#### **BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL**

#### COUNCIL

#### 4.30pm 31 JANUARY 2019

#### **COUNCIL CHAMBER - BRIGHTON TOWN HALL**

#### **MINUTES**

Present: Councillors Simson (Chair), Phillips (Deputy Chair), Allen, Atkinson, Barford, Bell, Bennett, Bewick, Brown, Cattell, Chapman, Cobb, Daniel, Deane, Druitt, Gibson, Greenbaum, Hamilton, Hill, Horan, Hyde, Janio, Knight, Lewry, Littman, Mac Cafferty, Marsh, Meadows, Mears, Miller, Mitchell, Moonan, Morris, Nemeth, A Norman, K Norman, O'Quinn, Page, Peltzer Dunn, Platts, Robins, Sykes, Taylor, C Theobald, G Theobald, Wares, Wealls, West and Yates.

#### **PART ONE**

#### 57 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Druitt declared a personal and pecuniary interest in Item 68(50, the Notice of 57.1 Motion relating to Valley Gardens as he was a Director of the Big Lemon Bus company. He confirmed that both he and Councillor Phillips, his partner would retire from the Chamber and take no part in the debate or voting on the item.

#### 58 **MINUTES**

The minutes of the last ordinary meeting held on the 13<sup>th</sup> December 2018 were 58.1 approved and signed by the Mayor as a correct record of the proceedings.

#### MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS. 59

- 59.1 The Mayor invited Councillor Moonan, as Chair of the Member Development Working Group to come forward to collect the certificate for Member Development awarded by the LGA and South East Employers.
- 59.2 The Mayor then stated that she was pleased to announce that the City Parks Team had won the coveted "Bees' Needs" award for the third time for work at The Level - with the park being also being recognised as a "Pollinator Champion" on top of the normal award. This national award, from environmental group Keep Britain Tidy, was part of the international Green Flag Awards and was supported by DEFRA. The award recognised excellent conservation work to encourage wildlife, and pollinators in particular.

The Mayor then invited the staff who made up the team come up to accept their awards along with Councillor Mitchell.

59.3 The Mayor also reminded councillors of her forthcoming fund-raising events for the mayoral charities which included a banquet at the Royal Pavilion on the 15<sup>th</sup> March and a sleep-out at the i-360 with Chief Executives from various organisations on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April.

#### 60 TO RECEIVE PETITIONS AND E-PETITIONS.

- 60.1 The Mayor invited the submission of petitions from councillors and members of the public. She reminded the Council that petitions would be referred to the appropriate decision-making body without debate and the person presenting the petition would be invited to attend the meeting to which the petition was referred.
- 60.2 Councillor Yates presented a petition signed by over 1,200 residents concerning the need for KSD Environmental Ltd to be found a new location for the company.
- 60.3 Councillor Wealls presented a petition signed by 123 residents concerning the Carnegie Library.

#### 61 WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

- 61.1 The Mayor reported that 4 written questions had been received from members of the public and invited Mr. Hawtree to come forward and address the council.
- 61.2 Mr. Hawtree thanked the Mayor and asked the following question; "Would Councillor Daniel please tell us how many visits have been made to the housebound by the Library service in the past three months?"
- 61.3 Councillor Daniel replied;"94."
- 61.4 Mr. Hawtree asked the following supplementary question; "Under what aegis these visits are made, whether they're Council workers or voluntary, and how that service compares with the home visit service before those were carried out before that time when we were advised that it was necessary to cancel the mobile library to fund the current home visit setup which you've just mentioned?"
- 61.5 Councillor Daniel replied; "There are 41 home delivery volunteers who also deliver, along with staff, is that what you mean by aegis I think so and some residents are visited in other places. And so that is the answer."
- 61.6 The Mayor thanked Mr. Hawtree for attending the meeting and putting his questions and invited Mr. Furness to come forward and address the council.
- 61.7 Mr. Furness thanked the Mayor and asked the following question, "Earlier this month, Councillor Mitchell, a City clean employee claimed in The Argus that Veolia were needlessly incinerating vast quantities of recyclable materials because they simply couldn't cope with the volume. Veolia and the Council flatly denied this. Who is telling the truth?"

61.8 Councillor Mitchell replied, "Veolia and the Council have both emphasised that large quantities of recyclable materials are being incinerated due to the recycling facilities at Hollingdean being overwhelmed are incorrect. This is simply not true on both counts, our contract with Veolia only allows for a maximum of 10% contamination and so we have to be very careful to deal with any contamination that occurs. Contamination occurs when non-recyclable materials are mixed in with recyclable ones and is why we have recently run a trial involving communal bins to see how we can reduce this problem. In this particular instance, 2 loads of heavily contaminated recyclate were tipped from the same vehicle at the Hollingdean facility and could not be sent for recycling. Following an investigation, it transpired that a different collection method was being used on this particular round in an effort to be more efficient, but it was causing contaminated loads.

- The crew and managers have since worked together to find an alternative solution and I'm very pleased to say that contamination levels have significantly reduced, and more materials are being recycled."
- 61.9 Mr. Furness asked the following supplementary question, "You are claiming in effect that Mr Ken Quantic, that employee was a liar? This Council has a duty of care, as an employer, to its employees or could this be an question of the Council looking after the many shareholders of Veolia rather than the few honest Council employees who are trying to save public money?"
- 61.10 Councillor Mitchell replied, "Mr Ken Quantic is a passionate recycler and in an effort, as he saw it, to be more efficient and to collect more recycling, this different method had been introduced on his round. It turned out to be having the opposite effect and he's worked very willingly with managers at City Clean to adopt another solution which is working really well."
- 61.11 The Mayor thanked Mr. Furness for attending the meeting and putting his questions and invited Mr. Taylor to come forward and address the council.
- 61.12 Mr. Taylor asked the following question, "Given the recent scandal with Veolia refusing to take supposed contaminated recycling and refusing to change the contract, would it not be in the best interest of our citizens and the local environment to cancel our contract with Veolia with the utmost haste?"
- 61.13 Councillor Mitchel replied, "Cancelling the Brighton & Hove and East Sussex County Council contract with Veolia based on the reasons that you've put forward would not be in the best interests of our residents because the reasons given are not accurate. To cancel the contract without sound evidenced reasons would have significant consequences for local tax payers, the two councils, the Government and the contractor. The total value of this contract is one1 Billion pounds. As I have pointed out to the previous questioner, our material recovery facility at Hollingdean can deal with up to 10% of contamination in recycling. If too much contaminated material is delivered, Veolia can turn that material away to be recycled in to energy from waste. Contaminated material can harm the plant, one tin of paint can cause a shut down. The contract handles the 300,000 tons of waste and recycling from the residents of Brighton, Hove and East Sussex and operates a range of waste, recycling and composting facilities across the contract area. Veolia supports both Councils to improve recycling rates and

this includes being ready to recycle the difficult PTT plastics when market conditions allow. So, it is not a case of renegotiating the contract, they want to do this. We sort, recycle and compost our own waste, the energy recovered from our waste generates enough power for 25 thousand homes and all of this happens in our own facilities. Not many authorities are in this fortunate position and many, up till now, have been relying on exporting waste or having to pay to use another local authority facility."

- 61.14 The Mayor noted that Mr. Taylor did not have a supplementary question and thanked him for attending the meeting and asking his question. The Mayor then invited Ms. Rimmer to come forward and address the council.
- 61.15 Ms. Rimmer thanked the Mayor and asked the following question, "As per the actions agreed from the motion regarding the Brighton Hospital General Site in July 2018:
- Can the council provide the following a report for Housing & New Homes Committee detailing the availability of land at the site and the most appropriate ways in which to develop it and a copy of the reply to the Chief Executive from partners at Sussex Community NHS Trust, to his communication of the will of the Council expressed in the Notice of Motion, so that all parties can conduct negotiations with this in mind?"
- 61.16 Councillor Meadows replied, "I have instructed officers to work with, and maintain regular contact, with Sussex Community NHS Trust around maximising provision of additional housing supply, including potential joint working options around affordable housing on the Brighton General site. We are working collaboratively to explore options to improve viability to enable greater proportion of housing provision to be affordable within the wider development. However, while we seek to influence and outline potential joint working options, the site is not owned by the Council. On this basis while we can work towards supporting delivery of a scheme that is planning policy compliant and seeks to acknowledge member and public aspirations for delivery of affordable homes, Housing and New Homes Committee have no oversight of how this non-Council site is developed."
- 61.17 The Mayor noted that Ms. Rimmer did not have a supplementary question and thanked her for attending the meeting and putting her question. She also noted that there were no further public questions.

#### 62 DEPUTATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

#### (1) PARKING RESTRICTIONS WITHIN WESTBOURNE WARD

- 62.1 The Mayor reported that two deputations had been received from members of the public and invited Mr. Lyons as the spokesperson for the first deputation to come forward and address the council.
- 62.2 Mr. Lyons thanked the Mayor and stated that he was putting forward the deputation on behalf of the residents of Lawrence Road and the surrounding area in the hope that the council would review the parking arrangements for Westbourne. He stated that residents in parking Zone W had suffered from changes to Zone L which had led to people moving their into the area and shuffling between spaces outside of the restricted hours. As such and following a survey of the affected residents, the deputation asked for the parking restrictions to be reviewed and the residents consulted with a view to

introducing a full parking scheme in Zone W. He referred to the outcome of the survey as detailed in the deputation and hoped that action could be taken to improve the residents' situation.

- 62.3 Councillor Mitchell thanked Mr. Lyons for attending the meeting and speaking on behalf of the deputation. She stated that she would be happy to carefully consider the deputation at the committee meeting and determine what action should then be taken.
- 62.4 The Mayor thanked Mr. Lyons for attending the meeting and speaking on behalf of the deputation. She explained that the points had been noted and the deputation would be referred to the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee for consideration. The persons forming the deputation would be invited to attend the meeting and would be informed subsequently of any action to be taken or proposed in relation to the matter set out in the deputation.

### (2) CLIMATE CHANGE

- 62.5 The Mayor invited Ms. Fisher as the spokesperson for the second deputation to come forward and address the council. The Mayor also noted that the first petition listed for debate under Item 63(1) on the agenda related to the same subject as the deputation. She stated that she was therefore inclined to take the deputation and the petition together before calling on Councillor Mitchell to respond to both and then opening the matter up for debate.
- Ms. Fisher thanked the Mayor and stated that she represented Extinction Rebellion which was an interest group of ordinary people who wanted to ensure a world fit for generations to come. She noted that average global temperatures were increasing and that without any action being taken it was likely to lead to the extinction of species across the world. It also meant that a climate disaster was literally on the city's doorstep, an increase of 1.5 degrees would see areas of Brighton and Hove under water in a matter of years. It was the Council's duty to protect its citizens and there were approximately 11 years left to make a difference and to encourage governments globally to act. If the Council declared a climate emergency then other authorities and governments would have to take notice and look to reduce carbon emissions and support actions to address climate change. She hoped that the Council would support her deputation.
- 62.7 The Mayor thanked Ms. Fisher and stated that she would take the petition for debate listed as Item 63 (1) on the agenda (see item 63 (1) in the minutes).
- 62.8 Following the debate on the petition presented by Mr. Gunbie, the Mayor thanked Ms. Fisher for attending the meeting and speaking on behalf of the deputation. She stated that the deputation would be referred to the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee for consideration at its meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> March, 2019. The persons forming the deputation would be invited to attend the meeting and would be informed subsequently of any action to be taken or proposed in relation to the matter set out in the deputation.

#### 63 PETITIONS FOR COUNCIL DEBATE

# (1) COMMIT BRIGHTON AND HOVE TO ZERO CARBON EMISSIONS BY 2030

63.1 The Mayor stated that where a petition secured 1,250 or more signatures it could be debated at the council meeting. She had been made aware of 3 such petitions. She also noted that there was an amendment to the covering report's recommendation from the Green Group.

- 63.2 The Mayor noted that the lead petitioner Caitriona Vines was unable to attend the meeting and invited Mr. Gunbie to come forward and present the petition on her behalf.
- 63.3 Mr. Gunbie thanked the Mayor and sated that the petition had nearly 1,400 signatures in support which had been reached in just under 4 weeks of the petition being started. He wanted to congratulate the Council on approving the notice of motion in December relating to climate change and noted that council was leading the way in seeking to address this issue. There was a clear need to encourage low carbon living and the petition was asking the council to make consideration of carbon emission levels an integral part of its decision making for all matters. Both Bristol and Manchester Councils had incorporated the need to reduce carbon emissions into their Action Plans and he hoped Brighton & Hove would follow the example and work with community groups, partner organisations and schools to reach the target.
- 63.4 Councillor Mitchell thanked Mr. Gunbie for presenting the petition and noted that the council was taking action in light of the approved notice of motion in December; which included having a report to the Policy, Resources & Growth Committee and looking to work with partners to take matters forward. She also confirmed that she was happy to accept the Green Group's amendment.
- 63.5 Councillor Sykes welcomed the petition and moved an amendment on behalf of the Green Group, which called for the council to publicise matters and for a report to the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee. He acknowledged Councillor Mitchell's willingness to accept the amendment and stated that there was a need to take the initiative and to work with partners to get the message out and to start to address the issue.
- 63.6 Councillor Gibson formally seconded the amendment and stated that there was a climate emergency and a need to take action now for the benefit of future generations and to encourage others to follow suit.
- 63.7 Councillor Janio stated that it was an important issue and had been recognised by the government and he noted that the UK had been outperforming on carbon targets. He noted that a report was due to come to the Policy, Resources & Growth Committee and welcomed the opportunity to consider that in due course. He also noted that issue of climate change had been previously considered by a scrutiny panel in 2010.
- 63.8 The Mayor thanked Mr. Gunbie for attending the meeting and presenting the petition, and noted that the amendment had been accepted. She therefore put the recommendations as amended to the vote which was carried unanimously.

#### 63.9 **RESOLVED**:

(1) That the petition be noted and referred to the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee for consideration at its meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> March 2019;

- (2) That the council seek to publicise this council's recognition of climate and biodiversity emergencies (as agreed unanimously at a meeting of Full Council, December 2018) as follows:
  - To request a brief report from the Chief Executive outlining low-cost measures the Communications team could organise to publicise the 'Climate Emergency' declaration agreed by this Council;
  - (ii) To request the placement of an online banner on the home page of the BHCC website 'Unanimous ambition of this Council: zero carbon by 2030' and
- (3) To request that the Chief Executive promote this petition on climate and biodiversity and the ambition of this Council to achieve carbon neutral status by 2030 to partner organisations, including: the Greater Brighton Economic Board, the Transport for the South East partnership, the SE7 group, ORBIS, CCG and other similar bodies.

# (2) STOP ZIPPOS CIRCUS FROM RETURNING TO BRIGHTON AND HOVE TO EXPLOIT ANIMALS FOR ENTERTAINMENT

- 63.10 The Mayor stated that where a petition secured 1,250 or more signatures it could be debated at the council meeting. She had been made aware of 1 such petition. She also noted that there was an amendment to the covering report's recommendation from the Green Group.
- 63.11 The Mayor then invited Ms. Wood to come forward and present the petition.
- 63.12 Ms. Wood thanked the Mayor and sated that the petition resulted from concerns about the use of animals by Zippos Circus. Whilst he noted Zippos had confirmed their circus in 2019 would not involve any animals, the aim of the petition was to get a change in policy to prevent any future instances of animals being used for live entertainment. The petition had 5,750 signatures and he hoped that councillors would listen to the voices of these people and ensure a change in policy could be achieved and an amendment made to the Animal Welfare Charter. There was a clear need to prevent animals from suffering stress and anxiety and he noted that the RSPCA supported not using animals in circuses. She also drew attention to a recent government survey that found 95.4% of people supported a ban on the use of wild animals and there was strong support for domestic animals to be included. She suggested that with Zippos bringing an all human circus to the city this year, it showed that the use of animals was not a consideration for their business model and noted in 2016 following a public outcry they stopped using cats in their shows. He called on the council to set an example and to support the petition.
- 63.13 Councillor Robins thanked Ms. Wood for presenting the petition and stated that Zippos had confirmed their intention to bring the successful show from the Edinburgh Festival to the city, which was an entirely human production. He also confirmed that no other

circus bookings had been made for 2019 in the city. He noted that in the past council animal welfare officers had inspected the conditions for the animals at Zippos and found them to be suitable. The Animal Welfare Charter set out the council's policy on the use of animals on council owned land with an exception for horses and ponies and under current legislation this could not be altered. However, he was happy for the matter to be reconsidered at the Tourism, Development & Culture Committee.

- 63.14 Councillor Mac Cafferty welcomed the petition and moved an amendment on behalf of the Green Group, which called for the Tourism, Development & Culture Committee to review the matter and to consider a report to enable the Animal Welfare Charter to be amended so that the use of animals was not permitted on council owned land. He noted that a similar petition had been brought to the council two years previously and had not been taken forward. He hoped that on this occasion the petition and the amendment would be accepted and necessary action taken to enable the Animal Welfare Charter to be amended as there was no need to use animals in this way for entertainment.
- 63.15 Councillor Druitt formally seconded the amendment and stated that he wanted to thank Zippos for taking note of the petition and deciding to bring their non-animal show to the city this year. He also noted that Councillor Robins had previously agreed to review the policy in 2017 but when the matter came to committee the decision was to retain the Charter and the policy as it was. He hoped that this time round there would be a change in position.
- 63.16 Councillor Nemeth stated that he welcomed the opportunity to discuss the matter further at committee and to explore the use of animals in circuses as there was a need to consider all sides of the issue. He noted that Zippos had been coming to city for a number of years and had their intention to continue to do so should be welcomed as it did benefit the city. He therefore hoped that the council could work with them and other partners to find a solution.
- 63.17 Councillor Robins noted the comments and stated that he could not accept the amendment and was having to defend a policy he did not agree with. However, the legal advice was that the legislation did not enable the council to extend the ban but in taking the petition to committee he was happy for that advice to be reviewed.
- 63.18 The Mayor thanked Ms. Wood for attending the meeting and presenting the petition, and noted that the Green Group's amendment had not been accepted. She therefore put the amendment to the vote which was lost by 21 votes to 23 with 3 abstentions.
- 63.19 The Mayor then put the recommendation detailed in the covering report to the vote which was carried unanimously.

#### 63.20 **RESOLVED**:

(1) That the petition be noted and referred to the Tourism, Development & Culture Committee for consideration at its meeting on the 7<sup>th</sup> March 2019.

#### (3) MAKE BRIGHTON AND HOVE EVENTS PLASTIC FREE

63.21 The Mayor stated that where a petition secured 1,250 or more signatures it could be debated at the council meeting. She had been made aware of 3 such petitions. She also noted that there was an amendment to the covering report's recommendation from the Green Group.

- 63.22 The Mayor then invited Dr Kingdom to come forward and present the petition.
- 63.23 Dr Kingdom thanked the Mayor and sated that the petition had over 3,500 signatures calling on the council to ban the use of single-use plastics at outdoor events in the city. It was felt that the council could move faster to make change happen and is in a position to stipulate conditions as part of any agreement that allows an event to take place in the city which would see the use of alternatives to single-use plastic cups, the provision of water fountains, and improved public transport routes. She believed that Brighton should be regarded as an aspirational destination for event co-ordinators and she hoped that the petition would be supported.
- 63.24 Councillor Robins thanked Dr Kingdom for presenting the petition and stated that officers were already considering how to ensure sustainable event management and to amend the Event Strategy to take account of this issue. He noted that significant changes had already been achieved by working with the Brighton half-marathon organisers but he accepted that there was still a long way to go. A report detailing the proposed Event Strategy was due to come to the committee in March and that would be helpful given that was when the petition would also be considered. He hoped that there would be a possibility to phase out single-use plastics at events in the city.
- 63.25 Councillor Littman welcomed the petition and moved an amendment on behalf of the Green Group, which called for the Tourism, Development & Culture Committee to commission a further report for September that looked at options for other actions that could be implemented to help ensure events in the city were plastic free.
- 63.26 Councillor Greenbaum formally seconded the amendment.
- 63.27 Councillor Nemeth welcomed the petition in principal and agreed that action needed to be taken, but also noted that it would be difficult to prevent events such as the half marathon from being completely plastic free given the use of the material in other associated products such as, energy capsules and the medals presented at the end of the event. He also suggested that it would be difficult to control the actions of stall holders at such events but looked forward to considering the reports at future meetings of the committee.
- 63.28 Councillor Robins noted the comments and stated that he could not accept the amendment. He was happy to discuss the petition's ambitions at the Tourism, Development & Culture Committee but felt that the council was already doing a great deal in this area and perhaps needed to consider how to publicise that more. He noted that other cities such as San Francisco had attempted to reduce use of plastic bottles but then found other problems with the alternatives that were put in place.

63.29 The Mayor thanked Dr Kingdom for attending the meeting and presenting the petition, and noted that the Green Group's amendment had not been accepted. She therefore put the amendment to the vote which was carried by 29 votes to 19 votes.

63.30 The Mayor then put the recommendations as amended to the vote which was carried unanimously.

#### 63.31 **RESOLVED**:

- (1) That the petition be noted and referred to the Tourism, Development & Culture Committee for consideration at its meeting on the 7<sup>th</sup> March 2019;
- (2) That, in addition to the referral of this petition to the March meeting, to request that a further report be received by Tourism, Development & Culture Committee before the end of September 2019, containing outline proposals and costings for the following:
  - The introduction of an Environmental Impact Charge levied by the Council on event organisers to directly mitigate against any long term environmental or ecological damage;
  - The provision of infrastructure aimed at reducing waste and the usage of plastics at events (e.g. water-fountains or properly signposted standpipes), and improved recycling facilities;
  - -The employment of an additional Officer in the Sustainability Team; working specifically on achieving the timetables outlined here and bringing in best practice, such as the management of waste at Latitude Festival in collaboration with Greenpeace, and other measures as set out in the Dec 2018 Notice of Motion on 'Climate and Biodiversity Emergencies' and
- (3) That the report in 2.2 above should further explore:
  - Options to improve partnership working between the Council, event organisers, and local campaign groups, regarding plastic and waste reduction; and
  - Additional work with partners to ensure better public transport links for all events, encouraging low-emission travel.

# 64 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR AND DEPUTY CHAIR TO THE CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE & SKILLS COMMITTEE

64.1 The Mayor stated that the next item sought to appoint the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Children, Young People & Skills Committee, following the previous Chair's decision to stand down from the role and the resignation of councillor Penn who had been the Deputy Chair. She noted that Councillors Hamilton and Chapman had been put forward for the roles of Chair and Deputy Chair respectively asked if there were any further nominations.

64.2 Councillor Mac Cafferty expressed his concern over the fact that this would result in a third Chair of the Committee during the term of the Administration. He also questioned the decision to propose the Finance Lead to the role of Chair, given the demand on their time for budget setting purposes.

- 64.3 Councillor Yates stated that the Administration was entitled to put forward their nominations for the roles and there was nothing to prevent changes happening in-year. He therefore felt it was appropriate put forward Councillors Hamilton and Chapman as Chair and Deputy Chair.
- 64.4 The Mayor noted that there were no other nominations for the roles and moved that Councillor Hamilton be appointed as the Chair of the Children, Young People & Skills Committee with immediate effect.
- 64.5 **RESOLVED:** That Councillor Hamilton be appointed as the Chair of the Children, Young People & Skills Committee.
- 64.6 The Mayor then moved that Councillor Chapman be appointed as Deputy Chair of the Children, Young People & Skills Committee.
- 64.7 **RESOLVED:** That Councillor Chapman be appointed as the Deputy Chair of the Children, Young People & Skills Committee.
- 65 CALL OVER FOR REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.
- (a) Callover
- 65.1 The Mayor noted that there were no reports for decision and none referred for information and therefore no need for a call over.
- 66 WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS.
- 66.1 The Mayor reminded Council that written questions from Members and the replies from the appropriate Councillor were taken as read by reference to the list included in the addendum which had been circulated prior to the meeting as detailed below:
  - (1) Councillor: Janio
- 66.2 In 2017, Brighton and Hove City Council removed 'The Coal Yard adjacent to Sackville Trading Estate' from the *East Sussex, South Downs and Brighton & Hove Waste and Minerals Sites Plan.* Why did the Labour Administration not attempt to remove Hangleton Bottom from the plan, and do the Labour administration have any plans to remove it at the earliest opportunity?
  - Reply from Councillor Mitchell, Chair of the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee
- 66.3 The City council is required to prepare a plan and identify sites to meet the waste management needs of the city. In response to this the Waste and Mineral Sites Plan

was prepared with our partners, East Sussex County Council and the South Downs National Park Authority, and adopted in February 2017. It covers the period to 2026.

The Sackville Coal Yard site was removed from the Plan during preparation following public consultation which indicated there was little prospect of the site being delivered for waste management use. Evidence was provided to demonstrate that it would not come forward for waste use – which means it would fail the tests for a site allocation.

Hangleton Bottom is now the only undeveloped, safeguarded site for waste management use within the administrative area of Brighton & Hove. The retention and inclusion of the site within the Plan was considered important to meet the future waste management needs of the Plan area. A number of other safeguarded sites are located in East Sussex, and as the largest urban area within the Plan area, it is important that Brighton & Hove makes a contribution towards meeting site allocation requirements. During the examination process the allocation of the site was found to be 'sound' by the examining Inspector.

# (2) Councillor Mac Cafferty

An astonishing 1 in 6 people in the city wait a whole week to see their GP with too many waiting longer; 10 GP surgeries in Brighton and Hove have now closed in the last couple of years. What representation has the Administration made about this intolerable situation to the Clinical Commissioning Group and when are these waiting figures going to decrease?

# Reply from Councillor Barford - Chair of the Health & Wellbeing Board

66.5 The Administration and senior officers continue to work closely with the CCG through the Health and Wellbeing Board to ensure a joined up approach to providing effective health and care services to local people, raising any concerns at CCG local and alliance level as well as nationally through bodies such as NHS England, the Local Government Association and government departments.

We understand that effort is made by the CCG to support GPs in the city.

We know from the most recent national GP survey that Brighton patients are more likely to be happy with their GP appointment times and satisfied with the type of appointment offered than the national average. But General Practice services across the city are facing the same pressures that are being reported across England. As a statutory public body, the CCG work within the current policy and framework set out by NHS England and will continue to do so to ensure patients receive on going GP services.

The CCG has put extensive measures in place to support GPs in the city, including financial and educational support to help them run their surgeries more effectively and efficiently to free up doctors to provide more care for patients - one surgery saved the equivalent of seven weeks of consultation time per year through a change in repeat prescription process we identified.

A key area of CCG plans to improve health and social care across the city is to make sure general practice is more sustainable, more resilient and works efficiently and

effectively for many years ahead. This has and will include integrating some services, with other clinical specialists like pharmacists better supporting GPs, and helping GPs work more collaboratively together. There are also a number of specific schemes such as GP retention packages as well as oversees recruitment that the CCG is implementing as part of its workforce strategy.

The CCG states that it is committed to ensuring local people have access to GP appointments. Availability is monitored through national mandated indicators, such as Bi-Annual Extended Access Data Collection, and has successfully rolled out an additional 2600 'Improved Access' appointments a month across the city so that all patients can access evening and weekend appointments.

# (3) Councillor Mac Cafferty

66.6 The Association of Directors of Adult Social Services described this year's proposed government funding settlement for adult social care as "both inadequate and temporary." How is the Administration lobbying government for adequate long-term funding for adult social care?

# Reply from Councillor Barford, Chair of the Health & Wellbeing Board

66.7 Thank you for the question. Certainly I would agree that this year's government funding settlement for adult social care has been very challenging in the face of increasing demand and complexity. This administration has contributed to the government's Green Paper consultation and continues to lobby for change through the Local Government Association and the Sustainability and Transformation Partnership, as well as directly through political means.

Our council's senior officers continue to lobby central government, coordinated through the Local Government Association, with the support of the Association of Directors and Adult Social Services. We await with keen interest the content of the further delayed Green Paper which we hope will introduce realistic and timely proposals for the adequate long term funding of adult social care in Brighton and Hove.

# (4) Councillor Mac Cafferty

66.8 As ownership figures for electric vehicles continue to rise in the city what work is being done to ensure that the location of charge points does not take valuable pedestrian space? This could include for e.g.: designs which are integrated into a street lamp column or are attached to it; and installing build-outs where footway widths are not sufficient.

# Reply from Councillor Mitchell, Chair of the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee

66.9 At present when installing any street furniture officers assess the footway and ensure wherever possible that we follow specific national guidance on footway widths. However as much of our road and footway network in the City pre-dates modern design standards and some of our footways fall below the guidance widths, however where this is the

case other suitable locations for street furniture and EV infrastructure are found where practicable.

Additional measures such as build outs, footway widening and on-carriageway infrastructure protected by bollards, do come at a cost so where possible we do look to use existing footway areas with adequate width. EV infrastructure is installed to the front of the footways to avoid trip hazards associated with cables, and care is taken on their proximity to nearby street furniture to ensure that chargers do not affect wheelchair / pram access.

Our current rollout of EV chargers will be installed within lamp columns to further reduce obstruction and street clutter.

# (5) Councillor Mac Cafferty

66.10 In a Yougov ClientEarth poll\* from August 2018, two thirds are in favour of breaking up the Big Six's share of the energy market to favour smaller, cleaner, and locally owned energy systems. The poll also indicated that over 60% of U.K. households want to install solar plus storage solutions. 1 April marks the closure of the favourable feed-in tariff scheme to new applicants despite the large growth of sustainable energy achieved under the scheme. What support is the Administration offering to the many local sustainable energy cooperatives to continue their valuable work?

\*https://www.documents.clientearth.org/wp-content/uploads/library/2018-08-20-clientearths-climate-snapshot-coll-en.pdf

# Reply from Councillor Mitchell, Chair of the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee

66.11 The council recognises that the closure of the Feed-in-Tariff (FiT) scheme on 1 April 2019 will make the installation of new solar PV more financially challenging and are working to address the challenges this brings to the city.

We are a partner in the EU-funded Solarise project, which aims to understand how best Brighton & Hove and surrounding areas can continue to deploy solar technology without subsidy, including on our social housing assets, as we seek to deliver the benefits of solar technologies to the most vulnerable in the city.

Community Energy Groups are one way of ensuring locally-owned assets contribute to the city's energy supply. Since July, BHCC has been working with community groups and other organisations to increase the number of schools within the city that benefit from solar power. So far, ten schools have agreed to use the framework to install solar PV on their school, some of which have chosen to use community energy groups. In doing so, the schools will reduce their energy bills and carbon footprint, whilst keeping more money in the local economy.

There is much more to the future of energy in city than installing more solar power and the council continues to engage in the energy sector in lots of ways, for example:

 We host energy switching desks at our main office sites, including one by a community energy group earlier this month as part of Big Energy Saving Week

We have supported Sussex's first local energy supplier, Your Energy Sussex since March 2018. A successful first year means that this energy supplier is now providing over 3600 domestic customers from across the region with local, renewable energy. All surplus income is reinvested into alleviating fuel poverty locally and in last week's Which? Survey, our partner organisation delivering customer services, Robin Hood Energy, came 2nd out of 30 for customer satisfaction.

- We are coordinating the development of the Greater Brighton Energy Plan, working with community energy groups, public and private sector organisations from across the region to develop an energy system fit for the future.
- With other local authorities across Sussex, we are also working to develop Retrofitworks. This is a project which has recently received funding to develop a multi-stakeholder co-operative, aimed at delivering high-quality retrofits at a fair price to both the able-to-pay market and the contractor, whilst ensuring that customers are supported throughout the process by trained Retrofit Coordinators.

# (6) Councillor Mac Cafferty

66.12 Across the entire council workforce, how many staff in which departments are currently engaged in a redundancy consultation process?

# Reply from Councillor Hamilton, Deputy Chair (Finance) of the Policy, Resources & Growth Committee

66.13 Across the council there are currently four live consultations at this time. These relate to:

West Pier Hostel (Health & Adults Social Care).

Libraries (Neighbourhoods, Communities & Housing).

Regulatory Services (Neighbourhoods, Communities & Housing).

Democratic Services (Strategy, Governance & Law).

In total just under 200 staff are being consulted. It is not possible to be certain, but management expect that the consultations will lead to under 10 staff leaving with voluntary severance agreements, and one staff member moving into the council's redeployment process.

# (7) Councillor Sykes

66.14 Libraries: Please can Councillor Daniel provide the current annual value of the Book Fund and how this has changed since 2010 In addition please can Councillor Daniel give the separate annual cost to the Council of the bibliographical services provided by Bertram's and how this has changed if at all since 2010?

Reply from Councillor Daniel, Chair of the Neighbourhoods, Inclusion, Communities & Equalities Committee

66.15 The current value of the book fund is £643K. In 2010 the value was £672K and the value has changed in the intervening period in two ways:

- There is an annual increase based on the Retail Price Index (RPI)
- Savings were made from the book fund in 2016 and 2017 totalling £150K

The annual cost of the bibliographic services provided by Bertram's is currently £65K and this is a 13% reduction from the cost of £75K in 2010. Despite the overall fall in the value of the book fund of £29K between 2010 and now, the libraries service is procuring more items overall by modernising to offer electronic resources to customers in addition to standard stock:

- In 2010 the libraries service procured 36,220 books, DVDs and CDs plus magazines and some on-line resources;
- In the last financial year the libraries service procured 38,462 books, DVDs and CDs in addition to building an offering of over 16,000 eBooks, eAudiobooks and eMagazines, and a number of on-line resources.

The advantage of offering eBooks, eAudiobooks and eMagazines is that they are available in all libraries and from home, and they do not attract any fines as they automatically delete themselves at the due date. Also they never get damaged thus saving costs to the council to replace damaged stock.

## (8) Councillor Sykes

66.16 Waste and recycling: Please can Councillor Mitchell provide an annual figure (in kilogrammes) for Brighton and Hove per household domestic waste arisings (to the Energy Recovery Facility), domestic recycling (to the Hollingdean Materials Recovery Facility) and domestic garden waste (to Veolia's composting facility) from 2010 to date?

# Reply from Councillor Mitchell, Chair of the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee

66.17 We are awaiting further clarification from East Sussex County Council on a couple of points regarding the requested data, and so a response to this written question will be sent directly to Cllr Sykes as soon as possible.

#### (9) Councillor Druitt

#### 66.18 Impact of Brexit:

On 21 July 2016 Councillor Deane and I submitted a Motion to Council which was passed on the impact of Brexit. The Motion requested that:

the Chief Executive write to the Government's new EU unit setting out concerns
with the local impact of any loss of EU funding in research, higher education,
infrastructure and community support, the value of free movement of people to
Brighton & Hove's economy, as well as the impact on workers' rights and the
environment in Brighton and Hove if legal obligations and protections under EU law
are weakened on leaving the EU;

- Officer reports be presented to future meetings of the relevant Committees setting out the likely impacts of Brexit, and recommendations on appropriate mitigation measures that could be taken within areas of each committee's portfolio;

- the Chief Executive ensure Brighton and Hove plays a full part in the national feedback process initiated by the LGA on the fallout of Brexit.

The motion was passed but I haven't seen officer reports of the kind described above presented to any committees I have been on, and I have never heard of the outcome of any actions taken by the Chief Executive as a result of this Motion. Can I ask what has been done in response to this motion, which committees have received specific Brexit impact reports and what actions have been taken as a result to prepare the city in the eventuality that Brexit, in one form or other, actually happens?

# Reply from Councillor Yates, Leader of the Council

66.19 I am sorry that no specific response to this motion had previously been forthcoming but will outline for you some of the work the Council has undertaken since the Referendum result on 23 June 2016, including reporting to Committee.

In July 2016 a letter was sent to the then Secretary of State for Exiting the EU with reference to your Notice of Motion but no response has been forthcoming. A copy is attached as an appendix to this response (detailed at the end of the response).

Also in July 2016 the Chief Executive commissioned the then Policy Team to produce a report for ELT on potential implications of the UK's withdrawal from the EU. A 'Leaving the EU Officer Working Group' was formed with membership consisting of 20 officers from services across the organisation that were understood to be potentially impacted by Brexit.

A high level report on potential impacts was produced for ELT and the Council's Leadership in January 2017. Action resulting from this report was for the Policy Team to continue to monitor developments and raise issues for senior officer attention as and when necessary, as official information was limited in detail.

Early engagement and discussion had also taken place with partners through Brighton & Hove Connected: City Management Board to better understand their view and potential mitigations against Brexit impacts.

During 2017/18 intelligence from across organisation service areas was shared for monitoring purposes by the PPS Team. However, this intelligence was not vastly different to the initial report in January 2017.

Consideration of the potential impacts of Brexit has continued across the organisation in a number of different ways, for example the development of the new Economic Strategy was informed by Brexit and attempts to ready us for a post-Brexit UK.

In response to a Notice of Motion at October 2018 Full Council a <u>report</u> went to Policy, Resources & Growth Committee on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2018 outlining the <u>potential impacts</u> of Brexit on the council and the city and the Chief Executive's correspondence with the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government regarding Brexit. Council

agreed to recommendations in the report including the formation of a Member working group to ensure member oversight of the potential risks to the council and city and highlighted that strategic oversight was maintained by ELT with support from an officer working group.

Our Brexit monitoring and planning is also continuing through external means such as the Sussex Resilience Forum. We are also highlighting key issues and working on ways to mitigate certain impacts through the City Management Board, Coast to Capital, Greater Brighton Economic Board, SE7 and the LGA with lobbying opportunities to Government and emergency planning protocols under regular review.

**Appendix** 

Letter to Secretary of State referred to in the Leader of the Council's response to question 9:

Rt Hon David Davis MP House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA

Date:

Our Ref: MW/GR

Dear Mr Davis,

#### **NOTICE OF MOTION**

Please find enclosed a notice of motion entitled "THE IMPACTS OF BREXIT" which was passed at the last meeting of Brighton & Hove City Council on 21 July 2016.

I would be most grateful if you could give these matters your serious consideration and respond to me at your earliest convenience.

Yours sincerely

**Geoff Raw Chief Executive** 

#### **NOTICE OF MOTION**

#### THE IMPACTS OF BREXIT

This council is concerned to ensure the economic, social and environmental wellbeing of the city. In furtherance of this the Council will seek to consider (within the limitation of the law):

 Maintaining the protections afforded to Council workers that might otherwise be lost following the loss of EU Directives

 Maintaining the environmental protection standards that are currently in place in Brighton & Hove as a result of our membership of the EU, especially with regard to air and water quality.

#### The Council requests:

- That the Chief Executive to write to the Government's new EU unit setting out concerns with the local impact of any loss of EU funding in research, higher education, infrastructure and community support, the value of free movement of people to Brighton & Hove's economy, as well as the impact on workers' rights and the environment in Brighton and Hove if legal obligations and protections under EU law are weakened on leaving the EU
- That Officer reports be presented to future meetings of the relevant Committees setting out the likely impacts of Brexit, and recommendations on appropriate mitigation measures that could be taken within areas of each committee's portfolio.

#### (10) Councillor Druitt

66.20 Making vacant council buildings available for use as homeless shelters:

On the 26th January 2017 Councillor Gibson and I submitted a motion to Council asking that the Policy, Resources & Growth Committee commission and give consideration to an urgent report that would enable the City Council to:

- Make policy that allows for all vacant City Council buildings to be made freely available for use as temporary homeless shelters, to be run by community charity and voluntary organisations that are able and willing to do so;
- Publicises the availability of vacant City Council buildings to the voluntary and community sector, and calls for expressions of interest from the community to operate these spaces;
- Make preparations for this at the earliest possible time, given the onset of winter, and offers clear guidance frameworks and assistance to all interested groups, particularly with navigating any regulatory requirements; and
- Sets Terms of Reference for use of the spaces, conditions of use and clearly details the arrangements for reclaiming possession of the relevant premises when circumstances require it.

We all know about the Brighton Centre Night Shelter that was set up in response to this Motion, and I am very grateful to the Administration and officers for making this happen – it has no doubt made a world of difference to those using it. However, this Motion called specifically for vacant Council buildings to be made available to the community, that availability of buildings be publicised and that guidance was developed to facilitate the use of Council buildings for this purpose. Given that this motion was passed can I ask what has been done to make this happen?

Reply from Councillor Moonan, Lead Member for Rough Sleeping

66.21 Following the notice of motion, we have looked at ways in which buildings can be used by community groups as ad hoc shelters. We know when we set up the winter night shelter in 2017, none of the empty buildings the council owned were suitable, and we ended up using the Brighton Centre, which was not an empty building. Indeed this year, we have procured a building to use for SWEP as none of the buildings the council had empty were suitable.

If we are able to identify a building in the future, there are still many issues in relation to this. Firstly, we have few buildings which are empty for either the required amount of time to enable community groups to plan, raise funds and undertake the necessary work and obtain planning permission to use the building as a shelter. However, if a viable building is found in the future we would be happy to provide advice on how to navigate the necessary regulatory requirements.

In addition, many of our buildings are in residential areas and we may need relevant committee agreement or would have to undertake resident consultation before we do this. This can be a challenge.

Where we have buildings which are awaiting works/demolition we are working to see how we can use them to assist the homeless community. We are currently working on such a building in Portslade, however the legal situation has been complex and this has slowed progress.

We are also aware that just providing accommodation is not enough. We know that for service users support and treatment are as important as a building. It may be difficult for community groups to provide accommodation to people with challenging needs without the ability to provide appropriate support and there are often significant cost implications with this. Where councillors or residents have identified a building, we have carefully looked into how it may be used and we will continue to do this.

I am pleased however with the work that the administration has done, opening the winter night shelter, the rough sleepers hub and the improved SWEP which has given shelter and support to a significant number of rough sleepers already this winter.

### (11) Councillor Druitt

#### 66.22 Cycling Strategy:

On 20th July 2017 Councillor Littman and I submitted a Motion to Council to request that a report be brought to Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee outlining options for implementing a specific and ambitious cycling strategy for Brighton and Hove, with information included that would help to:

- identify what progress has been made against the cycling goals of the Local Transport Plan, to encourage a healthy cycling culture whereby cycling is safe, easy and enjoyable;
- Explore options for the continued development of better cycling infrastructure such as the creation of a 'Brighton and Hove Cycle network' (modelled on the successful London Cycle Network) of joined up and marked routes, connecting sections of 'stranded' routes and improving the cycling experience across road junctions;

- Explore the funding options available (such as grants, Section 106 agreements and the Community Infrastructure Levy) to support improved cycling infrastructure, more cycle parking and greater use of initiatives like personal travel planning, employee purchase schemes and rider and maintenance training;

- Facilitate greater engagement with residents and cycling groups in the city to ensure maximum support for a cycling strategy and to encourage the creation of political 'Cycling Champions' across all parties.

The Motion was passed and I am aware that each political group has now has a Cycling Champion (or two in the case of the Green group). Can I ask whether a report such as the one described above was ever brought to the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee and whether we now have the ambitious strategy that was called for? And further to that, what cycling infrastructure and other measures have been developed as a result?

# Reply from Councillor Mitchell, Chair of the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee

66.23 I and Members of the ET&S Committee will recall the discussion of your Notice of Motion in March last year, and that the decision of the committee was to note it. Therefore, that decision remains and to fulfil it a report will need to come back to the committee at some point. This matter was also raised at Full Council in April last year in a public question. The conclusion of those discussions remain the current situation—which is that officers are now scoping and developing a Local Cycling & Walking Infrastructure Plan (known as an L C WIP) in line with Government advice, within the time and resources currently available to them to do so given their other established commitments and priorities. This will involve stakeholder engagement as part of the process and enable the council to take further steps towards identifying and prioritising the infrastructure that the city needs to improve its cycling network. Subject to the availability of an appropriate level of resources to enable that work to reach an appropriate point when a decision will need to be made, I am sure that the ETS Committee members will welcome sight of a report on its agenda.

In the meantime, a number of significant local and strategic projects are either being developed or underway that will deliver better facilities for existing cyclists and encourage others to cycle more often in a safer environment. One of those schemes is Phase 1, 2 & 3 of Valley Gardens which includes a significant improvement to the north-south National Cycle Network connecting to the seafront. Others include the expansion of the citywide BikeShare scheme and the Safer Routes to School scheme in the Hangleton area. We also need to ensure that developers provide good quality infrastructure in their planning applications and I am pleased to see that the recently submitted development proposals for the Toad's Hole Valley site include ideas for connecting the site with other parts of the cycling network in Hove to provide for, and encourage, a greater number of local cycling journeys into the city and the National Park.

These and other schemes will make the option of cycling for shorter distances much more attractive for residents, and potentially enable some of those journeys to switch from the car, providing a bit more capacity on our roads for local trips that need to be

made by car or longer distance trips made by people for work or leisure, whilst improving the health of those who choose to do so.

#### (12) Councillor Gibson

66.24 Please provide a table for each year starting from 2011 up to 2018 with a row giving the numbers of rough sleepers assessed estimates and another row for the number found when counts were undertaken (in March and November in these years). For years in which both a count and estimate were undertaken (2011,2013 and 2014) please provide the % that the count number is of the estimate for that year and show how much more in % terms estimates have been compared to counts on average for all years in which both a count and estimate have been undertaken?

#### Reply from Councillor Moonan, Lead Member for Rough Sleeping

#### 66.25 Official rough sleeping count November 2018

Brighton & Hove City Council moved to a rough sleeper count in 2018 following discussions with the MHCLG about the methodology used by other local authorities. The date for the count was agreed in October 2018 in collaboration with Worthing and East Sussex Councils.

The official street count took place in the early hours of the morning on the 21st November 2018. The whole city was split into 13 patches to be covered. Each patch was allocated an experienced member of outreach staff and at least one volunteer. This count process was independently verified by Homeless Link (the organisation commissioned by the government to oversee correct practice). The Brighton Centre night shelter was not open at the time of the count, although the churches night shelter was. Any people supported off the streets due to the weather on the night of the count were added into the final count number.

The total number of rough sleepers found sleeping rough on that one night was 64.

The street count undertaken in November 2018 is not directly comparable to the estimate undertaken in 2017 because the methodology used is different. Both methods are equally valid and were independently verified by Homeless Link who sent a representative to both the count in 2018 and the estimate in 2017. The numbers of rough sleepers recorded since 2010 have increased very significantly in Brighton and Hove and around the country. But recent local data demonstrates that the numbers of rough sleepers is now reducing, thanks in part to additional funding which has provided 20 new units of accommodation and a 17 space hub since September 2018. However, flow onto the streets remains high with 48 new rough sleepers being identified in the month the count took place. Data from the councils B'think system shows that the street outreach service engaged with 74 individual rough sleepers during the week of the street count.

November	Rough sleeper Count verified by Homeless Link
2010	14
2011	36

2012	43	
2013	50	
2014	41	
2015		
2016		
2017		
2018	64	

November	Rough Sleeper Estimate verified by Homeless Link
2010	
2011	
2012	
2013	
2014	
2015	78
2016	144
2017	178

## (13) Councillor Gibson

66.26 How many properties have been sold under the Right to Buy between 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018 and 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2019?

#### Reply from Councillor Meadows, Chair of the Housing & New Homes Committee

66.27 Right to buy sales figures are usually recorded quarterly. At the end of Quarter 3 (31 December) 42 properties had been sold. In the first few days of Quarter 4 (ie up to 22 January) a further 3 properties have been sold. Therefore a total of **45** properties have been sold under the Right to Buy between 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018 and 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2019.

# (14) Councillor Gibson

- 66.28 Please provide a table for each year from 2011/12 up till 2017/18 showing the expenditure per property on HRA properties for each of the following areas:
  - Responsive repairs,
  - Cyclical maintenance and voids
  - Major (capital) repairs
  - Total expenditure on all repairs maintenance and major repairs
  - Housing management

Reply from Councillor Meadows, Chair of the Housing & New Homes Committee

Expenditure per property							
	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Responsive Repairs and voids	704.36	n/a	693.88	688.10	603.04	585.91	588.02
Major (capital) repairs and cyclical maintenance	2,250.51	n/a	2,733.73	2,728.64	3,059.62	2,532.73	2,312.89
Total expenditure on all repairs maintenance and major repairs	2,954.87	n/a	3,427.61	3,416.74	3,662.66	3,118.64	2,900.91
Housing management	409.88	n/a	449.81	408.52	381.22	404.01	285.84
Information taken from annual Housemark returns, using defined expenditure headings							
2012-13 data not available, as BHCC did not take part in Housemark benchmarking							

66.29 We did not take part in the 2012/13 Housemark benchmarking, so this data is not available.

### (15) Councillor Gibson

- 66.30 Please What was the average number of people rough sleepers housed per night in December 2018 and in January up to 22<sup>nd</sup> 2019 in:
  - Council night shelter (Brighton centre)
  - Rough sleeper hub
  - Churches night shelter
  - Severe Weather Emergency Provision (SWEP) for the nights it was open.

#### Reply from Councillor Moonan, Lead Member for Rough Sleeping

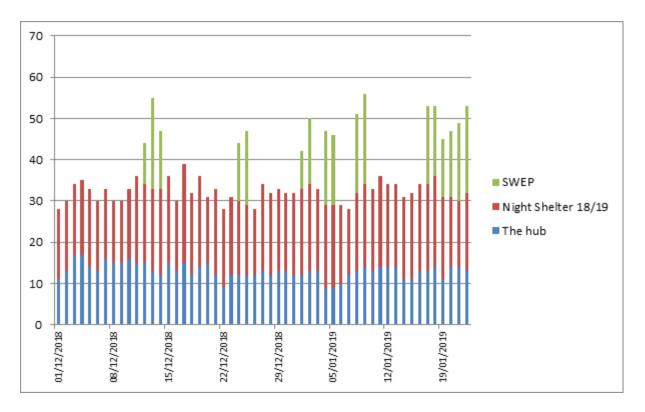
66.31 The Night shelter has a capacity of 30 and the hub has a capacity of 17. The spaces in these services are all allocated, however not all individuals who have been offered a space will attend. Every effort is made to encourage people to take up the space they have been offered however if they do not, the space will be reallocated to another person. SWEP's capacity is unlimited.

Excluding the Churches Night Shelter which has a maximum capacity of 15 people:

- The average number of attendees for The hub was 13
- The average number for the Night Shelter was 19
- The average number for SWEP for when it was open was 17.

The maximum number of attendees across all three services (when SWEP was open) was 56 (09/01)

See table below:



Where data for any date was not available at the time of writing, numbers were estimated based on the lower number of the preceding or following night.

# (16) Councillor Gibson

- 66.32 Following the unanimous motion passed on the 14<sup>th</sup> of December 2017 (and supported by Housing Committee in January 2018) calling for business case investigations into the spend to save benefits for the council that can flow from providing short term homeless accommodation in-house and given that:
  - such a purchase offers the opportunity to the council to obtain a capital asset and receive the benefit income currently being paid (predominantly) to private landlords,
  - also net spending on temporary accommodation continues to increase (draining current council budgets);

Can we be assured that the long anticipated business case will be provided back to committee before April 2019?

#### Reply from Councillor Meadows, Chair of the Housing & New Homes Committee

66.33 It is envisaged that a report will be brought to the June 2019 meeting of H&NH Committee due to the complexity of the business case and therefore officers will require sufficient time to assess the costs, risks and benefits of operating this service in-house.

#### (17) Councillor Gibson

66.34 The answer to the breakdown of temporary accommodation (Dec 2018 Full council) states that there are 441 households housed in temporary accommodation with seaside homes on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018, since the council nominates to all Seaside's leased 499 homes, what was the use of the put to the other 58 properties by the council?

### Reply from Councillor Meadows, Chair of the Housing & New Homes Committee

66.35 It is difficult to provide historic data as our IT system will defer to a current snapshot. Currently we have 431 Statutory Homeless households and 49 Children's Services or Adult Social care households who are accommodated under a Service Level Agreement. We currently have 19 Void properties that are in the process of being made ready to re-let. We have relatively high turnover as we are moving households on to permanent accommodation.

# (18) Councillor Gibson

66.36 (As requested previously) For the table provided at Decembers 2018 council meeting providing numbers of special conditions applied to the licence applications for the Lewes road additional HMO licensing scheme where 90% of the conditions were satisfied overall, please can the number (and %) be provided showing how many of each of the special conditions were met enabling the total of 90% to be calculated?

# Reply from Councillor Meadows, Chair of the Housing & New Homes Committee

66.37 The Lewes Road additional licensing scheme covering smaller HMOs in 5 Lewes Road wards only operated for five years and came to an end at midnight on 4 November 2017.

Designation of our new city wide additional licensing scheme covering smaller HMOs of two or more storeys occupied by three or more people has been effective since 1 March 2018 and will last for five years. Since commencement of the current scheme, as of 20 December 2018, we have received 1,771 applications and issued 1,155 draft licenses and 844 full licenses. We are currently commencing compilation of reports on conditions met, albeit the scheme is less than a year old.

We are no longer able to run reports on the former Lewes Road scheme but can confirm that a total of 1,981 HMO Additional Licences were served between 5 November 2012 to 4 November 2017 in the Lewes Road Scheme. Of those 1,981 properties, 90% of the conditions were met which means 1,783 properties complied with the conditions.

Some of the Frequently applied conditions to 1,981 HMO Additional Licenced Properties were:

Structural Fire Works	1,725	87.07%
Fire Alarms	1,832	92.47%
Other fire works	1,669	84.25%
Management Repairs	1,598	80.66%

Loft insulation	1,140	57.54%
Ventilation	1,028	51.89%

# (19) Councillor Gibson

66.38 Over the city there are 44 recognised tenants, residents and community association covering 57% HRA housing areas (Housing committee 16<sup>th</sup> Jan 2019) Please can these numbers of representative associations and the % of HRA properties within the area of benefit be broken down for each of the housing panel areas? (East, West, Central and North).

# Reply from Councillor Meadows, Chair of the Housing & New Homes Committee

66.39 Since the data was gathered for Housing & New Homes Committee on 16 January 2019, it has been updated to account for two associations that are no longer running, reducing the total number of recognised associations to 42, covering 52% of HRA properties. The breakdown requested is set out in the table below:-

Area and number of TRAs	umber of (inc Seaside Homes   No. falling in		% in TRA area (rounded to whole number)	
Central	18	3,440	2,388	70%
East	8	2,681	1,692	63%
North	8	3,851	1,808	47%
West	8	4,494	1,637	36%
42 TRAs		14,466	7,525	52%

#### 67 ORAL QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

67.1 The Mayor noted that 9 oral questions had been received and that 30 minutes were set aside for the duration of the item. The Mayor then called on Councillor Janio to put his question to Councillor Yates.

#### (1) Councillor Janio – The Future of Local Democracy

- 67.2 Councillor Janio asked the following question, "I attended the Greater Brighton Economic Board meeting with you earlier this week, an organisation that has brought almost £200 million of Government investment in this region over the last few years. Do you agree with me that the Greater Brighton Economic Board has been an extremely worthwhile body for this Council to be a part of?"
- 67.3 Councillor Yates replied, "Of course I do and I was really glad that we were part of setting that up as a Labour administration. I am also really pleased to say that it was something that I noted in one of my columns in the Brighton & Hove Independent probably 6 months or so ago when the Annual Report came out that highlighted the massive benefits of working collaboratively. Local Authorities can't always do stuff immediately within in their environments, it is wrong to think that our economy ends at

our borders in terms of our Local Government borders. Working across borders makes sense for the many Brighton & Hove residents who choose to work outside Brighton & Hove as well as the many thousands of people who work inside Brighton & Hove but live outside it. We shouldn't think that this Council Chamber or its boundaries is the 'be all and end all' of the economy."

- 67.4 Councillor Janio asked the following supplementary question, "Can you confirm that when you are Leader of the Opposition after May you will continue to engage constructively with the Conservative Government over similar worthwhile projects?"
- 67.5 Councillor Yates replied, "I am not sure there will be a Conservative Government come May. I certainly cannot say what is going to be happening to our borders and nor could anyone else. Let's be perfectly honest, the chances of that are the same as the chances of the Conservatives going for a vote of confidence in Theresa May in another 12 months' time. It is not happening and I refer you again to Rule 9.11 in the Rules of Debate for this Council, you ask questions about policy not pedantry."

## (2) Councillor Mac Cafferty - City Clean Planning

- 67.6 Councillor Mac Cafferty asked the following question, "My residents suffered yet more chaos over the Christmas period when once again the Labour Administration couldn't get communal bins emptied. It would be one thing if this hadn't been the same issue as that experienced but once again communal bins are being left for days. This isn't happening in a vacuum, complaints about collections have doubled. With both Christmas and Pride events were known about well in advance. Both are annual events, so to be told in the aftermath of the missed collections and overflowing bins over the Christmas period, but expecting the situation to return to normal within 3 weeks was good, is quite frankly insulting. Will Councillor Mitchell agree with me that this is no way to plan for waste and recycling collections? If there are Bank Holidays or other delays that have a knock-on effect on collections that this Council knows about there needs to be much more robust practices in place to prevent overflowing bins and keep collections regular where possible.
- 67.7 Councillor Mitchell replied, "We are aware there were some issues over the Christmas period with regards collections. More rubbish and recycling is produced at Christmas and communal bins filled up quickly. Residents were asked not to leave rubbish bags by the side of full communal bins where they can be ripped open by animals and seagulls, but to find an alternative bin. Based on the experiences, the approach to planning for next Christmas will change. In addition to this, officers have started conversations about resource planning for the summer:
  - Bin capacity and the types of bins on the seafront are being reviewed;
  - Options for installing recycling litter bins along the seafront are actively being considered;
  - The need for additional temporary staff to litter pick are being explored, and
  - Conversations have started with the Pride organisers to improve waste management for 2019

Through the Modernisation Programme, plans are underway to make the service more resilient, for example:

 Round restructures will ensure the service is reliable with collections made on the scheduled day. This will be achieved by balancing the workload across crews, reducing, if not eliminating, missed collections;

- The rollout of further solar powered litter bins will reduce the number of litter bin collections, increasing;
- Reviewing street cleansing routes will ensure those areas with high levels of litter will be visited at an appropriate frequency.

To complement these service improvements, education campaigns will be launched; reminding residents, visitors and businesses of their responsibilities to keep Brighton & Hove clean. This will include making clear what the implications are if they are found to be littering, flytipping or committing another environmental enforcement offence.

- 67.8 Councillor Mac Cafferty asked the following supplementary question, "I wanted to draw Councillor Mitchell to Labour's Manifesto commitments that they made to the city in 2015 that they would "Make collecting refuse a top priority" the Leader and senior Councillors will directly oversee work to improve the service. Why is Labour trying to hide these election commitments by removing their 2015 election pledges from their website at: <a href="https://www.brightonhovelabour.com">www.brightonhovelabour.com</a>"
- 67.9 Councillor Mitchell replied, "I think I did give you an extremely detailed answer to your first question which sets out the work underway and I would draw your attention to the several City Clean update reports that have been coming to Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee that give a lot more detail of all the things we are doing to improve the service."

# (3) Councillor Gibson – Expanding Council Housing

- 67.10 Councillor Gibson asked the following question, "Given the housing crisis with around 1700 people in homeless and temporary emergency accommodation, and the high private sector rent in the city and the loss of social housing under the 'right to buy' which the latest figures show that we have already lost 55 a year over the last four years before the end of that period, which compares with the new Council House Building Programme where we have achieved 172, so we are losing social rents and replacing them with affordable. Given this but also that we do have £30 million unspent borrowing at the time that the borrowing cap was abolished and lots of 'right to buy' receipts so we have an opportunity to do something and given also that the quickest way to do something about this is to actually expand our supply of council housing by buying, my question is, Do you agree that we should use more borrowing and usable right to buy receipts to expand further the programme that you yourself initiated and it is an excellent programme. Buying homes for Council use a programme known as the 'Home Purchase Scheme' so that we may be able to achieve more and alleviate homelessness and address the housing crisis in the city more quickly."
- 67.11 Councillor Meadows replied, "I think question I got from that was 'Do we want to continue building new homes'? Yes Do we want to continue with our 'Hidden Homes Programme' which is in addition to the 172 new homes, we have the 'Home Purchase

- Policy' where I believe there are 8 and we are increasing that. Yes we do want to increase provision in the city."
- 67.12 Councillor Gibson asked the following supplementary question, "To be specific the question is "Do you support expanding the 'Home Purchase Policy' using 'Right to Buy' as usable receipts to enable more Council Housing?. These other things are all very positive so if we could answer this specific question."
- 67.13 Councillor Meadows replied, "As I understand it, under the 'Hidden Homes Programme' and our 'Home Purchase Policy'. Yes we can use 'Right to Buy' receipts and I would hope that we can continue."

# (4) Councillor Hyde – Taxi Trade

- 67.14 Councillor Hyde asked the following question, "Does the Labour Administration consider that it has better knowledge than professional taxi drivers with regards to the best options for transporting people door to door around the city in the most economical and quickest way possible?"
- 67.15 Councillor Mitchell replied, "I don't consider that we have better knowledge what we do is to work very closely with taxi trade representatives and we are always keen to hear and to learn from them in relation to any highway planning issues, roadworks or other such things that will affect their trade."
- 67.16 Councillor Hyde asked the following supplementary question, "What solution has the Labour Administration offered to the local taxi trade with regards to the major problem that will be caused by the removal of the roundabout at the Aquarium with regards to making Madeira Drive one way only which will result in the only exit for all traffic at Duke's Mound adding at least one mile to the journey and excessive congestion at that junction and all traffic currently flowing in East Street that has a one way route that leads to the seafront at Kings Road and the Queen's Hotel that they can only turn left at that junction which is East bound because of the no right turn in place, which in turn means all traffic heading west, which currently uses the roundabout to loop back around will have no possibility of going west bound without being forced into Valley Gardens in search of a way to go west bound. This will result in dangerous U turns on the seafront Kings Road. What solutions have you offered to the trade to overcome these points?
- 67.17 Councillor Mitchell replied, "The plans for Valley Gardens Phase 3 are evolving and the revised plans were published yesterday. They show a right turn only for taxis exiting Pool Valley onto the A259 to travel west which will be explored as part of the detailed design stage and subject to Road Safety Audits and a Traffic Regulation Order, if progressed. We have done that by listening to taxi trade representatives.

As part of the extensive public consultation and stakeholder engagement that has been undertaken to assist in developing the preliminary design for phase 3 of the Valley Garden project we have involved representatives of the taxi trade in a number of meetings and workshops where we have listened to other requests from them and where we are doing our best to meet them. The most recent report that will be coming to Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee next Thursday has, as a recommendation, on the front of the report that councillors note the plans being

developed for the bottom and the top end of Duke's Mound and that these works are going to be progressed and undertaken in tandem with the rest of the detailed design work on the main scheme. The report also outlines that we are looking more closely at the western end of Madeira Drive to facilitate the current loading, unloading operations that are required to be undertaken there as at present.

# (5) Councillor Page – Recycling: Incineration & Doorstep Advice

67.18 Councillor Page asked the following question, "I note that Councillor Mitchell said 2 loads of recycling were sent straight for incineration but there did not seem to be any management or supervision to resolve the fact that one round was putting black bags in it and I am disappointed to hear that.

When we talk about contamination isn't Veolia recycling there in great part to sort out the contaminated stuff. It is an enormous modern facility at Hollingdean. Given Councillor Mitchell's answers already is about, I have called it 'Doorstep Advice' because Cllr Mitchell talked about an education campaign that sounded like just reminding residents that they might get fined if they do 'this or that' but does she agree that there is insufficient in person advice to those households, that minority, which do mess up their recycling. Does Cllr Mitchell agree that with the change from 3GS that there should be more doorstep advice to reduce contamination?"

67.19 Councillor Mitchell replied, "The material recovery facility at Hollingdean is there to sort, recycle and separate it from materials that can't be recycled but it does not have the capacity to deal with an unlimited amount of contamination. We collect our 'recycle it' separated and we separate out glass from the dry mixed recycling. We get a good price for that, it is a high quality 'recycle it'. We have to be very mindful that we don't issue too many contaminated loads to the facility.

In relation to the 'awareness and education' raising that I referred to earlier, we have carried out the trial in the Montpelier area of the city to find out how we can make recycling easier for residents. In that case it relate to communal bins where we use communal bins of a different colour. The reports on that feedback were given to ETS Committee and we are now looking to roll out some of the things that we have learnt more widely. Another strand of our increasing recycling programme is to actually now look at doorstep collections and to see how again we can re-emphasise what recycling we collect and what we don't. That work is also in hand as part of the modernisation programme."

- 67.20 Councillor Page asked the following supplementary question, "With the bringing in house of the enforcement contract the need for not just education about what we can recycle and what we can't but the casework follow-up of those households which constantly seem to not take on board the education, is that not something that should be given more resources and would be cost effective to do so?"
- 67.21 Councillor Mitchell replied, "I think bringing the enforcement service back in house will give us all sorts of opportunities to deliver a much more tailored service to the residents of Brighton & Hove and far more focused. I don't necessarily see an enforcement team delivering that education and awareness I think we have to look at working with schools

and community groups to get the message out in a rather different way than using enforcement."

# (6) Councillor Nemeth - King Alfred

- 67.22 Councillor Nemeth asked the following question, "Councillors voted at the last Full Council meeting to call on the Administration to enlighten us as to the identity of the Lead Member for Hove's biggest ever single site building project, the new King Alfred, or at least appoint somebody to do the job. Having heard nothing I think we can all assume that whoever answers today is that secret lead member.
  - Has the lead member even met in person once with Crest Nicholson to discuss the project?"
- 67.23 Councillor Yates replied, "Councillor Janio instructs me to just say no, that is good advice in many circumstances. No I have met with Rob Star and I discussed how to meet with Crest Nicholson and when to meet with them and what would be an appropriate way, in order to try to move things forward. I have to say I asked specifically to be able to meet with Crest Nicholson before the Policy, Growth & Resources Committee on 24 January this year. Crest Nicholson were unable to provide their Chief Executive for a meeting in that time scale, luckily I have a meeting I believe next week. However that will be passed our point of decision of P,G&R last week for a decision and sign off by the end of today. Judging from the snow I am guessing that is not happening.
- 67.24 Councillor Nemeth asked the following supplementary question, "Can it please be acknowledged that it was probably a mistake not to get on to Crest Nicholson case much earlier. It was really important to build a rapport with such an important partner especially as the relationship is somewhat strained anyway."
- 67.25 Councillor Yates replied, "I would have liked to have met with Crest Nicholson some time ago, I think it is fair to say I made the approach which wasn't accepted. I will be meeting with them next week. On another matter it is important to recognise that we are mostly elected as councillors on the basis of street litter, etc. We employ a significant number of highly experienced officers who have been meeting with Crest Nicholson on a very regular basis to make progress on intensely complex legal development issues around the development agreement. It is not for me to interfere in that process."

#### (7) Councillor Deane - Artists' Residencies

- 67.26 Councillor Deane asked the following question, "Can you tell me how hard the Labour Members of the TDC Committee fight to retain the Annexe artist's studios in Belmont Street which were sold off to the highest bidder."
- 67.27 Councillor Robins replied, I can't it is a very good question and deserves a proper and full answer which I shall make sure you get.
- 67.28 Councillor Deane asked the following supplementary question "Will you not agree that the sale contradicts your role as a committee member responsible for culture in this city, and will you commit to putting processes in place that will safeguard the city's artists for the future."

67.29 Councillor Robins replied, "I shall ensure that you get a full and proper answer."

# (8) Councillor Bell – Pavilion

- 67.30 Councillor Bell asked the following question, "A senior officer has recently left who was primarily employed to see the move of the Pavilion and the Museums in to a Trust status. Would Councillor Robins confirm that the officer's move and not being replaced shows the lack of commitment from the Labour Administration to the work force of the Pavilion?"
- 67.31 Councillor Robins replied, "No I won't confirm that. Furthermore I think we have demonstrated that at every junction commitment to the work force in the Pavilion."
- 67.32 Councillor Bell asked the following supplementary question, "I was pleased to hear that response but would it not be fair to say that as we have been constantly asking for is to have a survey of the work force to see how they are feeling and to see at this moment at time whether they do feel they have a link with us in the Council while we are going through the period of moving them into a single Trust."
- 67.33 Councillor Robins replied, "I personally have spoken to the staff on a number of occasions, Cllr Platt has spoken to the staff with me and I sit on the Federation at the Pavilion. They can come to us at any time and do come to me. I address their concerns and always have done."

# (9) Councillor Sykes – Sculpture in the City

- 67.34 Councillor Sykes asked the following question, "Following the excellent work of Hove Civic Society in developing the Hove Plinth to fruition to widespread acclaim can Cllr Robins inform Council what the administration's view is of Hove Civic Society's proposals for a series of sculpture trails entitled 'Sculpture in the City' in Hove and Brighton."
- 67.35 Councillor Robins replied, "The Council recently adopted a new cultural framework "Daring to be Different", developed through the city's Arts and Creative Industries Commission. The framework includes a commitment to developing a public art strategy, which will establish actions for the commissioning, maintenance and funding issues. At the same time, the city's new Destination Experience Group will be exploring concrete ways to improve the offer and experience of visitors and its first meeting will take place next month, following the adoption of the new Visitor Economy Strategy. While there is nothing to prevent different stakeholder groups from initiating projects, and given its limited capacity, the Council is reliant on the goodwill, energy and resources of other parties, the administration does believe that it is more effective to work collaboratively with a range of partners, to make the best use of the resources available and to coordinate efforts.

Members may also be interested to know that Hove Civic Society representatives are part of the discussions to implement the agreed strategies and their input, energy and resources are of course welcome, at a time when the Council's resources and officer capacity are limited, and we are happy to continue to work with them."

67.36 Councillor Sykes asked the following supplementary question, "I am fearing that this has been an idea that has been in the offing for some time, I think Cllr Robins is aware of it, that we have this cultural framework and strategy on the way. Now that we have that the fear is that this initiative from Hove Civic Society won't be taken seriously, I would like an assurance that more than the general affirmation that this might be a good idea, that it will be taken seriously."

- 67.37 Councillor Robins replied, "Absolutely we will take it seriously I recently toured Portslade with a member of the Hove Civic Society to look at areas in Portslade that we thought might be useful to put some of the artwork in. We looked at Easthill Park's walled garden, an area in Victoria Park where the new bowls club is going to be put in, and an area in front of Portslade Town Hall."
- 68 THE FOLLOWING NOTICES OF MOTION HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED BY MEMBERS FOR CONSIDERATION:

#### (1) EU CITIZENS AND LOCAL ELECTIONS

- 68.1 The Notice of Motion as listed in the agenda was proposed by Councillor Littman on behalf of the Green Group. He stated that Brighton and Hove had a number of residents from other EU countries who were unable to vote in a General Election but could do so in the local elections in May. There were many groups who had been unrepresented historically and there was a need to change that perception and encourage people to take part. He acknowledged that it was not just the council responsibility as political parties could also look to address the matter, but he felt that there was a need for a targeted campaign.
- 68.2 Councillor Phillips formally seconded the motion and reserved her right to speak in the debate.
- 68.3 Councillor Miller moved an amendment on behalf of the Conservative Group and stated that it sought to include other groups that the original motion had missed. It was essential to enable as many people who could vote to be able to do so. Therefore any campaign to inform residents of their ability to take part in the election process should cover all groups and not only non-UK citizens.
- 68.4 Councillor Wealls formally seconded the motion and reserved his right to take part in the debate.
- 68.5 Councillor Daniel welcomed the motion and stated that it was important to carry out outreach work with various community groups and to encourage representatives from all communities to consider standing for election. The Council should reflect the make-up of its city and she hoped that the forthcoming elections would see a change in the overall make-up of the council.
- 68.6 Councillor Yates stated that it was important to recognise EU nationals and to ensure they were aware of their ability to participate in the local elections. The current situation surrounding Brexit was confusing for many people and with a high number of non-UK residents in the city it was understandable that they would not necessarily be aware of

their position. As such he supported the motion and felt that the amendment moved away from the intention and could therefore not support it.

- 68.7 Councillor Page stated that the motion focussed on non-UK residents and it was important to ensure that they were aware of their rights and ability to take part in the local elections. He applauded the Elections team for their work in encouraging people to register to vote but felt that further information needed to be provided for non-UK residents.
- 68.8 Councillor Bewick stated that he welcomed the motion and supported the amendment as it was important that the council sent a signal to all international migrants that their contribution to the city and its economy was valued. They should be made aware of their ability to vote and stand in the local elections.
- 68.9 Councillor Wealls stated that the degree to which so many minority groups were disenfranchised base on wealth, education, ethnicity, disability etc. which was identified by the amendment and needed to be taken into account.
- 68.10 Councillor Phillips stated that she understood the reasons for the amendment but felt that it did not account for all groups referred to and that the motion itself was much clearer in this regard. She noted that there were 63,000 NHS staff in England who were EU nationals who could not vote in a General Election but could vote in local elections. They needed to be aware of that ability and she hoped that the motion would be supported.
- 68.11 Councillor Littman stated that he could not accept the amendment, although he noted that a number of valid points had been raised in the debate. However, he felt that the motion was clear and that there was a need for a targeted campaign on this occasion.
- 68.12 The Mayor noted that the amendment had not been accepted and put it to the vote which was carried by 24 votes to 21 with no abstentions.
- 68.13 The Mayor then put the following motion as amended to the vote:

"This Council notes the excellent work done by the Electoral Services Department to inform all the city's households of the right of residents to vote.

This Council requests that the Electoral Registration Officer, in addition to the current practice of general household notification, works with the Council's Communication Team to run a campaign informing all residents of the city; including potentially underrepresented communities, e.g. non-UK EU, young and black, Asian and minority ethnic residents of their right to both vote and stand in the local election to be held on 2nd May this year."

68.14 The Mayor confirmed that the motion had been carried unanimously.

#### (2) ENDING VICTIM BLAMING TOGETHER

68.15 The Notice of Motion as listed on the agenda was proposed by Councillor Daniel on behalf of the Labour & Co-operative Group. She stated that she had become aware of

the VictimFocus Charter Pledge and had brought the motion to full council on behalf of a leading Charity and hoped that it would be supported by all Members. She gave details of a case where a young girl became a victim and the injustice she suffered as a result and hoped that by bringing the matter to the council's attention and the signing of the pledge action could be taken to help address the situation.

- 68.16 Councillor Cattell formally seconded the motion and reserved her right to speak in the debate.
- 68.17 Councillor Nemeth moved an amendment on behalf of the Conservative Group and stated that the Group was against victim blaming. However, he felt that there was a paradox for the Administration in dealing with a perceived problem in-house and how that was addressed; whilst seeking to support the Charter. Any responsible organisation had a duty to follow basic principles in relation to their staff and if the amendment was to fall he would have concerns for the council's staff.
- 68.18 Councillor Ann Norman formally seconded the amendment and thanked Councillor Daniel for bringing the motion to the council meeting. There were a number of sensible reasons as to why the council as an organisation should challenge victim blaming and ensure staff did not engage in any shape or form. She hoped that the council could ensure any such culture was not supported and that it would share knowledge and best practice with partner organisations.
- 68.19 Councillor Littman stated that supported the motion and noted that there was a significant bias toward victim blaming for women and girls and hoped that the Administration would reconsider proposals to cut the Domestic & Sexual Abuse Service.
- 68.20 Councillor Cattell stated that as a volunteer on a domestic abuse helpline she was contacted by numerous women who suffer from abuse and inevitably experience trauma, which requires specialist training to help. She fully supported the motion and hoped it would be supported unanimously.
- 68.21 Councillor Daniel noted the comments and sated that she could not accept the amendment and hoped that the motion as proposed could be supported.
- 68.22 The Mayor noted that the amendment had not been accepted and put it to the vote which was lost by 19 votes to 27.
- 68.23 The Mayor then put the following motion as amended to the vote:

"This council resolves to:

- 1. Show its support to the VictimFocus Charter Pledge by signing up to it, and
- 2. Request officers to bring a report to the Neighbourhoods, Inclusion, Communities & Equalities Committee to detail how that pledge can then be fulfilled to challenge and reduce victim blaming of people who have experienced trauma, abuse or crime in our organisation."
- 68.24 The Mayor confirmed that the motion had been agreed unanimously.

68.25 Councillor Yates noted that the weather had deteriorated and moved a motion to suspend Standing Orders to enable a closure motion to be moved.

- 68.26 Councillor Daniel formally seconded the motion.
- 68.27 The Mayor noted that a motion to suspend Standing Orders had been moved and put it to the vote which was carried.
- 68.28 Councillor Yates then moved a closure motion.
- 68.29 Councillor Daniel formally seconded the motion.
- 68.30 The Mayor noted that a closure motion had been moved and put it to the vote which was carried.
- 68.31 The Mayor stated that in view of the closure motion being carried she would take the remaining items and with the agreement of the proposer put each one to the vote.

# (3) GOVERNMENT RESOURCES AND WASTE STRATEGY

- 68.25 The Mayor noted that an amendment had been submitted by the Green Group to the notice of motion and put it to the vote which was carried unanimously.
- 68.26 The Mayor then put the following motion as amended to the vote:

"This council resolves:

- (1) To ask the Chief Executive to write to the Secretary of State for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, requesting that:
  - The target in the strategy for meeting 100% of plastic packaging to be reusable, compostable or recyclable from 2025 is brought forward, as the well-known issues around non-recyclable plastic need urgent action, alongside concerted action to reduce reliance on plastics.
  - Weekly food waste collections for households in all local authority areas is also brought forward from the current timescale of 2023, and with sustainable sources of funding identified, as this would raise recycling rates by 5% nationally.
  - Further information is provided on how the Government intends to incentivise weekly recycling collections while reducing general waste, in order to increase recycling rates;
- (2) That, in the absence of support from the Government this Council requests the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee to commission a report that:
  - Explores the options for re-negotiating the current PFI deal on waste and that as part of the report, the Council Administration reaffirms its commitment to collecting food waste;
  - Explores the options for budgetary resources for a food waste pilot in 2019/20."

68.27 The Mayor confirmed that the motion had been agreed unanimously.

**NOTE:** A closure motion had been passed prior to the item being reached and therefore the amendment and motion were put straight to the vote by the Mayor without debate.

# (4) HOSPITAL FOR HOVE AND PORTSLADE

- 68.28 The Mayor noted that an amendment had been submitted by the Green Group to the notice of motion and put it to the vote which was carried by 27 votes to 19.
- 68.29 The Mayor then put the following motion as amended to the vote:
  - "This council requests that the Health, Overview & Scrutiny Committee seek an update from the CCG on primary and urgent care services in Hove and Portslade."
- 68.30 The Mayor confirmed that the motion had been agreed unanimously.
- **NOTE:** A closure motion had been passed prior to the item being reached and therefore the amendment and motion were put straight to the vote by the Mayor without debate.

#### (5) VALLEY GARDENS PHASE 3

68.31 The Mayor put the following notice of motion to the vote:

"This Council:

- 1. Notes that the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee will consider the Valley Gardens Phase 3 project at its Special meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2019; and
- 2. Requests that the Committee;
  - (i) Urgently revisits the Valley Gardens Phase 3 proposal with a view to providing a revised scheme that retains the aquarium roundabout, maintains entry and exit from Madeira Drive onto the roundabout and separates general traffic on the East side of The Old Steine and public transport on the West side.
  - (ii) Explores the use of surplus Capital funds made available by 2(i) above to create improved cycling and pedestrian connectivity between the wider Valley Gardens area and the seafront without the need to channel all modes of movement through the aquarium roundabout junction.
  - (iii) Pauses work on preferred option 1 and bring the proposals in 2(i) and 2(ii) to a special meeting of Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee at the earliest opportunity but in any event, no later than the end of March 2019."
- 68.32 The Mayor confirmed that the motion had been lost by 19 votes to 25 with no abstentions.
- **NOTE:** A closure motion had been passed prior to the item being reached and therefore the amendment and motion were put straight to the vote by the Mayor without debate.

Councillors Druitt and Philips having declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the item withdrew from the Chamber and took no part in the voting thereon.

# (6) MENTAL HEALTH IN SCHOOLS

68.33 The Mayor put the following Notice of Motion to the vote;

"This Council resolves to:

- 1. Ask the Chief Executive to write to the Secretary of State for Education, to request that the Government:
  - brings forward ten-year plans to expand school and college based mental health services for children and young people, so that 100% of children and young people requiring specialist care are empowered to access it prior to 2030;
  - puts in place adequate funding support for schools and teachers to implement this mental health work in schools.
- Continue to support the improvement of mental health for our city's children and young people, and to request officers to bring a report to the Children, Young People & Skills Committee detailing how the council can work with our family of schools to:
  - support and promote the development of greater preventative activities designed to assist with anxiety and depression, such as lunchtime yoga, meditation, healthy eating and greater physical activity;
  - develop and share best practice on restricting access to mobile phones in the classroom, in conjunction with the existing work done in our schools to support young people managing social media and cyber bullying;
  - ensure teachers and staff can access adequate training and support, in conjunction with existing work done in P.S.H.E and through the Schools Wellbeing Service, to feel able to respond appropriately to students who are directly affected by poor mental health and low self-esteem."
- 68.34 The Mayor confirmed that the motion had been agreed unanimously.

**NOTE:** A closure motion had been passed prior to the item being reached and therefore the motion was put straight to the vote by the Mayor without debate.

#### 69 CLOSE OF MEETING

69.1 The Mayor thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.

The meeting concluded at 7.50pm

Signed Chair

Dated this day of 2019