instances where they have no local connection. The Tent Protocol (which can be found at Appendix 2) and good joint working has been key to this work.
- 3.9 There were concerns that there would be displacement created by the PSPO. The table below shows unauthorised encampments that were recorded by the council outside of the PSPO areas between April and September in 2016 and the same period in 2017 when the order was in place. These encampments were managed using existing powers available to the council and police.

Non PSPO encampments April to September inclusive

Location	Encampments 2016	Days of occupation 2016	Encampments 2017	Days of occupation 2017
Patcham Place	1	3	4	12
Coldean Woods	3	65	1	34
Victoria Rec Portslade	0	0	1	2
39 Acres	0	0	2	33
Racehill Allotments	1	47	1	34
Lynchett Close Car Park	1	13	1	20
Home Farm Road	0	0	1	3
Devil's Dyke Road	2	22	1	33
Carden School	0	0	1	2

- 3.10 In relation to the PSPO sites and unauthorised encampments, officers have carried out welfare checks and pointed out that there is a PSPO in place. Where people are in breach and have not moved on, warning letters have been issued. This has in the majority of cases, combined with the option of moving to the transit site where appropriate, enabled officers to move the unauthorised encampment where there are no presenting welfare issues.

- 3.11 The table below shows unauthorised encampments on PSPO areas and where warning letters were issued in relation to unauthorised encampments in PSPO areas by the council between April and September 2017.

PSPO encampments April to September inclusive

Location	Encampments 2016	Days of occupation 2016	Encampments 2017	Days of occupation 2017	Warning letters issued 2017
Wild Park	5	29	4	8	9
Waterhall	4	32	5	15	41
Stanmer Park	6	28	2	2	11
Preston Park	8	24	2	5	25
Hove Lawns	5	34	2	8	26
Madeira Drive	4	46	3	4	11

- 3.12 In relation to tent encampments, that are in the majority of cases occupied by rough sleepers, the council have used existing powers and commissioned support services to manage the issues presented. The Seafront Team and City Parks officers have used the existence of the PSPO as a means of persuading people to move on but based on proportionality and necessity no formal warning letters have been issued.
- 3.13 The PSPO in place in the city does not target rough sleepers but it is the case that the majority of tent dwellers are sleeping in tents as an alternative to sleeping in the open. The order only applies to selected areas in the city.
- 3.14 In December 2017 the Home Office issued revised guidance to accompany the Anti-social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014 and it included the following.

‘Public Spaces Protection Orders should not be used to target people based solely on the fact that someone is homeless or rough sleeping, as this in itself is unlikely to mean that such behaviour is having an unreasonably detrimental effect on the community’s quality of life which justifies the restrictions imposed. Councils may wish to consider whether the use of a Public Spaces Protection Order is the appropriate response. These orders should be used only to address

any specific behaviour that is causing a detrimental effect on the community's quality of life which is beyond the control of the person concerned. Councils should therefore consider carefully the nature of any potential Public Spaces Protection Order that may impact on homeless people and rough sleepers. It is recommended that any Order defines precisely the specific activity or behaviour that is having a detrimental impact on the community. Councils should also consider measures that tackle the root causes of the behaviour, such as the provision of public toilets.

The council should also consider consulting with national or local homeless charities when considering restrictions or requirements which may impact on homeless people and rough sleepers.'

- 3.15 Prohibitions in the order that cover the lighting of fires, defecating and urinating, driving on grass and littering and fly tipping have not been called upon by officers.
- 3.16 It should be noted that no fixed penalty notices have been issued and no offenders have been summoned to court to date. Officers are of the opinion though that the prohibitions, accompanied by warnings are working reasonably well as a deterrent. In some instances this is because although the order has been breached a better resolution has been found and it would not be proportionate or necessary to prosecute.
- 3.17 There have been several occasions when council officers have not been in a position to safely challenge breaches and take out a prosecution, either because officers were being threatened and were in an unsafe situation, or because although police were requested they were not in a position at that time to support officers. These decisions in relation to officer safety and enforcement are not exceptional. Other teams experience similar problems on some occasions.

4. ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 4.1 There are other provisions available to officers to manage ASB in parks and open spaces in relation to the prohibitions of the existing order. In relation to encampments these include powers under the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 and common law powers and Part 55 of the Civil Procedure Rules. Additionally there is a tent protocol in place where a notice is served prior to the removal of tents
- 4.2 There are also other provisions available for officers to manage other prohibitions including bylaws and other criminal and civil remedies.
- 4.3 The order enables officers to use a more direct approach to manage ASB in parks and open spaces if they believe it is appropriate and proportionate. Although no prosecutions have been pursued in many instances officers have found the order useful in managing ASB and setting the tone. Areas where the order is in force are supported with signage which may also discourage ASB.
- 4.4 There are no findings in the review that prevent the order continuing until it's expiration in January 2020.

5. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & CONSULTATION

5.1 There was extensive consultation undertaken prior to the introduction of the order. The outcome of consultation through the Council Portal can be found at Appendix 1.

5.2 Feedback since the order has been in place has been positive. Local Action Teams (LATs) and park users have been canvassed. LAT responses have endorsed the order, some LATs would like to order extended to other areas. Brighton Rugby Club based at Waterhall said:

‘the order has been revolutionary for us, there have been no instances of ASB since the order was in place and we have not changed any security measures to effect this. We can provide a community sport without damages, intimidation, and rubbish clear ups. We have found the whole experience much improved’.

Friends Families and Travellers, an organisation supporting Gypsies and Travellers, have written to the council to ask them to consider withdrawing the order in light of the revised guidance from the Home Office.

6. CONCLUSION

6.1 The order has, as part of a range of options, added and strengthened responses to ASB in parks and open spaces. There is no direct evidence of displacement.

7. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

7.1 There are no immediate financial implications in relation to this report if the recommendations are accepted.

Finance Officer Consulted: Monica Brooks

Date: 1/03/18

Legal Implications:

7.2 The updated Home office Guidance issued in December 2017 is statutory guidance to which the Local Authority must have regard. As set out in the body of the report, the Parks and Open Spaces PSPO (The Order) complies with the updated Home Office Guidance because the Order is targeted at specific behaviour in specific locations which is having a detrimental impact on the community. The Order does not target people based on the fact they are homeless or rough sleeping. Each case is treated on its facts and the process is designed to be proportionate in its operation. Built into the operation of the Order is a ‘grace period’ which allows breaches to be rectified in a reasonable period of time.

Lawyer Consulted: Simon Court

Date: 09/02/18

Equalities Implications:

7.3 In relation to groups protected by the Equality Act 2010 there is an impact on Gypsies and Travellers because they are likely to be frequently affected by the

PSPO prohibitions if they are in one of the twelve locations. However there is a Transit and Permanent site in the city that is available.

- 7.4 In relation to people that are using tents and are homeless a broad range of support services are available to them to help them off the streets some of which are commissioned or directly delivered by the council.
- 7.5 Discretion in relation to the enforcement of the order is exercised by officers. The council and commissioned services will continue to assess the welfare needs of those that are breaching the order.
- 7.6 The order is only one of a number of options available to address anti-social behaviour and is considered alongside other remedies such as injunctions, bylaws, criminal prosecutions the tent protocol and powers under the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 to deal with encampments.
- 7.7 The council's approach to social inclusion identifies poverty as an important factor in disadvantage and that therefore all work relating to the order has assessed the impact on people living in poverty (here specifically people sleeping rough) and responds appropriately to this need. The council has also taken note of the revised guidance from the Home Office in relation to the Anti-social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act. No negative impacts relating to poverty have been identified.

Crime and Disorder Implications:

- 7.8 The order is only one of a number of options available to address anti-social behaviour and is considered alongside other remedies such as injunctions, bylaws, criminal prosecutions the tent protocol and powers under the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 to deal with encampments.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. PSPO Consultation Report
2. Tent Protocol

Consultation Report:

PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDERS (PSPOs) in City Parks and Open Spaces, 2016

Contact

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1. Introduction and purpose

Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs) are intended to deal with a particular nuisance or problem in an area that is detrimental to the local community's quality of life by imposing conditions on the use of that area that apply to everyone. They are designed to ensure people can use and enjoy public spaces safe from anti-social behaviour. The council is proposing to use PSPOs to deal with issues in parks and open spaces that are detrimental to the quality of life of people using those areas or living nearby.

The council was seeking to know;

- Which parks and open spaces were used most frequently
- If in the past 12 months people had witnessed any incidences of anti-social behaviour in a park or open space
- If people agreed or disagreed with the idea of PSPOs
- Of the behaviours that the PSPO will be used to manage which the council should prioritise

2. Methodology

A consultation document and on-line self-completion questionnaire were devised to inform and give an opportunity to comment on the proposals.

The questionnaire was available on the city's online Consultation Portal between 25 January 2016 and 27 April 2016 with the link distributed via the usual council channels with specific emphasis on social media linking through to the council webpages. Hard copies were also available if requested.

As a self-selecting questionnaire it is not possible to determine if the responses to the survey are representative of all residents in the city.

As part of the questionnaire, respondents were asked;

- If they were responding to the consultation as either a local resident, visitor or as a representative of a local community or voluntary organisation (CVS), local business or other stakeholder group
- To complete the council's standard equalities monitoring form
- For their postcode

3. Response and respondents profile

In total 1,109 responses were received including responses from;

- 977 local residents
- 66 visitors to the city
- 31 local community & voluntary sector (CVS) representatives
- 21 local business, stakeholder or partnership representatives
- 47 'other' responses

Notes:

- (i) Respondents are not mutually exclusive to one group.
- (ii) Seven responses were removed due to racist language/response.

Relatively high numbers of respondents (15 to 24 per cent depending on the question) did not complete the equalities and demographic questions. Therefore it is not possible to compare the respondents profile with that of the city as whole.

Nearly two out of five respondents are regular users of Preston Park (42 per cent, 420 people) and Stanmer Park (40 per cent, 393 people) a quarter of respondents are regular users of open spaces along the seafront (25 per cent, 252 people) and more than one in ten use Wild Park (15 per cent, 149 people) and Rottingdean Recreation Ground (11 per cent, 108 people).

A full equalities and demographic profile can be found in section 5 of this report.

4. Results and findings

The responses to the consultation have been analysed by the following groups;

- Local residents
- Visitors to the city
- Local business, CVS, stakeholders and partnership representatives
- 'Other' respondents
- All usual equality groups

Responses from local residents and visitors to all closed questions have been analysed by the following demographics and equalities groups;

- Age
- Carers
- Connection to the Armed Forces
- Gender
- Ethnicity
- Health problem and disability
- Religion or belief
- Sexual orientation

Note: Due to the relatively high numbers of respondents that did not provide complete equalities and demographic responses, combined with the small number of responses from some equalities groups, makes equalities and demographic analysis difficult. Therefore care needs to be taken when interpreting the results.

4.1 Experience of anti-social behaviour in parks

Respondents were asked if in the last 12 months, they had experienced an incident in a park or open space which they regard as anti-social.

- More than nine out of ten responded to this question (93 per cent, 1,026 people)
- More than a quarter of those responding (29 per cent, 298 people) said that they had not experienced an incident within a park/open space in the last twelve months that they considered anti-social.
- The most common incidents respondents said they had experienced (Table 1) were:
 - Vehicles / caravans / tents in the park / open space (38%)
 - Fly tipping / rubbish (27%)
 - People defecating / urinating (15%)
 - Vehicles driving or speeding over grass areas (15%) – of particular note were the use of quad bike
 - Verbal abuse / intimidation or aggression (13%)

Table 1: Behaviours and people whom the behaviours were attributed						
	All respondents		Attributed to Gypsies and Travellers	Key Locations (most mentioned)		
	n = 1,026	%				
Vehicles / caravans / tents in the park/open space	392	38%	67%	Preston Park	Rottingdean Rec	Seafront
Fly tipping / rubbish	275	27%	54%	Preston Park	Seafront	Stanmer Park
People defecating/urinating	152	15%	58%	Preston Park	Rottingdean Rec	Seafront
Vehicles driving or speeding over grass areas	150	15%	57%	Preston Park	Stanmer Park	Wild Park
Verbal abuse / intimidation or aggression	137	13%	65%	Preston Park	Seafront	Stanmer Park
Felt intimidated by presence of Gypsies / Travellers or unable to use park / open space	116	11%	-	Preston Park	Seafront	Stanmer
Dogs (threatening / out of control)	102	10%	48%	Stanmer Park	Preston Park	Seafront
Damage to gates / fences / public property	69	7%	57%	Rottingdean Rec	Seafront	Stanmer Park
Owners not picking up after dogs	57	6%	14%	Stanmer Park	Seafront	-
Damage to grass / habitat	54	5%	59%	Preston Park	Sheepcote Valley	Stanmer Park

- Many respondents specified who had been responsible for the behaviour and these results are given in table 1 – for example 54% of incidents of fly tipping / litter were specifically attributed to Gypsies/Travellers but only 14% of incidents mentioning dog owners not picking up after their dogs was attributed to Gypsies/Travellers (the majority did not specify)

4.2 Public Space Protection Orders

Respondents were asked how much they agreed or disagreed that having PSPOs was a good idea.

Table 2 shows that respondents had strong views about whether PSPOs are a good idea or not. Nearly all respondents either strongly agreed or strongly disagreed with only a small number of respondents tending to agree, tending to disagree or saying neither.

- More than three quarters of residents (77 per cent, 748 people) agreed that PSPOs were a good idea with more than two thirds strongly agreeing (69 per cent, 674 people). A fifth of respondents (21 per cent, 203 people) disagreed with 16 per cent (158 people) strongly disagreeing.
- CVS, business and stakeholder representatives were most likely to agree that PSPOs were a good idea with 43 out of 50 representatives (86 per cent) doing so.
- Three out of five visitors to the city (60 per cent, 39 people) disagreed that PSPOs were a good idea.

Table 2: How much do you agree or disagree that having Public Spaces Protection Orders is a good idea?					
	Are you completing this survey as a...				All responses
	Brighton & Hove resident	Visitor to the city	CVS, Business, stakeholder or partnership representative	Other	
Strongly agree	674	22	40	23	735
	69%	34%	80%	52%	67%
Tend to agree	74	3	3	3	81
	8%	5%	6%	7%	7%
Neither agree nor disagree	15	0	0	1	16
	2%	0%	0%	2%	1%
Tend to disagree	45	5	1	2	52
	5%	8%	2%	5%	5%
Strongly disagree	158	34	6	15	204
	16%	52%	12%	34%	19%
Don't know / not sure	7	1	0	0	8
	1%	2%	0%	0%	1%
Total	973	65	50	44	1,096

More than nine out of ten respondents who agreed (92 per cent, 753 people) or disagreed (93 per cent, 238 people) that PSPOs are a good idea gave reasons why. Tables 3a and 3b summarises their reasons.

Table 3a: Respondents who agree that PSPOs are a good idea

	Number	%
Enable everyone / residents / visitors to use parks	264	35%
Protect the parks/environment/wildlife	179	24%
Addresses anti-social behaviours	134	18%
Will reduce costs / save money	110	15%
Other routes have been ineffective / take too long – will speed up the process	94	12%
Improve safety	72	10%
Fairness – should be the same rules for all	55	7%
Addresses illegal activities	36	5%
Removal of health hazards	27	4%
As long as enforced	18	2%
But need safe spaces for Gypsies and Travellers	15	2%
But need safe spaces for homeless people	7	1%
Miscellaneous	62	8%
Base: All who strongly or tended to agree that PSPOs are a good idea and who shared their reasoning (n=753/92%)		

- The most common responses for those who agreed with having Public Spaces Protection Orders were that they would:
 - Enable everyone / residents / visitors to use parks (35 per cent)
 - Protect the parks / environment / wildlife (24 per cent)
 - Address anti-social behaviours (18 per cent)
- For those that disagreed with having the orders, the most common reasons cited were that they would:
 - Discriminate against / criminalises Gypsies and Travellers (35 per cent)
 - Discriminate against homeless people (23 per cent)
 - Be too punitive (21 per cent)
- Respondents who either agreed or disagreed that PSPOs are a good idea cited the importance of providing safe spaces for Gypsies and Travellers and homeless people.

Table 2b: Respondents who disagree that PSPOs are a good idea		
	Number	%
Discriminates against / criminalises Gypsies/Travellers	83	35%
Discriminates against homeless people	54	23%

Too punitive	51	21%
Infringement of civil liberties / People should have freedom of movement	44	18%
Public spaces should be for the use of all members of the public	36	15%
Need safe spaces for gypsies/travellers to stay	35	15%
Need safe spaces for homeless people to stay	23	10%
By enforce existing legislation on anti-social behaviour dog fouling / speeding etc. this would not be required	20	8%
Waste of money / the cost / resource to enforce	15	6%
Unnecessary e.g. there isn't anti-social behaviour	15	6%
Depends how it's enforced / could be misused	11	5%
Unenforceable	8	3%
People will use it to harass other park users for activities they consider anti-social	5	2%
Miscellaneous	4	2%
Base: All who tended to or strongly disagree the PSPOs are a good idea and who shared their reasoning (n=238/93%)		

Looking at responses by equality groups for local residents and visitors there a couple of notable differences (please refer to the note about the equalities analysis on page 4).

- **Younger respondents are less likely to agree that PSPOs are a good idea.** Only 35 out of 80 respondents (44 per cent) aged 18 to 34 agreed that PSPOs are a good idea compared to 65 per cent of respondents aged 35 to 54 and 92 per cent of respondents aged 55 and over.
- **Support for PSPOs varies by ethnicity.** Only 27 out of 49 respondents (55 per cent) of 'other' White ethnicity agreed that PSPOs are a good idea compare to 77 per cent of White UK/British respondents and 12 out of 16 (75 per cent) of non-white BME respondents.

4.3 Managing behaviour

From a list of behaviours, respondents were asked to rank them in order of priority and if there were any other behaviours which they think the PSPO could or should be used to manage. Table 4 summarises their responses.

Table 3: Which of these behaviours that Brighton & Hove City Council intends to manage using PSPO do you think should have the highest priority?

	Are you completing this survey as a...	Total
--	--	-------

	Brighton & Hove resident	Visitor to the city	CVS, Business, stakeholder or partnership representative	Other	
Occupying any vehicle, caravan, tent or other structure	501 54%	10 17%	32 65%	16 41%	543 52%
Lighting or maintaining a fire	20 2%	0 0%	0 0%	1 3%	20 2%
Littering or fly tipping	210 23%	29 50%	7 14%	12 31%	249 24%
Driving any vehicle on grass	44 5%	2 3%	0 0%	1 3%	47 5%
Defecating or urinating	157 17%	17 29%	10 20%	9 23%	185 18%
Total	932	58	49	39	1044

For more than a half of residents (54 per cent, 501 people) occupying any vehicle, caravan, tent or other structure was the behaviour that the council should give the highest priority too. Less than one in twenty think driving any vehicle on the grass (5 per cent, 44 people) or lighting or maintaining a fire (2 per cent, 20 people) was the highest priority.

CVS, business and stakeholder representatives were more likely to want to prioritise occupying any vehicle, caravan, tent or other structures (65 per cent, 32 people) but for visitors the top priority was litter or fly tipping (50 per cent, 29 people).

Looking at responses by equality groups for local residents and visitors there are notable difference by age (please refer to the note about the equalities analysis on page 4).

- **The priority behaviour for the council to manage for people aged 18 to 34 is littering or fly-tipping.** Nearly a half of respondents aged 18 to 34 (47 per cent, 35 people) think that littering or fly tipping is the highest priority compared to only 28 per cent of 35 to 54 year olds and 14 per cent of respondents aged 55 or over.
- **Occupying any vehicle, caravan, tent or other structure is a lower priority for younger people.** Only 20 per cent of respondents (15 people) age 18 to 34 think that occupying any vehicle or structure should be given the highest priority compared to 45 per cent of 35 to 54 year olds and 64 per cent of respondents aged 55 and over.

In response to the question about what other behaviours PSPOs could or should manage 85 respondents (8 per cent) said none, while 433 respondents (39 per cent) made 44 suggestions. Table 4 summarises the behaviours mentioned by 10 or more people.

Q4. Are there any other behaviours which you think the PSPOs could or should be used to manage?		
	Total	Percent

Abuse / intimidation / aggression including by children	91	21%
Dogs (threatening / out of control)	78	18%
Dogs defecating	56	13%
Alcohol consumption	48	11%
Noise including from generators, fireworks and or parties	47	11%
Vehicles / including taxing of vehicles	43	10%
Fly tipping / rubbish	41	9%
Damage to gates / fences / public property	41	9%
Drug use / dealing	27	6%
Damage to grass	24	6%
Animal cruelty / husbandry	22	5%
Driving / speeding	17	4%
Fires	14	3%
Humans defecating	11	3%
Intimidated by presence of G&T / unable to use park	11	3%
Professional Dog Walkers	11	3%
Thefts	11	3%
Base: All respondents who suggested behaviours (n=433)		

A quarter of respondents (21 per cent, 91 people) who suggested a behaviour that a PSPO could or should be used to manage, mentioned abuse, intimidation and aggression. More than one in ten also mentioned;

- Dogs threatening or out of control (18 per cent, 78 people)
- Dogs defecating (13 per cent, 56 people)
- Alcohol consumption (11 per cent, 48 people)
- Noise including from generators, fireworks and or parties (11 per cent, 47 people)
- Vehicles / including taxing of vehicles (10 per cent, 43 per cent)

4.4 Final comments

At the end of the questionnaire respondents were asked if they had any final comments with regards the use of PSPOs in Brighton and Hove.

Of the 1,109 respondents a third (34 per cent, 373 people) gave a response to this question. Responses were similar to those for the question asking if respondents agreed or disagreed with the idea of PSPOs.

- It is a bad idea (64 respondents)
- Discriminating against / criminalising Gypsies/travellers (54 respondents)
- Need for enforcement if put in place (46 respondents)
- Discriminating against homeless people (36 respondents)
- Too punitive (28 respondents)
- Need safe spaces for gypsies/travellers to stay (23 respondents)
- Protect the parks / environment / wildlife (17 respondents)
- Need safe spaces for homeless people to stay (17 respondents)
- Waste of money / the cost / resource to enforce (17 respondents)
- Enable everyone / residents / visitors to use parks (16 respondents)
- Depends how it's enforced / could be misused (15 respondents)
- Will reduce costs / save money (13 respondents)
- Improve safety (12 respondents)
- Address anti-social behaviour (11 respondent)

Respondents also said that PSPO should be extended to other parks;

- All parks and open spaces (34 respondents)
- Specific parks and open spaces (50 respondents), most mentioned was Beacon Hill Nature Reserve (18 respondents) and Salt dean Park (10 respondents)

5. Respondents profile

When asked what is your ethnicity? Six respondents identified as coming from the Gypsy/Traveller community. Two identified as White – Gypsy or Irish Traveller, two as

White Other – New age traveller, one as White Other – Traveller and one as White Other – Scottish Tinker.

		Frequency	All respondents (%)	Who answered the question (%)
What age are you?				
Valid	18 to 24	18	2%	2%
	25 to 34	59	6%	7%
	35 to 44	188	18%	21%
	45 to 54	226	21%	25%
	55 to 64	201	19%	23%
	65 to 74	156	15%	18%
	75 and over	42	4%	5%
	Total	890	84%	100%
Missing	Not known	46	4%	
	Prefer not to say	123	12%	
	Total	169	16%	
Total		1059	100%	
What gender are you?				
Valid	Male	451	43%	48%
	Female	480	45%	51%
	Other	3	<0.5%	<0.5%
	Total	934	88%	100%
Missing	Not known	48	5%	
	Prefer not to say	77	7%	
	Total	125	12%	
Total		1059	100%	
Do you identify as the sex you were assigned at birth?				
Valid	Yes	856	81%	99%
	No	6	1%	1%
	Total	862	81%	100%
Missing	Unknown	87	8%	
	Prefer not to say	110	10%	
	Total	197	19%	
Total		1059	100%	
Which of the following best describes your sexual orientation?				
Valid	Heterosexual / Straight	738	70%	90%
	Lesbian / Gay woman	18	2%	2%
	Gay man	40	4%	5%
	Bisexual	21	2%	3%
	Other	5	<0.5%	1%
	Total	822	78%	100%
Missing	Not known	61	6%	
	Prefer not to say	176	17%	
	Total	237	22%	
Total		1059	100%	

		Frequency	All respondents (%)	Who answered the question (%)
What is your religion or belief?				
Valid	I have no particular religion	363	34%	42%
	Buddhist	18	2%	2%
	Christian	308	29%	35%
	Jain	1	<0.5%	<0.5%
	Jewish	9	1%	1%
	Pagan	14	1%	2%
	Agnostic	22	2%	3%
	Atheist	100	9%	12%
	Other	11	1%	1%
	Other philosophical belief	23	2%	3%
	Total	869	82%	100%
Missing	Not known	52	5%	
	Prefer not to say	138	13%	
	Total	190	18%	
Total		1059	100%	
Are your day to day activities limited because of a health problem or disability which has lasted, or is expected to last 12 months?				
Valid	Yes a little	106	10%	12%
	Yes a lot	60	6%	7%
	No	718	68%	81%
	Total	884	83%	100%
Missing	Not known	51	5%	
	Prefer not to say	124	12%	
	Total	175	17%	
Total		1059	100%	
What is your ethnicity?				
Valid	UK / British	836	79%	92
	Irish	13	1%	1
	Gypsy or Irish Traveller	2	<0.5%	<0.5%
	Any other White background	48	5%	5%
	Asian or Asian - Indian	1	<0.5%	<0.5%
	Any other Asian Background	1	<0.5%	<0.5%
	Black or Black British - Caribbean	2	<0.5%	<0.5%
	Mixed - Asian & White	2	<0.5%	<0.5%
	Mixed - Black Caribbean & White	2	<0.5%	<0.5%
	Any other mixed background	4	<0.5%	<0.5%
	Arab	1	<0.5%	<0.5%
	Any other ethnic group	2	<0.5%	<0.5%
	Total	913	86%	100%
	Missing	Not known	40	4%

	Prefer not to say	106	10%	
	Total	146	14%	
Total		1059	100%	

		Frequency	All respondents (%)	Who answered the question (%)
Are you a Carer?				
Valid	Yes	104	10%	12%
	No	792	75%	88%
	Total	896	85%	100%
Missing	Not known	59	6%	
	Prefer not to say	104	10%	
	Total	163	15%	
Total		1059	100%	
With a connection to the Armed Forces				
Valid	Yes	79	7%	10%
	No	730	69%	90%
	Total	809	76%	100%
Missing	No response	163	15%	
	Prefer not to say	87	8%	
	Total	250	24%	
Total		1059	100%	
Q1. Which park or open spaces do you use most regularly?				
Valid	Preston Park	418	39%	42%
	Stanmer Park	390	37%	40%
	Seafront Including Black Rock to Hove Lagoon	252	24%	26%
	Wild Park	149	14%	15%
	Rottingdean Recreation Ground	107	10%	11%
	Hollingbury Park	88	8%	9%
	Queens Park	67	6%	7%
	The Level	62	6%	6%
	East Brighton Park	61	6%	6%
	Hove Park	61	6%	6%
	Sheepcote Valley	60	6%	6%
	Waterhall	56	5%	6%
	Happy Valley	50	5%	5%
	Saltdean Oval	47	4%	5%
	Beacon Hill / Nature Reserve	39	4%	4%
	Withdean Park	38	4%	4%
	Surrenden Field	36	3%	4%
	Lawn Memorial and adjacent land (Woodingdean)	34	3%	3%
	St. Ann's Well Gardens	31	3%	3%
	Hove Lawns	23	2%	2%
Rottingdean	20	2%	2%	
Blakers Park	18	2%	2%	

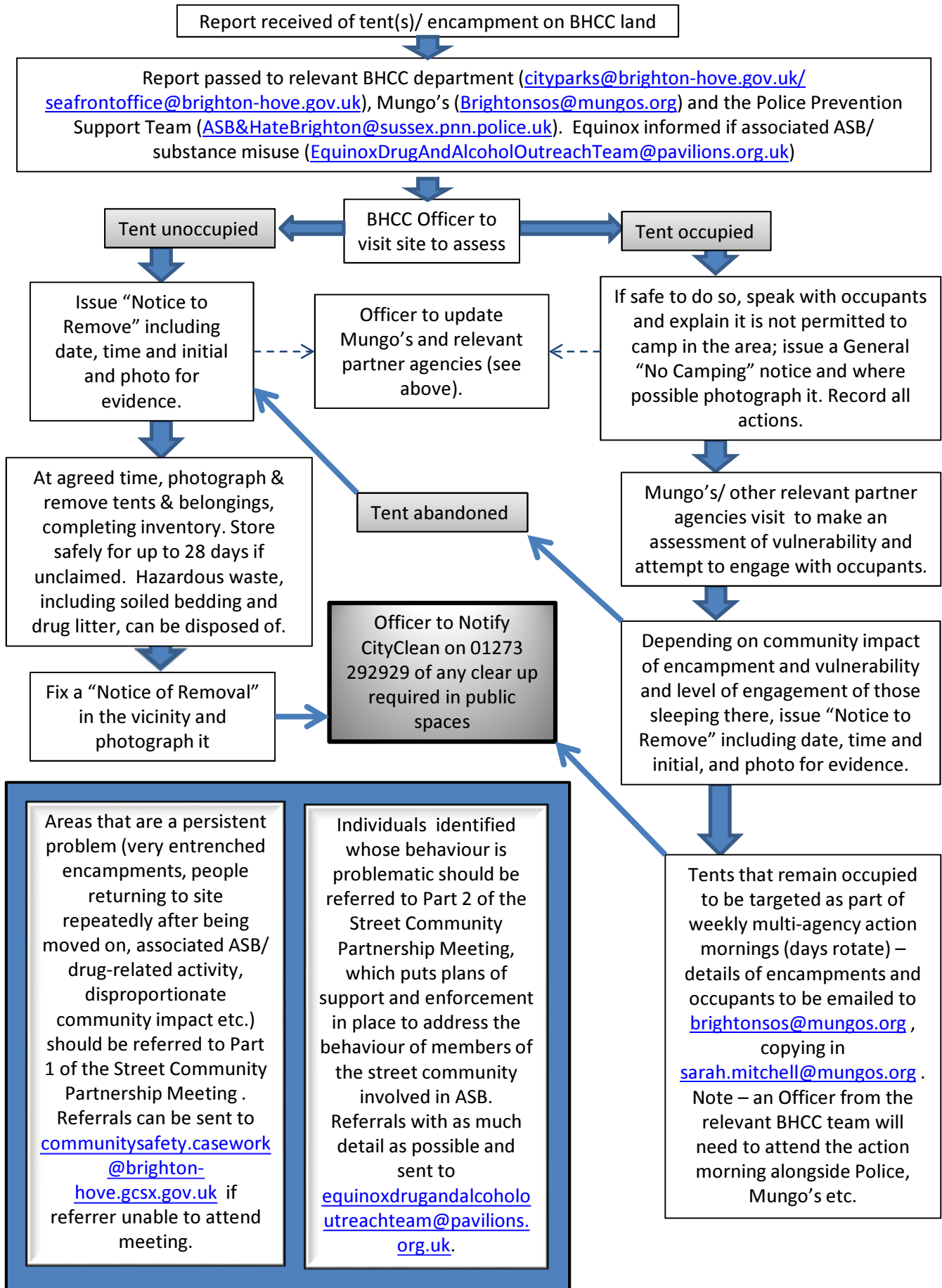
Hollingbury	18	2%	2%
East Brighton Park / Sheepcote Valley	14	1%	1%

	Frequency	All respondents (%)	Who answered the question (%)
Green Ridge / Coney Wood	12	1%	1%
Dyke Road Park	11	1%	1%
Greenway	11	1%	1%
Wish Park	11	1%	1%
Pavilion Gardens	8	1%	1%
St. Helen's Green	8	1%	1%
Rottingdean Park	7	1%	1%
Kipling Gardens	6	1%	1%
Rottingdean Windmill	6	1%	1%
Victoria Park	6	%	1%
Patcham Place Recreation Ground	5	1%	1%
Carden Park	4	<0.5%	<0.5%
Hollingdean Park	4	<0.5%	<0.5%
Hove Recreation Ground	4	<0.5%	<0.5%
Peacehaven	4	<0.5%	<0.5%
Race Hill / Course	4	<0.5%	<0.5%
William Clarke Park	4	<0.5%	<0.5%
Woodingdean	4	<0.5%	<0.5%
Woodingdean Bexhill Road	4	<0.5%	<0.5%
39 Acre	3	<0.5%	<0.5%
Devil's Dyke	3	<0.5%	<0.5%
Easthill Park	3	<0.5%	<0.5%
Ladies Miles Park	3	<0.5%	<0.5%
Peacock Park	3	<0.5%	<0.5%
Rottingdean Village Green	3	<0.5%	<0.5%
Vale Park	3	<0.5%	<0.5%
Benfield Valley	2	<0.5%	<0.5%
Chatsworth Park	2	<0.5%	<0.5%
Greenleas	2	<0.5%	<0.5%
Hollingbury Golf Course	2	<0.5%	<0.5%
Hollingbury woods	2	<0.5%	<0.5%
Horsdean Recreation Ground	2	<0.5%	<0.5%
Mile Oak Recreation Ground	2	<0.5%	<0.5%
Old Steine	2	<0.5%	<0.5%
Roedean / Cafe	2	<0.5%	<0.5%
Stoneham Park	2	<0.5%	<0.5%
Telscoombe Tye	2	<0.5%	<0.5%
Valley Gardens	2	<0.5%	<0.5%
Victoria Recreation Ground	2	<0.5%	<0.5%
Woodindean Park	2	<0.5%	<0.5%

Adjacent to Ditchling Road reservoir	1	<0.5%	<0.5%
Barcombe Place	1	<0.5%	<0.5%
Barn Rise Green	1	<0.5%	<0.5%

	Frequency	All respondents (%)	Who answered the question (%)
Behind Nuffield Woodingdean	1	<0.5%	<0.5%
Benfield Hill Nature Reserve	1	<0.5%	<0.5%
Bevendean Down	1	<0.5%	<0.5%
Brighthelm	1	<0.5%	<0.5%
Brighton Marina Parade	1	<0.5%	<0.5%
Burstead Woods	1	<0.5%	<0.5%
Bypass to Devils Dyke	1	<0.5%	<0.5%
Castle Hill	1	<0.5%	<0.5%
Coldean Woods	1	<0.5%	<0.5%
Devil Dyke Road	1	<0.5%	<0.5%
Dorset Road	1	<0.5%	<0.5%
Downsman Pub	1	<0.5%	<0.5%
Dyke Railway track	1	<0.5%	<0.5%
Falter Hill	1	<0.5%	<0.5%
Hangleton Park	1	<0.5%	<0.5%
Hillingdean	1	<0.5%	<0.5%
Hollingbury & Burstead Woods	1	<0.5%	<0.5%
Hollingbury Fort	1	<0.5%	<0.5%
Hove Museum Gardens	1	<0.5%	<0.5%
Marina	1	<0.5%	<0.5%
New Steine Gardens	1	<0.5%	<0.5%
Old allotments	1	<0.5%	<0.5%
Open land at the top of Woodingdean	1	<0.5%	<0.5%
Park Traveller	1	<0.5%	<0.5%
Patcham Place	1	<0.5%	<0.5%
Peace Park, Peasehaven	1	<0.5%	<0.5%
Saunders Park	1	<0.5%	<0.5%
St Andrews Church	1	<0.5%	<0.5%
St. Nic rest gardens	1	<0.5%	<0.5%
Sweet Hill Laybys	1	<0.5%	<0.5%
The cliff top from Saltdean to the Marina	1	<0.5%	<0.5%
The Copse	1	<0.5%	<0.5%
The Green - Westdene	1	<0.5%	<0.5%
The Lilac Garden	1	<0.5%	<0.5%
Westdene Park	1	<0.5%	<0.5%
Whitehawk	1	<0.5%	<0.5%
Whitehawk Hill	1	<0.5%	<0.5%
Withdean Woods	1	<0.5%	<0.5%

	Woodingdean Windmill	1	<0.5%	<0.5%
	Total	985	93%	100%
Missing	No response	74	7%	
	Total	1059		



Subject:	Update on 'Poverty Proofing the School Day'		
Date of Meeting:	19th March 2018		
Report of:	Executive Director for Families, Children and Learning		
Contact Officer:	Name:	Hilary Ferrries,	Tel: 293738
	Email:	Hilary.ferrries@brighton-hove.gov.uk	
Ward(s) affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND POLICY CONTEXT

- 1.1 This report updates the progress on the agreement to address the Fairness Commission's recommendation 49: '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.'

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the Committee notes the progress of introducing 'Poverty Proofing the School Day' to all schools in the city.
- 2.2 That the Committee instructs officers to bring a further report of the progress of the project in 12 months.

3. CONTEXT/ BACKGROUND INFORMATION

3.1 National Context

The Child Poverty Action Group outlines the impact of poverty on outcomes for children and young people and in particular for education.

- 'Children from poorer backgrounds lag at all stages of education.
- By the age of three, poorer children are estimated to be, on average, nine months behind children from more wealthy backgrounds.
- According to Department for Education statistics, by the end of primary school, pupils receiving free school meals are estimated to be almost three terms behind their more affluent peers.
- By 14, this gap grows to over five terms.
- By 16, children receiving free school meals achieve 1.7 grades lower at GCSE.'

3.2 Local Context

It is the case in Brighton & Hove that there is a gap between the outcomes for pupils in disadvantage and their peers and all schools have 'diminishing this difference' as a key priority. The Brighton & Hove Fairness Commission considered these issues recommended the introduction of 'Poverty Proofing the School Day' into the City over a two year period.

3.3 'Poverty Proofing the School Day' was a recommendation made by the Fairness Commission in 2014. Councillors committed to offering the 'Poverty Proofing the School Day' process to every Brighton & Hove school. Support is being provided by Children North East, the creators of 'Poverty Proofing the School Day' and includes a license agreement, training, direct support and quality assurance of processes. The project provides a toolkit to poverty proof the school day, to reduce stigma and remove barriers to learning and to assist schools in exploring the most effective way to spend pupil premium allocation. More details can be found on their website, <http://www.povertyproofing.co.uk/>. The project runs for two financial years, from April 2017 to March 2019.

3.4 Impact of 'Poverty Proofing the School Day'

The evaluation of the report, carried out by researchers at Newcastle University in February 2016, available on line at www.povertyproofing.co.uk identified the following impact.

Key Findings of the evaluation of '*Poverty Proofing the School Day*'

1. There is evidence of and real concern in schools about the rising costs of the school day.
2. This is a high impact programme, which has revealed a huge array of generic issues that are routinely, if unintentionally, stigmatising children living in poverty and contributing to the increasing cost of the school day.
3. The audit is challenging but highly effective, delivering to the school a rare opportunity to give voice to its most disadvantaged pupils and their families and see their practices through the eyes of all pupils, parents and staff.
4. There are numerous benefits for the school as a result of going through this process, including a shift in whole school ethos and culture and the opportunity to make changes in response to the action plan, with maximum impact on pupils.
5. There is early evidence of increased attendance and attainment of disadvantaged pupils as a result of removing barriers to learning.
6. The audit provides a constructive opportunity to review pupil premium spending and through this and other actions, reduce the cost of the school day for pupils in real terms.
7. These impacts are dependent on the third party nature of the audit. Whilst it is very important to share good practice in this area, it is unlikely that the same benefits will be derived if a school reviews these issues in isolation through a self-evaluation process.
8. Whole school buy in, including senior leadership and Academy Trust or LA as appropriate, is crucial.

3.5 Introducing 'Poverty Proofing the School Day' to Brighton & Hove schools: implementation

3.5.1 The power of ‘Poverty Proofing the School Day’ audit is that the voices of all the children and young people in the school are heard and opportunities provided for all other stakeholders to participate. The report on the audit gives schools feedback on their systems and enables the leadership team to reflect on the findings, celebrate successes and see if there are any changes they can make to remove barriers for families that may be struggling with money.

3.5.2 A group of researchers, staff from schools across the city and the LA team, have been trained to lead and carry out the audits. A team of researchers go into schools and speak to every child and young person in groups. As well as speaking to all stakeholders on site during the audits, there is also a parent / carer questionnaire, a governor questionnaire and a staff questionnaire. At the end of the audit, the responses to questions are analysed and a report is written. The lead researcher goes back to the school to discuss the report and next steps. The report belongs to the school and is confidential to the school. To take part, schools indicate the term that they would like to have the audit the exact week is allocated. The number of researcher days is determined by the size of school.

The pilot schools helped to review and refine the process and there has been excellent take up of the audit over the autumn term

3.5.3 The table below shows the schools that have taken part so far.

Summer Term 2017
Moulsecoomb Primary
Patcham Juniors
Brighton Aldridge Community Academy
Woodingdean Primary
Autumn Term 2017
Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary
St Margaret’s CE Primary
Carlton Hill Primary
St Mary Magdalen Catholic Primary
West Blatchington Primary
Queens Park Primary
Mile Oak Primary
Dorothy Stringer
Patcham High
Spring Term 2018
Downs Infants
St Paul’s CE Primary
St Peter’s Primary
Patcham Infants
Benfield Primary
Longhill High
Middle Street Primary
St Nicolas CE Primary
Hertford Juniors

West Blatchington Primary
Hertford Infants
Downs Junior

4. Examples of good practice in Brighton & Hove schools

The positive take up of the project is testament to the concern Brighton & Hove schools have for pupil and student wellbeing and particularly for those from disadvantaged backgrounds. The teams of researchers have found many examples of good practice already existing in the city and designed to support vulnerable pupils and students to learn and achieve. It has been agreed that some examples would be share with the wider audience. These are some of the examples and are organised in the themes of questions that the Poverty Proofing audit explores.

Behaviour, rewards and attendance

The vast majority of the schools taking part so far had clear rewards for good behaviour and attendance. Carlton Hill and Woodingdean had particularly clear systems that were known and articulated by all the pupils. Queens' Park has a range of positive ways of addressing things that go wrong – e.g. the 'Do it right club', 'calm room' and 'solver 101'.

It was good to see pupils involved in school development. St Mary Magdalen had listened to pupil voice when reviewing their policy and BACA has a 'junior leadership team' to help make decisions in school.

Anti-bullying / bullying

Particularly strong practice was seen in several schools. In Woodingdean pupils identified the strong support they received from playground buddies. In Moulsecoomb and Patcham parents, carers and pupils felt that there were always people they could talk to. Pupils at St Mary Magdalen and Queens Park had a particularly clear understanding about what bullying meant and reported that their school was good at dealing with it.

Celebrations

At St Mary Magdalen all Y6 pupils are given a DVD of memories and a year book when they leave the school at no cost to children. In Woodingdean all Y6 pupils are given a leavers' fleece. These both allow for equality for all pupils.

Class groups

Pupils in BACA and Woodingdean were very positive about the opportunities for self-directed learning. In Moulsecoomb and Patcham Junior, pupils enjoyed choosing tasks that were 'mild, hot or spicy', or with a 'chilli number'. These meant pupils were in

control of their learning and there were no grouping that made children feel that they were 'second best'.

Extra-curricular

The majority of the schools organise trips for pupils to support and enhance the curriculum. There are a range of different strategies that parents and carers said work well to support those who may find paying for the trips challenging. Woodingdean gives good notice and the opportunity to pay in instalments, Moulsecomb subsidises the trips extensively to ensure all families can attend and Carlton Hill PTA contributes a sum to the school budget for trips. St Mary Magdalen ensures that there is only one 'costly' trip each term.

The majority of schools run out of school clubs. At Woodingdean there is a large number of free clubs. The 'Health and Well-being Club in the mornings is very popular.

Food

At Patcham Junior pupils can eat with their friends and menus are all on line so families can plan food together in advance.

No school visited had a system which made explicit to the school community which pupils were entitled to free school meals and those not.

Homework

Moulsecomb offers support for families with homework to make sure that everyone can access it. At Woodingdean the pupils and parents liked that in the summer term the homework was to 'spend time together as a family' rather than specific tasks.

Resources

At Woodingdean the whole class share resources that are brought in for projects. At Moulsecomb there is an art club where children can make things for parents or teachers which give children opportunities to give gifts if they wish.

At Carlton Hill everything children need for school is provided and they allow families to play in the school grounds after school with supervision as not all parent have places to play. They also provide some costumes for dress up days.

Leadership and work of governing body

In Our Lady of Lourdes and Woodingdean there was a clear focus on needs of the disadvantaged. Both schools had up to date policies and regular reviews by governors. Governors attend pupil progress meetings to make sure that they know pupil performance in detail. Governors at Patcham Junior were particularly aware of the performance of the disadvantaged.

Support to parents & families

Many of the schools had very positive and trusting relationships with families which meant that parents were happy to come and talk to them if there was an issue. Mary Magdalen offers courses to parents in a range of languages to ensure all can access

information. Our Lady of Lourdes have found that employing a family support worker has been very positive. Carlton Hill has a notice board that signposts parents to a range of services they could find helpful.

Uniform

Positive comments about uniform from primary schools included:

- Uniform is easily available in common colours
- No pressure for logos
- Discreet second hand uniform available / pre loved uniform
- The junior school has the same uniform as the infant school
- For non-uniform days the cost is £1 per family, not per child which helps make it more affordable

BACA had worked hard to ensure that their uniform was affordable and give ties to pupils each year at no cost.

5. Emerging Areas for consideration in Brighton & Hove schools

This list includes issues that were identified in more than one school visited and could be seen to negatively impact on children and young people living in poverty

- Unclear and inconsistent rewards
- Bringing things in from home to play with – not having the ‘latest ‘ game
- Bringing in things that could identify families as struggling with money - eg ‘own brand’ boxes for junk modelling,
- PTA events that are expensive and include expectations for parents to pay for a range of things
- Trip letters that are not explicit about what to do if the family cannot meet the cost
- Sufficient notice for trips – time to plan payment or the opportunity to pay in instalments over time
- System for packed lunches on trips that don’t identify pupils with FSM
- Arrange groupings so pupils don’t feel second best
- Several non-uniform, dress up or charity days in a term
- Asking parents to supply prizes for raffles etc. and then expecting them to buy tickets to win them back
- Third party businesses that sell things in schools and put pressure of pupils to buy them
- Bringing in birthday presents to show to the class can make some children feel uncomfortable
- ‘Expectations’ about bringing in sweets or for the whole class at birthdays
- Show and tell times ‘when I haven’t done anything’
- Circle time about what you did at weekend
- An expectation / pressure from peers to bring gifts for teachers
- Limited communication with parents and carers about why things are happening – eg the reason for a trip or education benefit of a request

- Lack of parent and carer knowledge about how to apply for FSM and what they are entitled to
- Some schools are unaware of which groups of pupils or students are attending or not attending trips or clubs
- Setting homework which requires internet access at home
- Governors unclear about the progress of all groups of pupils at school
- A lack of awareness of poverty and how it is experienced by local families across the community

6. ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

6.1 The Fairness Commission was presented with four options to consider and it was agreed to offer the audit to all schools

7. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & CONSULTATION

7.1 Headteachers were consulted on the best way to introduce this initiative. The poverty proofing process involves hearing the voices of the whole school community through on line surveys and interviews, so the chosen option provides the greatest element of community involvement.

8. CONCLUSION

8.1 'Poverty Proofing the School Day' does have positive evaluations and is providing an additional tool for schools to ensure that poverty is not a barrier to success at school. The achievement of vulnerable groups, such as those who are defined as disadvantaged is a priority citywide. There will be regular reviews of the actions schools are taking and the impact they are having.

8.2 The Children, Young People and Skills Committee and Neighbourhoods, Inclusion, Communities and Inclusion Committee will be kept informed of the progress of the project.

9. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

The report updates on 'Poverty Proofing the School Day'.

Initial funding of £150,000 was provided over two financial years (2018-2018 and 2018 – 2019). It is important that the financial position is reviewed regularly in line with the Targeted Budget Management Timetable (TBM) to ensure there are no additional costs to the council.

Finance Officer Consulted: David Ellis

Date: 09/02/2018

Legal Implications:

There are no legal implications arising from this report.

Lawyer Consulted: Serena Kynaston

Date: 07/02/18

Equalities Implications:

'Poverty Proofing the School Day' is to ensure the voice of pupils and stakeholders is heard so schools can take further action to ensure that barriers to learning are minimised.

Sustainability Implications:

'Poverty Proofing the School Day' contributes to the health and happiness of the community

Any Other Significant Implications:

None

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. None

Documents in Members' Rooms

1. None

Background Documents

1. None

Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 1.1 Engaging young people in school and making them feel included could reduce crime

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

- 1.2 This is an opportunity to hear the voices of the community and use a successful tool to support educators in their work. Research shows that where schools engage positively then there is most impact. There is a risk that not all schools will not engage.

Public Health Implications:

- 1.3 Overcoming poverty will make a difference to the health of children and young people at school and in their futures.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

- 1.4 'Poverty Proofing the School Day' supports the citywide priority to raise achievement of the most vulnerable pupils and the corporate priority, 'Live a good life'.

Subject:	Violence, Vulnerability and Extremism		
Date of Meeting:	Monday the 19th of March 2018		
Report of:	Executive Director, Neighbourhoods, Communities and Housing		
Contact Officer:	Name:	Jo Player	Tel: 01273 292488
	Email:	jo.player@brighton-hove.gov.uk	
Ward(s) affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND POLICY CONTEXT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to brief the committee on the threat in relation to child criminal exploitation and gang activity related to county lines which is a police term used to describe how gangs from metropolitan areas are now operating elsewhere in the country.
- 1.2 The report outlines the strategy being adopted by the Community Safety Partnership to disrupt activity and support people to exit their involvement as victims and perpetrators.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the committee notes the Violence, Vulnerability and Exploitation strategy developed by the Community Safety Partnership; and
- 2.2 That the Committee recommends to Full Council that the Council's Community Safety Strategy is updated to incorporate the Violence, Vulnerability and Exploitation Strategy.

3. CONTEXT/ BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 County lines is the police term used to describe criminal activity where gangs from London and other metropolitan areas establish a base in places like Brighton and Hove and use one mobile phone number to set up a drug dealing line, they typically take over the premises of local vulnerable adults (who are often drug users) by force or coercion in a practice referred to as cuckooing.
- 3.2 The premises are then used as a base for drug dealing and in many cases young people are entrapped in child criminal exploitation. Children and young people are used to sell drugs and move drugs and money and are also exposed to child sexual exploitation and trafficking often through drug debt bonding.
- 3.3 There is evidence of this happening in Brighton and Hove.

- 3.4 The Community Safety Partnership has developed and is refining a flexible violence, vulnerability and exploitation strategy which will seek to do the following:
- Prevent vulnerable people being drawn in to organised crime relating to drugs and child criminal exploitation
 - Work with local third sector youth service providers to develop safe exit strategies and pathways for young people who are involved as victims or perpetrators
 - Work with police to take enforcement action to disrupt county lines, drug dealing and child criminal exploitation bringing offenders to justice as necessary
 - The work will be underpinned by a communications plan targeting, vulnerable and young people, communities and professionals
 - The work will be informed by data analysis and community intelligence

The Community Safety Partnership has formally adopted Violence, Vulnerability and Exploitation as a Priority Area. This will ensure good partnership working between the council, the police, statutory agencies and the voluntary and community sector as described above to achieve the following outcomes:

- Preventing vulnerable people from becoming involved with organised drug dealing
- Safeguarding vulnerable people who are being exploited
- Provide a safe supportive pathway to enable vulnerable people to exit involvement with organised drug dealing
- A decrease in drug exploitation related activity in the city

A copy of the Community Safety Partnership draft Violence, Vulnerability and Exploitation Strategy can be found at Appendix One.

- 3.5 Progress on this work will be managed through a comprehensive action plan with a lead officer for each area accountable to the Community Safety Partnership.
- 3.6 The next significant step in Brighton and Hove will be a locality review conducted with the Violence and Vulnerability Unit from the Home Office.
- 3.7 The Locality Review is a one day process where interviews and focus groups are conducted with front line practitioners to gather information, knowledge and perception to build a qualitative picture of the key issues and drivers around county lines, gangs, youth violence and vulnerability.

4. ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 4.1 There is already a significant level of activity that is ensuring people involved in organised drug dealing are safeguarded and that organised drug dealing activity is disrupted and prosecutions are brought where necessary. There have already been in the region of twenty premises closures in the last eighteen months to protect communities from crime and anti-social behaviour related to cuckooing.
- 4.2 Bringing this existing work together, identifying gaps in provision and areas of new work informed by intelligence and analysis and best practice elsewhere in

the country is considered the best way forward by the Community Safety Partnership.

5. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & CONSULTATION

- 5.1 Where county lines activity results in cuckooing there will be a significant impact on the immediate neighbours and the wider neighbourhood can be impacted too. In some cases where this has happened there have been community meetings to reassure communities and to take the opportunity to encourage the reporting of incidents to inform the intelligence picture.
- 5.2 The Local Action Team Forum was briefed in January 2018 on threat posed by county lines activity. The NICE Committee received a paper on county lines activity in January 2018.

6. CONCLUSION

- 6.1 This is an emerging complex issue that stems from metropolitan areas and is becoming increasingly commonplace in towns and cities across the country where there is sufficient drugs demand.
- 6.2 A flexible responsive approach will be needed and activity locally will to be able to change and adapt quickly to tackle the issue.
- 6.3 The Violence, Vulnerability and Exploitation Strategy will ensure the right partners are informed and enabled to take action as necessary the tackle the issue on a number of fronts.

7. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 7.1 £156,000 has been allocated in the 2018/19 council budget. This will be used to fund a co-ordinator and to fund support to help people out of involvement with organised crime networks, this will include commissioning third sector youth support provision.

Finance Officer Consulted: Monica Brooks

Date: 1/03/18

Legal Implications:

- 7.2 The Council is required to publish a Community Safety Strategy pursuant to the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. The strategy is one of the plans and strategies required by the Council's constitution to be approved by Full Council.

Lawyer Consulted: Elizabeth Culbert

Date: 28/02/18

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

Appendix 1: Violence, Vulnerability and Exploitation Strategy

Violence, Vulnerability and Exploitation

Our aim: To reduce the harm caused by organised crime activity in the city in relation to drug dealing, drug use and exploitation

What we want to achieve

- Preventing vulnerable people from becoming involved with organised crime networks
- Safeguard vulnerable people who are being exploited
- Provide a safe, supportive pathway to enable vulnerable people to exit involvement with organised crime networks
- A decrease in drug gang related activity in the city

Why this is a priority

Increasingly crime is being committed in private spaces rather than the public domain and this type of crime often involves the criminal exploitation of children and adults on a physical, sexual or financial basis. In Brighton and Hove and many other parts of the country this is becoming a major concern as gang activity based around county lines (where drug dealers from London and elsewhere set up in areas like Brighton and Hove) is leading to anti-social behaviour, violence and safeguarding concerns.

Key facts

Although there are established local drug dealing networks in the city dealing cannabis and class A drugs there is increasing evidence of County lines activity, primarily focussed around dealing class A drugs but also dealing cannabis to draw young people in. County lines is the police term used to describe urban gangs supplying drugs to market and coastal towns across the country using dedicated mobile phone lines. County lines is a major cross cutting issue involving drugs, violence, gangs, safeguarding, criminal child exploitation, modern slavery and missing persons.

County lines gangs have a proven ability to adapt their operations quickly to evade detection and enforcement. High levels of violence are reported, including the prevalent use of weapons to intimidate and control members and associated victims.

Locally we have seen an increasing number of properties that have been cuckooed (this is where the property of a vulnerable person is taken over by drug dealers). In the majority of these cases there was evidence of cuckooing. In several cases offenders and victims were traced to another address nearby or elsewhere in the city.

Who's affected

Gangs often use children and vulnerable people to move drugs and money between metropolitan areas and towns and rural areas. Gangs establish a base, typically by taking over the homes of local vulnerable adults (who are often drugs users) by force or coercion in a practice referred to as cuckooing. We have seen evidence of this in Brighton and Hove. They then use the premises to deal drugs from and recruit local vulnerable (mainly young) people as drugs runners.

Our plans

Working together as a community safety partnership we will develop and refine a strategy that will have the ability to flex to address what are often rapidly changing circumstances in relation to tackling organised crime groups sometimes operating along county lines and often centred around the exploitation of vulnerable people, principally children and young people but vulnerable adults as well.

Violence, Vulnerability and Exploitation

Our strategy will have a number of strands capturing existing work, identifying gaps in our existing provision and taking new initiatives as necessary to address violence, vulnerability and exploitation.

We will seek to prevent vulnerable people being drawn in to drugs misuse and dealing, child criminal exploitation and county lines.

Working with local community service providers and youth service providers we will take steps to intervene and provide safe exit strategies and pathways for vulnerable people who are being exploited.

With the police we will take enforcement action to disrupt county lines, drug dealing and child criminal exploitation bringing offenders to justice where possible.

Our strategy will be underpinned by a communications plan that will ensure victims, potential victims, communities, statutory and third sector agencies all understand risks posed and can recognise signs of exploitation.

The work will be informed by data analysis and a locality review facilitated by the Home Office which will enable evidence to be gathered from front line professionals on the extent of violence, vulnerability and exploitation in the city.

