

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL

Date: **25 March 2021**

Time: **4.30pm**

Venue **Virtual**

Members: **All Councillors:**

You are summoned to join a meeting of the BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL to transact the under-mentioned business.

Contact: **Mark Wall**

Head of Democratic Services
01273 291006
mark.wall@brighton-hove.gov.uk

Public Involvement

The City Council actively welcomes members of the public and the press to attend its meetings and holds as many of its meetings as possible in public.

Note: in response to current Government Regulations this meeting is being held as a virtual meeting for councillors and accessible via Teams. Public speaking and engagement opportunities will be made available.

The meeting will also be webcast live to the internet.

Agendas and minutes are published on the council's website www.brighton-hove.gov.uk.
Agendas are available to view five working days prior to the meeting date.

Electronic agendas can also be accessed through our meetings app available through ModernGov: [iOS/Windows/Android](#)

This agenda and all accompanying reports are printed on recycled paper

AGENDA

116 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- (a) Disclosable pecuniary interests;
- (b) Any other interests required to be registered under the local code;
- (c) Any other general interest as a result of which a decision on the matter might reasonably be regarded as affecting you or a partner more than a majority of other people or businesses in the ward/s affected by the decision.

In each case, you need to declare

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

If unsure, Members should seek advice from the Monitoring Officer or Democratic Services Officer preferably before the meeting.

117 MINUTES

9 - 66

To approve as a correct record the minutes of:

- (a) the last Council meeting held on the 28 January 2021;
- (b) the Budget Council meeting held on the 25 February 2021 (to follow).

Contact Officer: Mark Wall
Ward Affected: All Wards

Tel: 01273 291006

118 MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS.

To receive communications from the Mayor.

119 TO RECEIVE PETITIONS AND E-PETITIONS.

To receive any petitions to be presented to the Mayor by members of the public and/or Members as notified by the due date of 11 March 2021 (10 working days).

120 WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

A list of public questions received by the due date of 12noon on the 19 March 2021 will be circulated separately as part of an addendum at the meeting.

121 DEPUTATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

A list of deputations received by the due date of 12noon on the 19 March 2021 will be circulated separately as part of an addendum at the meeting.

PETITIONS FOR DEBATE

The following petitions have secured 1,250 or more signatures and in accordance with the petition protocol the lead petitioner has requested that the petition be debated at the full Council meeting.

122 SCHOOL PLACES FOR CATCHMENT AREA CHILDREN

67 - 70

Petitions to be debated at Council. Reports of the Monitoring Officer.

(1) School Places for Catchment Children. Lead petitioner Amy Hyland.

Contact Officer: Mark Wall

Tel: 01273 291006

Ward Affected: All Wards

123 CALL OVER FOR REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

(a) Call over (items 126 to 130) will be read out at the meeting and Members invited to reserve the items for consideration.

(b) To receive or approve the reports and agree with their recommendations, with the exception of those which have been reserved for discussion.

(c) Oral questions from Councillors on the Committee reports, which have not been reserved for discussion.

124 WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS.

71 - 74

A list of the written questions submitted by Members has been included in the agenda papers. This will be repeated along with the written answers received and will be taken as read as part of an addendum circulated separately at the meeting.

Contact Officer: Mark Wall

Tel: 01273 291006

Ward Affected: All Wards

6.30 - 7.00PM REFRESHMENT BREAK

Note: A refreshment break is scheduled for 6.30pm although this may alter slightly depending on how the meeting is proceeding and the view of the Mayor.

125 ORAL QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

75 - 78

A list of Councillors who have indicated their desire to ask an oral question at the meeting along with the subject matters has been listed in the agenda papers.

Contact Officer: Mark Wall

Tel: 01273 291006

Ward Affected: All Wards

REPORTS FOR DECISION

- 126 CITY OF SANCTUARY RE-ACCREDITATION** **79 - 98**
- Extract from the proceedings of the Tourism, Equalities, Communities & Culture Committee meeting held on the 11 March 2021, together with a report of the Executive Director for Housing, Neighbourhoods & Communities.
- Contact Officer:* Lucy Bryson *Tel:* 01273 292572
Ward Affected: All Wards
- 127 NEXT STEPS - ROUGH SLEEPING AND ACCOMMODATION DURING COVID 19 PANDEMIC AND RECOVERY** **99 - 124**
- Extracts from the proceedings of the Policy & Resources Committee meeting held on the 18 March and the Housing Committee meeting held on the 17 March 2021 (to follow), together with a report of the Executive Director for Housing, Neighbourhoods & Communities.
- Contact Officer:* Sylvia Peckham *Tel:* 01273 293318
Ward Affected: All Wards
- 128 REVIEW OF THE COUNCIL'S CONSTITUTION** **125 - 158**
- Extract from the proceedings of the Policy & Resources Committee meeting held on the 18 March 2021 (to follow), together with a report of the Executive Lead Officer for Strategy, Governance & Law.
- Contact Officer:* Elizabeth Culbert *Tel:* 01273 291515
Ward Affected: All Wards
- 129 HEALTH & WELLBEING BOARD REVIEW: PROPOSALS FOR AGREEMENT** **159 - 180**
- Extract from the proceedings of the Health & Wellbeing Board meeting held on the 23 March 2021 (to follow), together with a report of the Executive Lead Officer for Strategy, Governance & Law.
- Contact Officer:* Giles Rossington *Tel:* 01273 295514
Ward Affected: All Wards
- 130 MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES** **181 - 202**
- Extract from the proceedings of the Policy & Resources Committee meeting held on the 18 March 2021 (to follow), together with a report of the Executive Lead Officer for Strategy, Governance & Law.
- Contact Officer:* Elizabeth Culbert *Tel:* 01273 291515
Ward Affected: All Wards

REPORTS REFERRED FOR INFORMATION

NOTICES OF MOTION

The following Notices of Motion have been submitted by Members for consideration:

131 IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE **203 - 204**

Proposed by Councillor Yates on behalf of the Labour Group.

132 MOULSECOOMB PRIMARY SCHOOL **205 - 206**

Proposed by Councillor Grimshaw on behalf of the Labour and Green Groups.

133 CLIMATE AND ECOLOGICAL EMERGENCY BILL **207 - 208**

Proposed by Councillor Heley on behalf of the Green Group.

134 NHS WHITE PAPER AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT **209 - 210**

Proposed by Councillor Shanks on behalf of the Green Group.

135 WELFARE ASSISTANCE FUND **211 - 212**

Proposed by Councillor Littman on behalf of the Green Group and Independent Member.

136 RISE **213 - 214**

Proposed by Councillor Nemeth on behalf of the Conservative Group.

137 GREEN PRIDE **215 - 216**

Proposed by Councillor Miller on behalf of the Conservative Group.

138 CLOSE OF MEETING

The Mayor will move a closure motion under Procedure Rule 17 to terminate the meeting 4 hours after the beginning of the meeting (excluding any breaks/adjournments).

Note:

1. *The Mayor will put the motion to the vote and if it is carried will then:-*
 - (a) *Call on the Member who had moved the item under discussion to give their right of reply, before then putting the matter to the vote, taking into account the need to put any amendments that have been moved to the vote first;*
 - (b) *Each remaining item on the agenda that has not been dealt with will then be taken in the order they appear on the agenda and put to the vote without debate.*

The Member responsible for moving each item will be given the opportunity by the Mayor to withdraw the item or to have it voted on. If there are any amendments that have been submitted, these will be taken and voted on first in the order that they were received.

- (c) *Following completion of the outstanding items, the Mayor will then close the meeting.*
2. *If the motion moved by the Mayor is **not carried** the meeting will continue in the normal way, with each item being moved and debated and voted on.*
 3. *Any Member will still have the opportunity to move a closure motion should they so wish. If such a motion is moved and seconded, then the same procedure as outlined above will be followed.*

Once all the remaining items have been dealt with the Mayor will close the meeting.



Chief Executive
Hove Town Hall
Norton Road
Hove
BN3 3BQ

Date of Publication - Wednesday, 17 March 2021

ACCESS NOTICE

In response to the current situation with Covid-19 and the easing of Regulations, this Committee meeting will be held virtually via Teams and web cast simultaneously.

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

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

For those members of the public wishing to actively take part in the meeting a link will be emailed so that they can join the meeting.

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

WEBCASTING NOTICE

This meeting may be filmed for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's website. At the start of the meeting the Chair will confirm if all or part of the meeting is being filmed. You should be aware that the Council is a Data Controller under the Data Protection Act 1998. Data collected during this web cast will be retained in accordance with the Council's published policy.

Therefore, by joining the meeting via the link provided you are deemed to be consenting to being filmed and to the possible use of those images and sound recordings for the purpose of web casting and/or Member training. If members of the public do not wish to have their image captured, they should ensure they do not use the Teams video facility and provide a static image.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further details and general enquiries about this meeting contact Mark Wall, (01273 291006, email mark.wall@brighton-hove.gov.uk) or email democratic.services@brighton-hove.gov.uk

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL**COUNCIL****4.30pm 28 JANUARY 2021****VIRTUAL****MINUTES**

Present: Councillors Robins (Chair), Mears (Deputy Chair), Allcock, Appich, Atkinson, Bagaean, Barnett, Bell, Brennan, Brown, Childs, Clare, Davis, Deane, Druitt, Ebel, Evans, Fishleigh, Fowler, Gibson, Grimshaw, Hamilton, Heley, Henry, Hills, Hugh-Jones, Janio, Knight, Lewry, Littman, Lloyd, Mac Cafferty, McNair, Miller, Moonan, Nemeth, Nield, O'Quinn, Osborne, Peltzer Dunn, Phillips, Pissaridou, Platts, Powell, Shanks, Simson, C Theobald, West, Wilkinson, Williams and Yates.

PART ONE**84 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

- 84.1 Councillor Moonan declared a personal but not prejudicial interest in Item 96, a Notice of Motion on Evictions as she was a landlord;
- 84.2 Councillor Hill declared a personal but not prejudicial interest in Item 96, a Notice of Motion on Evictions as she was a landlord and tenant;
- 84.3 Councillor Nemeth declared a personal but not prejudicial interest in Item 96, a Notice of Motion on Evictions as he was a tenant and owner of a company that rented out property;
- 84.4 Councillor Brown declared a personal but not prejudicial interest in Item 96, a Notice of Motion on Evictions as she was a joint owner of a property that was rented out;
- 84.5 Councillor Mc Cafferty declared a personal but not prejudicial interest in Item 96, a Notice of Motion on Evictions as he was a tenant;
- 84.6 Councillor Williams declared a personal but not prejudicial interest in Item 96, a Notice of Motion on Evictions as she was a tenant and member of Acorn;
- 84.7 Councillor Wilkinson declared a personal but not prejudicial interest in Item 96, a Notice of Motion on Evictions as he was a tenant;
- 84.8 Councillor Gibson declared a personal but not prejudicial interest in Item 96, a Notice of Motion on Evictions as he was a lessee of the Council;

- 84.9 Councillor Heley declared a personal but not prejudicial interest in Item 96, a Notice of Motion on Evictions as she was a tenant;
- 84.10 Councillor Phillips declared a personal but not prejudicial interest in Item 96, a Notice of Motion on Evictions as she was a landlord, in Item 95A Climate Assembly as her partner Councillor Druitt ran a bus company, and in Item 100 a Notice of Motion on COP 26 & Wellbeing of Future Generations as she worked for the Big Issue and she worked for Lord John Bird's parliamentary office who was spearheading the Wellbeing for Future Generations Bill in Westminster;
- 84.11 Councillor Druitt declared a personal but not prejudicial interest in Item 96, a Notice of Motion on Evictions as he was the partner of a landlord; in Item 95A Climate Assembly as he ran a bus company, and in Item 100 a Notice of Motion on COP 26 & Wellbeing of Future Generations as she worked for the Big Issue as his partner worked for Lord John Bird's parliamentary office who was spearheading the Wellbeing for Future Generations Bill in Westminster;
- 84.12 Councillor Osborne declared a personal but not prejudicial interest in Item 96, a Notice of Motion on Evictions as he was a tenant and member of Acorn;
- 84.13 Councillor Peltzer Dunn declared a personal but not prejudicial interest in Item 96, a Notice of Motion on Evictions as he was a landlord and said that he would not take part in the debate or in the vote;
- 84.14 Councillor Platts declared a personal but not prejudicial interest in Item 96, a Notice of Motion on Evictions as she was a member of Acorn;
- 84.15 Councillor Brennan declared a personal but not prejudicial interest in Item 96, a Notice of Motion on Evictions as she was a tenant and a member of Acorn;
- 84.16 Councillor Childs declared a personal but not prejudicial interest in Item 97, a Notice of Motion on Save the Union Learning Fund;
- 84.1 Councillor Davis declared a personal but not prejudicial interest in Item 96, a Notice of Motion on Evictions as she was a tenant;
- 84.2 Councillor Pissaridou declared a personal but not prejudicial interest in Item 96, a Notice of Motion on Evictions as she was a member of Acorn;
- 84.3 Councillor Powell declared a personal but not prejudicial interest in Item 97, a Notice of Motion on Save the Union Learning Fund as she was a member of Unison;
- 84.4 Councillor Knight declared a personal but not prejudicial interest in Item 96, a Notice of Motion on Evictions as she was a member of Acorn;
- 84.5 Councillor Grimshaw declared a personal but not prejudicial interest in Item 96, a Notice of Motion on Evictions as she was a member of Acorn;

84.6 Councillor Ebel declared a personal but not prejudicial interest in Item 96, a Notice of Motion on Evictions as she was a tenant;

84.7 No other declarations of interests in matters appearing on the agenda were made.

85 MINUTES

85.1 The Mayor noted that there were two amendments to the Minutes of the meeting held on 17 December 2020:

- Item 76 had revisions and a copy of those changes had been circulated in the Addendum.
- Paragraphs 70.25 and 70.26 referred to 'curb-side' fly tipping but it should read 'kerb-side'.
- Councillor Hugh-Jones noted that in paragraph 69.23 her name was incorrectly written as 'Hugh-Hugh-Jones'.

85.2 RESOLVED:

- (i) That the minutes of the last ordinary meeting held on the 17 December 2020 as amended were approved and signed by the Mayor as a correct record of the proceedings;
- (ii) That the minutes of the meeting held on the 22 January 2021 were approved and signed by the Mayor as a correct record of the proceedings.

86 MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS.

86.1 The Mayor gave the following communication:

I don't have any communications. However, a question was raised with me by Councillor Fishleigh about two public questions that were not accepted. One was asking for information held by another public authority that the Council didn't have, and the second one was making assertions that may be perceived as casting imputation on the professional integrity of officers. They were therefore disallowed under our procedures.

87 COVID-19 UPDATE

87.1 The Director of Public Health provided an oral update on Covid-19.

The information provided included:

Testing – This started in February 2020 but was mainly being undertaken in hospitals, but from May 2020 more testing was conducted outside of hospitals with a high number being conducted from December 2020. Around 10,000 tests were currently being undertaken a week. The number of positive tests on 5 January 2021 was 18% but that had fallen to 10.5% by 22 January 2021.

Positive Cases - To date there had been 12,891 positive cases in Brighton & Hove. At the beginning of December the City had a low rate of Covid, but in line with the rest of

the country that rate increased from the end of December 2020, by the beginning of January 2021 there was a peak of 805 positive cases per 100,000 people but it had reduced significantly since then. The number had dropped by 39.7% in the last seven days.

Comparison data – Out of 315 lower tier local authorities in England and Wales, Brighton & Hove were currently ranked 199.

Case rates per age group – The number of cases within every age group in the City had reduced in the last few weeks, the biggest drop was for young adults. There had been a high rate in 60+ but that has also started to come down. The age group with the lowest rate was the 0-14 yr olds. The 60+ rate in Brighton & Hove was a concern as they were the group most likely to require hospitalisation, but that number was reducing but was still above the average for the South East.

Deaths – There had been a significant number of deaths both nationally and locally. Since April 2020 there had been 279 deaths in the City where Covid had been listed on the death certificate. In the week leading up to the 15th January 2021 there had been 27 deaths.

Summary of Current situation – The all-age case rate and percentage of positive tests had fallen rapidly, however the level of infection remained high. Case rate in those aged 60+ had reduced more slowly and remained above the south east average. There had been significant challenges in health and care services. Deaths were still increasing and were likely to remain high for the next few weeks.

88 TO RECEIVE PETITIONS AND E-PETITIONS.

- 88.1 The Mayor invited the submission of petitions from councillors and members of the public. He 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.
- 88.2 The Mayor noted that one petition had been submitted regarding Hove and Portslade Seafront and invited Ms Andrea Lewis to present the petition.
- 88.3 The Mayor thanked Ms Lewis for presenting the petition and noted that it would be referred to the Policy & Tourism, Equalities, Communities & Culture Committee for consideration.

89 WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

- 89.1 The Mayor reported that 6 written questions had been received from members of the public and invited Mr. Noble to address the council.
- 89.2 Mr Noble asked the following question; Nuclear weapons are not in the councils' mandate, competency or power. Therefore, allowing such debates and wasting the councils' time, makes a large group of residence view it as a joke, when considering the critical role, the council should play in building Brighton & Hove's resilience to COVID-19 (isn't this is more important?).

I therefore ask the Mayor, should such debates be allowed in future and was it correct for this one to proceed in the first place? I note under the rules and procedures that every motion shall be relevant to a matter in relation to which the councillor has duties and power.

- 89.3 The Mayor replied; Thank you for your question Mr Noble. Under the Local Government Act 2000, the Council's functions include anything that affects the social, economic and environmental wellbeing of the area of Brighton & Hove. They are not limited to services provided by the Council. The powers of the local authority were further extended by the Localism Act 2011 when local authorities were given the general power of competence. The proliferation of nuclear weapons and the risk they carry do potentially affect the wellbeing of people everywhere, including the people of Brighton & Hove. It was therefore within the Council's powers to debate the issue.

I know that there are passionately held views on both sides of the argument. As we have seen in social media and local press, some people agree, and others disagree, about the merits or otherwise of using Council time to debate nuclear weapons. As Mayor, my role is to preside at Council meetings in accordance with the Constitution and not to allow or disallow items just because I like or dislike them. In procedural terms (which is what I am responsible for) there was nothing improper in the Notice of Motion being tabled and debated by full Council. It was therefore perfectly proper to have allowed the item to be debated.

I would also point out that Brighton & Hove is not the only local authority to have discussed the risk of nuclear weapons and passed resolutions. If people agree or disagree with that, that is their right.

- 89.4 Mr Noble asked the following supplementary question; This is not an isolated point nuclear weapons is just one example and I note how long these meetings go on wasting money, offices time well into the night. I understand that councillors do not have confidence in their MPs to represent them and bring forward their national issues however, the disappointment in the national representatives doesn't mean you should turn the council into a national policy talking shop. The council has extremely important things to focus on that affect the daily lives of our residents. Given the public outcry and the length that these meetings can go to will the Mayor use his powers under the Constitution to ensure that the business discussed is relevant to council business in the future?

- 89.5 The Mayor replied; I think you have asked the same question twice and I did give you a full answer to the first question. I can send you a copy of my answer.

- 89.6 The Mayor thanked Mr Noble for his questions and invited Ms Holley to come forward and address the council.

- 89.7 Ms Holley asked the following question; My question is regarding the temporary cycle lanes which went up 8 months ago, particularly along the Old Shoreham Road between the Sackville Road traffic lights and Hangleton Road traffic lights. It was a worthy experiment but is one that has failed as it is not used, there are probably 2 or 3 cyclists per hour and it is causing a great deal of congestion and it is having rather unwelcome, unintended consequences, increased emissions from standing traffic

where people have to wait for two changes of lights instead of one and also people finding ways round using the Old Shoreham Road. I live in Weald Avenue and we notice people coming down our road. What date will this 'Temporary' cycle lane be removed please?

89.8 Councillor Heley replied; A lot of the information you have said is not true and we can send you the data to prove that. The temporary cycle lane on the Old Shoreham Road was put in to provide active travel options for those that wished to exercise and get to work without using Public Transport or the car, which is now, again, incredibly important during this third lock down. A full consultation on a number of active travel measures, including the Old Shoreham Road is about to start and a decision on the cycle lane will then be made at a later committee meeting.

89.9 Ms Holley asked the following supplementary question; I am concerned at what was just said then, that some of the things I have said are not true. Emissions have definitely increased; I can send you information about standing traffic causes higher emissions. The usage is not great it is as I have just stated, there were two petitions about this one for, one against and they came out fairly equally but they were held a very long time ago, but the number of people who signed on behalf of cyclists are just not using it, they are obviously people who don't live in this part of the city.

Can Councillor Heley tell me please why there is not far better signage at the major traffic lights at Hangleton Road where it comes down to Portslade? There are two lanes going up the hill and people don't realise that they are suddenly going to go into one lane and that has actually caused several minor accidents and a great deal of confusion?

89.10 Councillor Heley replied; That is the first I have heard of a complaint about signage, so I am happy to take that away and look into it.

89.11 The Mayor thanked Ms Holley for her questions and invited Mr Kimberley to come forward and address the council.

89.12 Mr Kimberley asked the following question; Last month Councillor Fishleigh asked if new signs could be erected at the access points onto the undercliff so that everyone knows that it is against the law to ride e-scooters down there. A highly unsatisfactory answer was given by the Chair of the Transport committee that e-scooters are a police issue and additional signing would be counterproductive and increase clutter to what is a very scenic environment.

E-scooters are a serious safety issue on the undercliff. What measures will the council take to ensure that the undercliff is a secure place for everyone to use?

89.13 Councillor Heley replied; E-scooters are illegal in the UK on the public highway except on private land or in licensed trials where Local authorities are working with hire operators. The council is not taking part in these at the moment precisely because of their potential for misuse in areas where they are prohibited as well as concerns around safety, access, street clutter and sustainability. Misuse of e-scooters is a matter for Sussex Police, who will prioritise enforcement activity according to available resources as they see fit.

There is already a lot of signage on the undercliff which has been installed at Ward Councillors' requests at various times. Some people say they want more signage and we also get complaints about there being too much signage. If there is still strong local support for some more signs, I would urge ward councillors to get in touch with officers again to discuss this further.

- 89.14 Mr Kimberley asked the following supplementary question; Just really to point out that accidents on the undercliff are most likely to be caused by e-scooters and speeding cyclists. Does the councillor agree that B&H Council should do what it can to protect pedestrians of all ages, all sizes and indeed, all abilities from accidents on the undercliff?
- 89.15 Councillor Heley replied; Yes, of course I agree and we do work with the police quite a lot and this is definitely a matter for them as well.
- 89.16 The Mayor thanked Mr Kimberley for his questions and invited Mr Harris to come forward and address the council.
- 89.17 Mr Harris asked the following question; The appointment of an openly gay leader to the council seemed like a promise of hope to the LGBT community. However, when at last week's housing committee, I made the committee aware of the alarming statistics around LGBT Youth Homelessness, specifically 1 in 4 are affected. This is of grave concern, the answer neither described any existing commitment nor made a new commitment to address the problem. It seems therefore that the housing committee has no interest in developing solutions that address the specific needs of the LGBT community.

Can you tell me if this is the general policy of the Administration in other areas as well?

- 89.18 Councillor Gibson replied; I am addressing you primarily as the Housing Committee representative and I do assure you that we have an interest. In developing the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2020-2025 the council carried out a full city-wide consultation with a large number of groups including the LGBT community to seek their views. The housing service will continue to engage with members of the LGBT community in the development of this strategy. Input from community groups will be key to its success. The strategy introduces a new governing structure which includes a member led Homelessness Reduction Board (HRB) which reports to the Housing Committee. Sitting beneath the HRB is a new Homelessness Reduction Operational Board (HROB), at present a lot of the of the work of the HRB has been focused on the effects of the Covid 19 pandemic. As we move into recovery, we will be establishing the HROB and inviting representation from community interest groups including those representing the LGBT community and also from those representing young people. Accurate equalities data relating to homelessness in the city is limited but the Albert Kennedy Trust which works with LGBT young people aged 16-25 at risk of homelessness suggests that nationally 24% of homeless young people identify as LGBT. The council's intention is to look at inequalities in the round when considering those at risk of homelessness. Provision of housing is governed by legislation and statutory guidance which takes into account equalities duties and in particular the definitions of vulnerabilities where they are linked to housing need.

We are committed to ensuring that our service is accessible and that we work in an inclusive and empathetic and solution focused way for anyone accessing housing services. We are, as always, open to suggestions of how we can do that better.

89.19 Mr Harris asked the following supplementary question; I am mindful that we have also got members here today from the Equalities Committee and a few years back I did an FOI and that looked at homelessness *decisions (?unclear in recording)* as well as those accepted as homeless, I was shocked at the statistics provided by this council. If you identify as heterosexual 35% of those presented were accepted as homeless, if you were a gay man this figure was just 23%, lesbians were about 24%. So, if you are heterosexual this means you are 44% more likely to be accepted as homeless as if you were a gay man. I ask councillors who identify as LGBT+ and our allies to please check your proof list. Can I please ask do you think those figures equate to fairness and equality and if not, what can we do to rectify this?

89.20 Councillor Gibson replied; Those figures are alarming and obviously need a proper exploration and investigation and certainly that exploration needs to take place with LGBT people experiencing homelessness and with the community. We are committed to trying to move towards more co.. ? of service which means working together much more to review how well our service works and this is an area that the HROB may well be looking at. I really appreciate you highlighting the issues and that statistic is something that we really must investigate and get back to you on. We also need to look closely at prevention because we don't want anyone, but particularly a high proportion of a particular equalities group to end up being homeless so we need to focus on how well we prevent homelessness and then we need to look at the housing provision once people have become homeless.

All of these things is a lot and I would be being disingenuous if I were to pretend to you we will do it next week, we are in the middle of a pandemic we have got 800 people in emergency accommodation and the priority is to try and house these people sustainably. But I promise you we will work on it and we will work with you and you know how to get in touch with me.

89.21 The Mayor thanked Mr Harris for his questions and invited Mr Hutley to come forward and address the council.

89.22 Mr Hutley asked the following question; The Council is about to eradicate all the Tamarisks growing along the Dukes Mound and replace them with grasses. Up until recently I lived in that area and I must say I appreciated them in the winter as a windbreak and during the summer providing much needed shade. They say it will improve visibility. Do we need more visibility along all of the seafront? Making the naturist beach more visible? If anything, Brighton and Hove need more trees along the seafront. Aren't we creating more of a concrete jungle at a time when the world is crying out for more vegetation to counteract the effects of global warming? Shouldn't we be planting more trees before we destroy the few trees that are there already?

89.23 Councillor Heley replied; The purpose of the Scheme at Black Rock is to finally prepare the Black Rock Area for new development. As future development will most likely result in a change of footfall and other wider effects as more visitors are drawn to the area this is being addressed by the inclusion of measures to protect the created habitats,

including provision of board walks, fencing, signage, monitoring and most importantly a strategy for improving the wider bio-diversity in the area. This was included within the planning application approved in June 2020 and an Ecological Impact Assessment was part of the condition of this approval.

Consultation has been undertaken with Dr Kate Cole, the county ecologist and has focussed on the Black Rock Local Wildlife site which will be affected as a result of this scheme and which the wider ecology strategy is designed to compensate for. It will also deliver many other benefits in the wider area to benefit native species and improve the public realm.

Consultation has also been undertaken during public engagement in late 2019, and more recently with regular users of the Dukes Mound area via our community safety team and the outreach team at Terence Higgins Trust. This was to discuss the impacts of a partial reduction of some of the tamarisk and how best to take this forward. Visibility, windbreaks, safety, accessibility and lighting were all discussed. As work continues, we will continue to ensure people are kept informed and impact is kept to a minimum.

I have more to say but in the interest of time and I am happy to email this to you.

- 89.24 Mr Hutley asked the following supplementary question; You said that partial removal of the Tamarisks, it is quite an extensive area and as a habitat has taken decades to develop. So, I would like your confirmation that the habitat as a whole is being safeguarded?
- 89.25 Councillor Heley replied; I can send some more detailed information from the local ecologist, that I referenced, but you have my confirmation that we are really taking into consideration all of the local biodiversity.
- 89.26 The Mayor thanked Mr Hutley for his questions and invited Mr Rees to come forward and address the council.
- 89.27 Mr Rees asked the following question; Given the importance of the Hospitality Sector both to Brighton's economy and intrinsic identity, can the Council please tell us what they are doing to prioritise the payment of the lump sums for (a) the current lockdown and (b) the December payment for wet led pubs whose food sales were less than 50% of turnover. Many of these businesses face going to the wall if they don't get these funds soon, and this will have a potentially catastrophic impact on Brighton's economy and its ability to sell itself as a tourist destination?
- 89.28 Councillor Druitt replied; Firstly, I want to acknowledge just how important the hospitality sector is to Brighton's economy. It is part of the fabric of what makes our city a great place to live and visit and is part of our diverse and vibrant economy and is a significant creator of jobs. I am also very conscious how challenging the last year has been as the sector has responded to various national lockdowns and other restrictions as a result of the pandemic.

The council agrees that issuing grants to businesses is a priority and appreciates local businesses are anxious to receive payments as soon as possible. The rapidly

changing situation between lockdowns and different tiers, the associated announcement of six different business grant schemes and changes to rules relating to those schemes has been administratively complex for the council and difficult for businesses to follow. The council has prioritised getting the maximum number and amount of payments out to businesses. The main lockdown grant, the local restriction support grant has the most recipients and generates the highest awards, so this has been prioritised. Apart from cases with outstanding requests for information, all closed grants have been assessed for the second lockdown 5 November to 1 December 2020. As at 26 January 2021, 2550 businesses have received a payment and a further 516 have received an additional discretionary restriction grant payment. £5.1million has been paid for this period so far. On 14 January 2021 a further payment of £3.9million closed grant was made to 2335 businesses for the period of 26 December 2020 to 22 January 2021, covering a short period of Tier 4 and the current period of lockdown. On 21 January 2021 another payment of £3.4million was made to 2329 businesses for the period 23 January to 15 February 2021 covering the remainder of the current lockdown period up to the stated review date. Today 28 January 2021 the council has paid £12.5million in closed business restriction payments of either £4k, £6k or £9k per business depending on their size to over 2400 businesses. The vast number of hospitality business who have successfully applied for assistance will have been in receipt of these payments. Furthermore they will be eligible for local restriction support grant for the period 2 December to 26 December. We have begun assessing and awarding grants for this period with a target of completing payments by 15 February 2021.

A small number of businesses, we estimate 160 will also benefit from an extra £1k Christmas support payment for wet pubs, these awards are being assessed and paid alongside the payments for 2 – 26 December 2020.

Finally, on a personal note, I would like to add that I run a business too in the city and understand how difficult it is for businesses at the moment.

As a ward councillor I am also in regular contact with a number of businesses who are struggling, recently the Leader of the council and myself met with senior council officers and with representatives of the business community to look for ways we can accelerate grant support, improve communication and better support the business community throughout this difficult time.

- 89.29 Mr Rees asked the following supplementary question; The Government has provided local authorities, we understand, with an additional lump sum totalling £500million across the board which my professional body, the Institute of In Keepers, tells us should be used to provide discretionary grants to help the industry meet additional costs, items such as PPE, creating Covid secure venues which costs a lot of us huge sums of money and we then weren't able to trade to recover our money, and other items such as new soft and hardware to be able to deliver on government requirements. What stats is the city council taking to establish an application procedure for grants from this discretionary pot?
- 89.30 Councillor Druitt replied; It is probably best if I send Mr Rees the full answer that I read out, for information, and also an answer to the supplementary.

89.31 The Mayor thanked Mr Rees for his questions and noted that concluded the public questions.

90 DEPUTATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

90.1 The Mayor reported that two deputations had been received from members of the public and that he would invite the spokespersons to introduce their deputation and for the relevant Chair to respond. He noted that 15 minutes were set aside for the consideration of deputations.

90.2 The Mayor invited Mr Luke Simanowitz as the spokesperson for the first deputation to come forward and address the council. The deputation related to Fossil Fuels and Climate Change and Brighton & Hove City Council's Lack of Representation on the East Sussex Pension Committee.

90.3 Mr Simanowitz spoke on the deputation relating to global warming and the climate change emergency. He said that the East Sussex County Council pension scheme invested heavily in the large fuel companies who were driving the climate crisis. Brighton and Hove City Council were a major contributor to the East Sussex Pension Fund and had previously passed motions calling on East Sussex County Council to stop investing in those companies. However, Brighton & Hove City Council had no representation on the East Sussex Pension Committee, the ultimate decision-making body for the Fund and the deputation called on this Council to demand adequate representation on the East Sussex Pension Committee to ensure that those climate-destroying investments could finally be eliminated from the East Sussex Pension Fund.

90.4 Councillor Druitt thanked Mr Simanowitz for the deputation and agreed that it was a shame that Brighton & Hove residents did not have any representation on the East Sussex Pensions Committee where important decisions on investments were made. He noted that in 2016 Waltham Forest Council had declared that they were going to divest all of their investments in fossil fuel and were now on target to complete that divestment. That Council had set the bar and it was now up to us to achieve that as well, but that couldn't be done unless the City had representation on the Pension Committee, and as a Member of the Pensions Board he would raise that at the next meeting.

90.5 The Mayor thanked Mr Simanowitz for attending the meeting and speaking on behalf of the deputation. He explained that the points had been noted and the deputation would be referred to the Policy & Resources 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.

90.6 **RESOLVED:** That the deputation be noted and referred to the Policy & Resources Committee.

90.7 The Mayor then invited Dr Carlie Goldsmith as the spokesperson for the second deputation to come forward and address the council. Dr Goldsmith said that she was presenting the deputation on behalf of the Class Divide campaign, which were a politically independent group of people working together to bring attention to the educational attainment gap between young people from communities in Whitehawk,

Manor Farm and the Bristol Estate compared to their counterparts in the rest of the city. Brighton was known as a fair and inclusive city but there were inequalities in the educational attainment of children. A Freedom of Information request showed that in 2019 there was a 32% basic grades gap in Maths and English GCSE between children in Whitehawk, Manor Farm and Bristol Estate and the rest of the city, but there was currently no dedicated transparent plan by the Council to address the disparity. The deputation set out five things they wanted the Council to address.

- 90.8 Councillor Clare thanked Dr Goldsmith for raising this important issue. The Green Administration has made it clear that improving the lives of disadvantaged young people in our city is a priority – one that has for too long not progressed as far as it should have. It is clear to me that the outcomes for young people from the communities of Whitehawk, Manor Farm and Bristol Estate have for too long been left unaddressed – or that attempts to address them haven't tackled the issue. We must review the actions we've taken previously so we don't repeat the same mistakes. I have only been Chair of the Children, Young People and Skills committee for six months, but I believe that there is an apology to be made. It's one that's on all of our heads. All Councillors should be willing to admit the truth – that only 37% of young people from Whitehawk, Manor Farm and the Bristol Estate achieve A-C equivalent in English and Maths, compared to 69% across the city. That is a 32% gap. And a gap that needs to be addressed. All Councillors should be willing to admit that it is unacceptable that action has not been taken. All Councillors should be willing to apologise for any part we have played in this. For my part, I say to your community that I am sorry. And I hope I can speak for everyone else too. I hope that our commitment to do something about this now will begin to repair the mistrust and hurt your community has. But ultimately, I believe that what will truly repair that hurt is by making concrete action. In doing this, we are fully committed to working together and co-producing our response to this challenge with communities, schools and other partners to narrow the gap in achievement for young people from these communities. We will do this for young people living in all deprived areas of the city – which includes Whitehawk. I therefore can't, and don't wish to address the aims of your deputation in full yet – because I want the council to work with you on our plans to address the problem you have highlighted. I firmly believe, as I think you do too, that this issue goes wider than education. To improve education outcomes, we need to look wider at the causes of poverty and their impact on families. Looking at the wider picture is an approach I hope we can take as our plans progress. Right now because of the scale and importance of the project, we have delayed the production of a disadvantaged strategy while the recruitment of our Executive Director of Families, Children and Learning is ongoing. This recruitment should conclude in the next few weeks and once the new director is in post, we will be resuming this work with them as a top priority. Finally, I feel it is also important to note that the negative impact of poverty on educational outcomes is a national issue. The council and schools are limited by insufficient funding it receives from central Government to address poverty and addressing disadvantaged outcomes. From inadequate planning to support schools with remote learning, to needing a footballer to challenge them into providing meals over the holidays, this Government needs to wake up to the reality of child poverty in Britain today – rather than slamming charities who step in to help it, like UNICEF. We will continue to lobby Government where their support is inadequate, recognizing that local councils are best placed to take this action – but we cannot do so without the financial backing to do it right.

90.9 The Mayor thanked Dr Goldsmith for attending the meeting and speaking on behalf of the deputation. He explained that the points had been noted and the deputation would be referred to the Children Young People & Skills 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.

90.10 **RESOLVED:** That the deputation be noted and referred to the Children Young People & Skills Committee.

91 PETITIONS FOR COUNCIL DEBATE

91.1 The Mayor noted that the Council's Petitions Scheme provides that where a petition secures 1,250 or more signatures it can be debated at a meeting of the full Council, and said that he had been informed of one such petition for today's meeting. The Petition was 'No Confidence in Brighton & Hove Council'. He called on Mr P Harland to present the petition.

91.2 Mr Harland presented the petition which stated:

"The Greens are going to destroy this town more and more and they do not care. We as residents and people who come to the town need to put a stop to the madness happening here. I hope together we can show them what we think of their stupid ideas for our once great town.

They pretend to care about the environment and yet Brighton becoming a dive and now with all the new road layouts are causing a lot more pollution, not bad for the green party. They need to remember they are meant to represent the people but that definitely is not the case, not for me and many others that I know anyway. What they are doing will inevitably destroy local businesses and the town in general. We cannot let this happen. We have to fight this all the way. We need to try and get them to remove the old Shoreham road and the seafront cycle lanes.

I say we get as many people as we can to sign this petition and then show the council just how many people actually do not have any trust or confidence in them. I know they would not care but at least we can show them. This is something I feel needs to be done because I worry about all the people that work in and around the town and disabled people who this will also effect greatly. There are so many things this council have and will get wrong and it will be us that suffer."

91.3 The Leader of the Council said that his first job as council leader was to protect people's lives and air pollution in our city was killing people. Air pollution killed 175 people locally and 36,000 nationally. Air pollution also caused short and long-term health conditions. As we tackle Covid-19, a respiratory virus that affects our lungs, it would be completely irresponsible for me not to take action on air quality. We should also remember that just weeks ago the coroner in London ruled that for the first time, a person in the UK had had air pollution listed as a cause of death: 9-year-old girl Ella Kissi-Debrah. Giving our residents safer options to move around our city, by bike or on foot, will reduce the need for car traffic, air pollution it causes, and also create clearer roads for those who needed to drive. This petition was written in August and mentions the cycle lanes on Old Shoreham Road and the seafront. These schemes had actually been agreed prior to the

Greens becoming the Council's Leadership. We only became the Council Leadership at the end of July, mere weeks before your petition was written. It isn't quite the case that we could deliver schemes even before we ran the council. Now we are in January and Covid-19 is still with us. We are in the middle of the third national lockdown, the most deadly month yet, and the most hospitalisations yet seen in this pandemic. The situation was incredibly serious. This means we have the vital responsibility of ensuring that as many people as possible can move around our city to access essential services, safely. Not everyone can use a bus and not all can drive. So as I'm sure you'll appreciate there are a range of reasons why creating more and safer routes to travel has benefits for our city and our health. On your points on travel schemes: Back in August these initial schemes were funded through an 'emergency active travel' directive from the Conservative government. Government officials wrote to the then Labour council with the explicit instruction that the council should, and I quote, '*change the status quo,*' with cycling and walking schemes around our city. They also only gave the council six weeks to implement such changes. Since becoming the Administration, Greens have listened to communities both in favour and with concerns about these schemes. We have adapted the schemes in light of important concerns from people with disabilities. We reinstated blue badge bays and where a section of the cycle lane on the seafront didn't work, we took it out. We've reopened Madeira Drive one way. We expanded pavement space to support our traders who now desperately need outdoor space to stay open and keep their businesses alive. We've provided new safe travel corridors – and 'school streets,' schemes for children and parents who want to get to school safely by bike or on foot and socially distance. Government were clearly impressed with what the Council did over the summer, because they awarded the city one of the highest sums in the country to continue work on active travel plans. We also learned last month that the Government has responded to concerns and given councils more time to consult. Now we are developing a consultation that will take place over a six-week period starting in February. It will include questionnaires, on paper, online, surveys, leaflets posed to nearby households, and focus groups with communities including our businesses and schools. In his letter to the council about our funding award, the Government minister himself stated that consultation should not be, and I quote, '*confused with listening to only the loudest voices.*' The minister made clear that the government wants to see councils implement more travel and transport options for residents. He also referred to a 'silent majority' in favour of walking and cycling, sharing a survey by the government's own Department for Transport that found 65% of people across England support reallocating road space to walking and cycling in their local area.

Finally Brighton and Hove has now for nearly twenty years been a contested political authority and no party has overall control. Decisions have to be made collectively with the support of other parties. This has been a testing year for all of us. Covid-19 has caused long-term shifts and trauma. Changes to where we live only compound the changes we have all felt this year. I would urge all residents to take part in the consultations that the Council puts online, and engage with how the council can create a city for everyone, and a city fit for the future.

When I became council Leader, I gave an assurance that I will leave no stone unturned in the quest to do the right thing for our citizens, our environment and our city and I repeat that now.

91.4 Councillor Peltzer Dunn proposed an amendment on behalf of the Conservative Group. He said that the amendment built on the sentiments expressed within the petition. After the election in 2019 the Labour Group entered into a secret agreement with the Green Group, the largest opposition party. Last summer the Green became the Administration and the Labour Group the largest opposition party and the secret agreement continued. The Leader of the Green Administration was asked to confirm publicly the existence and details of the agreement which he failed to do until the agreement was leaked and published online. The Conservative Group or the Independent Members were not party to the agreement or able to comment upon its contents. The Labour Group had a narrow victory in local elections in 2019 followed by the Green Group taking control with a narrow margin. Although there was a change in administration due to the secret agreement nothing changed. At the last election two-thirds of the electorate did not vote for either Labour or Green. Due to the agreement the opposition was now the Conservative Group and the Independent Members. The lack of opposition had meant that matters such as the Older Shoreham Road temporary cycle lane had been forced through without proper consultation. He said that all Councillors were true democrats at heart and asked them to support the amendment.

91.5 Councillor Miller seconded the amendment.

91.6 Councillor Janio agreed with the petitioner that the Greens would destroy the city, he said the Greens said they cared about the environment, but the Brighton was becoming a dive and the new road layouts was creating more pollution. He hoped the electorate would be more careful at the next election and not vote Green. The petition called for the end of the temporary cycle lanes on the seafront and the Olde Shoreham Road which he agreed with, but due to the agreement between the parties that would not be done.

91.6 Councillor Clare said that it was not a secret agreement and had been published on the Green Group website. The Labour and Green Groups did not always vote together, and the Conservatives were so focused on claiming that Labour were not a proper opposition that they were failing to be in opposition themselves. The Green Group would not 'destroy' the city and had achieved many great things, full details of which were on the group's website. The cycle lanes were agreed under the Labour following direction from the Conservative Government.

91.7 The Mayor put the amendment to the vote and called on each of the Group Leaders to confirm their position as well as the Groups in turn and each of the Independent Members:

Councillor Mac Cafferty stated that the Green Group were against the amendment and this was confirmed by the Members of the Green Group;

Councillor Platts stated that the Labour Group were against the amendment and this was confirmed by the Members of the Labour Group;

Councillor Bell stated that the Conservative Group were voting for the amendment and this was confirmed by the Members of the Conservative Group;

Councillor Brennan confirmed that she was against the amendment;

Councillor Fishleigh confirmed that she was against the amendment;

Councillor Janio confirmed that he was for the amendment;

Councillor Knight confirmed that she was voting against the amendment.

100.1 The Mayor confirmed that the amendment had been lost. He asked members if they agreed to note the petition, and they did.

100.2 **RESOLVED:** That the petition be noted.

92 CALL OVER FOR REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

(a) Callover

92.1 The following items on the agenda were reserved for discussion:

Item 95 - Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2021/22

Item 95A – Brighton & Hove Climate Assembly

(b) Receipt and/or Approval of Reports

92.2 The Democratic Services Manager confirmed that Items 95 and 95A had been reserved for discussion.

(c) Oral Questions from Members

92.3 The Mayor noted that there were no oral questions relating to items not called.

93 WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS.

93.1 The Mayor confirmed 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 Yates – Parking in Coombe Road area:

93.2 Since the introduction of the residents parking scheme in the coombe road area (zone U) parking pressures have eased considerably, and residents are truly relieved. Could the Lead member please advise how residents can contribute to a review of the impact and have their proposed improvements to layout incorporated into this? These ideas include additional bays, enhanced access for motorcycles and the introduction of paid on street cycle storage facilities.

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

93.3 Thank you for your written question regarding parking in the Coombe Road area (Zone U). We are really pleased to hear that parking has eased considerably and residents are relieved. There are some small changes still to incorporate including 9 new

motorcycle parking bays which we hope will be introduced in the next few months. We are also planning to review the zone in the next 12 months, and this will give residents the opportunity to comment for any additional changes.

(2) Councillor Platts – Educational Outcomes in East Brighton:

93.4 Class Divide is a grassroots campaign fighting to draw attention to the deeply unjust educational attainment gap for young people from the communities of Whitehawk, Manor Farm and Bristol Estate in East Brighton. East Brighton is an area that is economically disadvantaged with a high level of child poverty. The campaign highlights the lower rates of attainment at GCSE's in a range of subjects including English and maths and the higher rate of exclusions and referrals to special schools. This has a negative effect on children's life chances, embedding disadvantage through to adulthood and perpetuating the cycle of poverty. Will the Council commit to meeting the five demands of the campaign? In summary:

1. An annual report to the Children, Young People and Skills Committee on the school outcomes and attainment of children living Whitehawk, Bristol Estate and Manor Farm.
2. To publish a plan that specifically addresses what actions will be taken to reduce the identified educational inequalities experienced by children, young people and adults this area.
3. To make training on the experiences of working-class children in education compulsory for all school leaders and teachers in Brighton and Hove.
4. To take action to reduce the rate of school exclusions and the placement of children in alternative schools
5. To give local people a second chance by providing local learning and training opportunities and develop advocacy support for parents struggling to keep their children in school.

Reply from Councillor Clare, Chair of the Children, Young People & Skills Committee

93.5 Thank you for raising this important issue. The Green Administration has made it clear that improving the lives of disadvantaged young people in our city is a priority – one that has for too long not progressed as far as it should have.

In doing this, we are fully committed to working together and co-producing our response to this challenge with communities, schools and other partners to narrow the gap in achievement for young people from these communities. We will do this for young people living in all deprived areas of the city – which includes Whitehawk.

We are committed to getting the very best education for all of our children and grateful to our schools for the hard work they do.

I'll be responding to this further when we look at the deputation on the agenda today.

(3) Councillor Platts – Safety on Madeira Drive:

- 93.6 Since the latest lockdown, Madeira Drive has once again become unsafe for pedestrians and cyclists, especially those with small children. The re-opening of Madeira Drive with one-way traffic has led to cars speeding between the Sea Life Centre, Duke's Mound and Black Rock. Drivers have used this space to speed even when the five lanes on Marine Parade have been clear of traffic. On the weekend of 9th and 10th January, a combination of lockdown and sunny weather saw hundreds of people circulating in this area to get some fresh air and exercise after a week indoors. The volume of people was such that pedestrians were walking in the road to socially distance and were taken by surprise by vehicles. Some drivers were aggressive in trying to get through the crowds and the area was unsafe. Will the Council take urgent action to ensure there is sufficient space for people by either dedicating the area between the Sea Life Centre and Duke's Mound or Duke's Mound and Black Rock to pedestrians and cyclists whilst lockdown continues? From the Council's own figures produced in response to my previous written question, Black Rock car park is little used during the winter months.

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

- 93.7 Madeira Drive was initially closed between Dukes Mound and the Palace Pier Roundabout to facilitate walking and cycling for local residents during the very first lockdown. Although the closure was generally supported there were concerns from traders and blue badge holders as access was limited to changing places facilities and the beach, there were also safety concerns as some vehicles were authorised to access the route without requisite enforcement powers being available to the Police to enforce speeding, conflicts between cyclists and pedestrians or other traffic violations under the closure Traffic Order..

At the 29th September ETS committee, last year, approval was granted to commence detailed-design and the Traffic Regulation Order process to re-open Madeira Drive one-way eastbound, to improve Blue Badge access and parking capacity and to relocate the cycle track from the footway promenade onto the carriageway, therefore safely segregating cyclists from pedestrians, to improve both cycle capacity and pedestrian provision.

The first stage in this implementation has seen the re-opening of Madeira Drive one-way to address access issues for traders and blue badge holder as well as some of the immediate safety and access concerns while working towards the ETS approved design.

If the road was to be closed again this could lead to more confusion and be viewed as a knee jerk reaction that will likely be required to be reopened again in the short to medium term leading to uncertainty about the status of the road and footway creating an unsafe environment. We would encounter strong criticism from our stakeholders, including blue badge users and businesses, who again would be affected by the access restrictions and have worked with us anticipating the introduction of the ETS approved design.

- 93.8 We would also need to consider the implications of a further legal process required to close the road under another Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) shortly after two previously

TROs that could invalidate a final TRO required to implement a permanent solution. This could lead to subsequent legal challenge that could invalidate future attempts to re-design the road layout and delay eventual re-opening of Madeira Drive.

Finally, a further temporary road closure will incur further expensive stewarding costs required to maintain the closure. There are benefits of advancing the design proposals for Madeira Drive as opposed to closing the road altogether. Not least to honour the commitments made at ETS but also as it has attached funding from the Department for Transport's Active Travel Fund, Tranche 2 and support from stakeholders.

The agreed scheme will provide a clearly dedicated two-way, accessible cycle facility on the southside of the carriageway with reallocated parking and better pedestrian facilities enhancing social distancing opportunities. This will include clear signing and lining to ensure there are clear and designated cycle facilities, separated pedestrian areas and vehicle running lanes.

The scheme can be implemented imminently and to further address immediate social distancing requirements additional signage will be provided to remind users of the need to maintain distances. The scheme construction will take into account the current lockdown situation and will be phased to reduce disruption as much as possible. Social media and communication channels will also be used to inform the public of which areas will be available or limited for use during construction.

- 93.9 On balance the most advantageous solution would be to deliver the ETS Committee approved scheme that has been developed with stakeholder engagement, equality of access and safety at its core. We will support delivery of the scheme with Citywide messaging to discourage visitors during national lockdown and similar situations combined with higher profile Police enforcement to encourage social distancing generally. This will provide a longer term purpose build solution to support the needs of local residents, Blue Badge users and businesses though the current Covid lockdown and beyond.

(4) Councillor Platts – Food Supplies in the City:

- 93.10 Can the Council confirm the dates on which they have written to supermarket managers in our City asking them to take action to prevent panic buying since the start of the pandemic?

Reply from Councillor Mac Cafferty, Leader of the Council

- 93.11 On 18th March last year the then leader of the Council wrote to all local supermarkets requesting that they implement measures to ensure that their customers who are vulnerable members of the community have equal access to stock which might be subject to hoarding. This was then followed up by Regulatory Services linking in with the national supermarkets on a local, regional and national level with regular dialogue.

This work has continued through the residual and ongoing risks associated with the Covid pandemic. After initial issues associated with limiting customer capacity and reduced stock was overcome during the course of the first lockdown, the focus is continuing on Covid control measures to protect staff, customers and the wider public. It

is important to note that often local branches do not have any discretion to implement different systems at a local level, but instead have to follow head office guidance.

To ensure then that there is ongoing liaison and support with supermarkets, and moving beyond a letter, Environmental Health Teams and Covid Information Officers are in daily contact with local supermarkets. This provides greater and real-time feedback on the issues and means we can engage directly.

Covid Information Officers are currently partway through a programme of visiting all the major supermarkets and the smaller local national supermarket outlets in the city to assess the implementation of the control measures against company policies and good practice. They are then RAG rating what they find, Red being of concern, advice given and follow up visit, Amber being minor concerns where we feel the manager will act to rectify. Both of these would then receive a revisit to check progress. Once they the initial visits to the larger chains are completed the team will move onto the convenience stores as a project, too.

In addition, this team is also working closely with identified officers from the Food Safety team who will engage with regional managers, Head Offices and Primary Authorities.

In addition to this we have been made aware that the pressures on supermarkets from the lockdown which started in December has not been the same as the first national lockdown. Our feedback has been that Supermarkets have increased delivery services and have not come under the same pressure with regards to in-store customer capacity or any specific lines of stock. While a further letter to all businesses, not only supermarkets, is proposed, to help alight on issues, supermarkets have been included in general email updates, and further updates are planned. In addition a more proactive approach is being taken through the deployment of Covid-19 marshals. Feedback can be provided on any response we receive as a result of this letter and on any further insight from the Covid marshals.

(5) Councillor Platts – Food Supplies in the City (2):

- 93.12 Can the Council confirm what action is being taken to ensure the City has a sustainable food supply now that we are experiencing the impact of Brexit in addition to the public health crisis?

Reply from Councillor Mac Cafferty, Leader of the Council

- 93.13 The Council had been preparing for Brexit for a number of years, with considerable uncertainty around the UK's future trading relationship with the EU. In August 2020 it was agreed by the Brexit Working Group and the Recovery and Renewal Board that it would be sensible to review Brexit related risks through the COVID working groups to ensure the overlap of potential issues was being considered by the right people and ensure contingencies were developed where necessary and possible.

In light of this the Food Cell developed an EU Transition Food Action Plan focussed on preparing the city for potential food supply and security issues emerging at the beginning of 2021 related to Brexit and with a particular focus on a no-deal scenario and its impact on vulnerable/low income residents. As well as engagement with local food

networks and highlighting potential risks and necessary planning the Food Cell sought funding for two contingency arrangements as outlined in a report to P&R on 3rd December 2020.

The Brexit Working Group agreed allocations from the Council's Brexit fund to specific actions that built on developments made during the COVID response and enabled contingency measures to be in place from the 1st January 2021 including:

- One off £20,000 grant funding to the Sussex Food Depot to scale up operations in time for responding to potential supply chain disruption at the beginning of 2021. The Depot is a social enterprise and innovation developed during the COVID response by Brighton Food Factory to source locally grown produce and donations for distribution to city food businesses and the emergency food network to reduce reliance on national/international supply chains and meet local need with local produce. The Depot is a partnership including Brighton Food Factory, Brighton & Hove Food Partnership, Hisbe, One Church and Gleaning Network.

The Council's one-off funding has enabled vehicles and staff to be ready to respond to emerging challenges from 1st Jan and is in addition to the Council's Property Team assisting with provision of a location for the depot itself.

Although this measure is related to food resilience in the event of a disruptive EU Transition, it also has the potential to support the Council's own sustainability agenda in the long-term. The Depot distribution model aims to ensure locally grown and sourced produce can be more widely accessed across the city and region whilst reducing onward costs to consumers. The Sussex Food Depot also want to grow to support local and regional food procurement including public services, large employers and local food businesses as well as community food projects.

- A £20,000 grant had also been allocated for purchasing food supplies if there is supply chain disruption at the beginning of the year that will directly impact on emergency food provision. Learning from COVID suggests that any disruption to the 'just in time' supermarket supply chains and potential for stockpiling can mean supermarkets are able to ration and meet most demand but that surplus food supplies dry up which impacts on the emergency food network reliant on that surplus.

Currently no major disruption to local food supply is being reported as a consequence of either COVID or Brexit however there are some accounts of price rises for certain produce which if sustained or exacerbated could lead to more local residents falling into food poverty. This is currently being monitored through the Food Cell and as well as the £20k emergency food fund, further funding to assist with mitigating potential impacts could be sought through the funding assigned to the Local Outbreak Plan.

(6) Councillor Platts – Disadvantage:

- 93.14 Trade union Usdaw has recently negotiated an increase in minimum pay for Morrison's workers and will become the first UK supermarket to pay at least £10 an hour from April. This is just over the current Brighton & Hove Living Wage of £9.50 per hour. Will the Council write to the Head Offices of other supermarkets with stores in Brighton & Hove urging them to do the same and help tackle disadvantage in our City?

Reply from Councillor Mac Cafferty, Leader of the Council

- 93.15 Local employers will clearly take their own position when entering into pay negotiations with their staff and unions. In this council, we have committed to pay the Voluntary 'Real Living Wage' and have been operating this for many years to help staff on lower pay. The council would therefore encourage all employers in the city to offer the Real Living Wage as a minimum within their pay structures and, in particular, stipulates this requirement in any services it procures externally from private sector providers.

For organisations to offer a higher award will clearly be a matter of policy and/or affordability for each organisation and, in this respect, we welcome the decision by Morrison's. I would be happy to write to all Head Offices to ask them to follow suit with the council and pay the Real Living Wage, as a minimum, and to note the example set by Morrison's to go further.

(7) Councillor Platts – Community Wealth Building:

- 93.16 Will the Council commit to writing to all supermarket chains represented in the City to ask them how much local produce they stock; if they will increase their range and ensure such goods are prominently displayed and clearly labelled as being produced locally? This would support local producers to grow their businesses, create local jobs and contribute to a sustainable food supply as well as reducing food miles.

Reply from Councillor Mac Cafferty, Leader of the Council

- 93.17 The Council is currently in the process of securing additional capacity within the Economic Development team to work with the city's food sector and all related local, regional and national stakeholders to develop and deliver the city's food goals.

Part of this role may require engagement with businesses and Government, where necessary, to effect change that will strengthen the sustainability and resilience of the local food system as it continues to adapt to the immediate challenges of COVID and the longer term impacts of Brexit and the climate crisis. Opportunities will be sought to engage with the development of the Government's National Food Strategy and highlight the benefits of investing in sustainable locally sourced produce.

This renewed focus on food policy for the Council will also build on the work that awarded Brighton & Hove the status of the UK's first 'Gold' sustainable food city.

This work and the collaborative efforts of the Food Partnership, local food organisations and community groups as well as support from the Council has highlighted, among other goals, the steps that can be taken to embed sustainable and circular economy principles in food waste and food growing locally. This has included the #Goodtogrow campaign, a pledge for food businesses, which includes consideration of sustainable food practices, work to increase the amount of locally grown produce available to community food projects, and to create opportunities for people to buy affordable healthy and sustainable food through markets and mobile pop-up shops and restaurants, particularly in areas with no existing provision. National retailer Lidl, BHCC and the University of Brighton worked in partnership in 2019 to better understand the circumstances and potential

barriers facing low-income families in East Brighton with regards to eating veg. Recommendations from the research fed into Lidl's National Healthy Eating Strategy.

93.18 In December I was proud to join cities around the world signing the Glasgow Declaration [1] which ahead of the COP26 climate talks, calls on national governments to play their full part in securing sustainable food and farming at the heart of the global response to the climate emergency.

93.19 The promotion of sustainable locally sourced produce will continue to be considered as part of this work going forwards.

[1] [HOME | Glasgow Food and Climate Declaration \(glasgowdeclaration.org\)](https://glasgowdeclaration.org)

(8) Councillor Allcock – Estate Development Budget:

93.20 The Estate Development Budget (EDB) is a scheme that was set up to respond to suggestions from Council tenants and provides money for ideas that can make a positive difference to their neighbourhood.

The requirements are that EDB projects:

- Involve and be supported by as many neighbours as possible
- Should be completed in the same financial year
- Do not cost more than £10,000 for main bids and £1,000 for quick bids
- Are not be something that could be done as a repair or as part of a larger maintenance programme

What performance management processes does the Council have in place for the EDB scheme?

Since the scheme was established. how many and what percentage of EDB bids/project:

- Have been completed within the same financial year as the bid was agreed?
- Are not completed and still outstanding?
- Could reasonably be construed as being a repair or part of the Council's Housing estate planned maintenance programme?

What is the monetary value of these bids/projects?

Reply from Councillor Gibson/Hugh-Jones, Joint Chair of the Housing Committee

93.21 Thank you for your question on the performance management process in place for the EDB scheme and for details of EDB bids.

The engagement of residents, marketing and communication, bidding and review processes are supported by the Community Engagement Team and the implementation of the projects and management of the budget is through the Repairs & Maintenance service. Prior to April 2020 this function was commissioned to Mears.

There is a resident led EDB Panel in place that reviews the delivery of all EDB bids with council officers. The panel meets 6 times a year.

A new bid evaluation criterion has been produced, which the EDB panel refer to when voting on bids. This will be available for bidders' reference when completing applications. Bids for projects which benefit council residents on land owned by other parts of the council are considered for EDB funding, providing they have permission from the relevant directorate.

The Community Engagement Team supported the EDB Review group to identify key areas of social value which could be gained from an EDB project. They agreed additional questions to be included on the bid form which would allow an evaluation on these aspects to be carried out after the work was completed, based on feedback from residents. This process was implemented on the application forms in 2020/21. This means we will begin to look at the impact of EDB in 2021/22.

Bidders are now notified and acknowledged when their application is received, they are informed on the outcome of their bids, and they are given a follow-up on reasons for the outcome of their bid by the Community Engagement Team.

In addition, from April 2021, an end of financial year report will be produced. This will involve all stakeholders of the year's program and will include: the number of bids, what was funded, impact, and changes needed to the guidelines for the following financial year. This evaluation will also include qualitative information on how residents have measured the social value of their projects.

A new Engagement Strategy is planned for consideration at Housing Committee in March 2021. This will include proposed changes to the EDB process as identified through the EDB Review.

In terms of the bids outstanding from previous years, officers are working with residents to progress the delivery of the following outstanding bids:

- 2018/2019 – 7 bids with a total value of £8,000
- 2019/2020 – 22 bids with a total value of £28,000

For the current year of 2020/21:

- 37 main bids were agreed and 14 have been completed. 23 bids are outstanding with a total value of £125,000
- 17 quick bids have been agreed and 3 have been completed. 14 bids are outstanding with a total value of £13,000

We anticipate that the new review arrangements will identify potential delays more promptly in future. We do review bids through our resident engagement team and look to identify any works that would be picked up through our Repairs & Maintenance service or planned works programmes. We have worked with residents to improve this and establish clearer guidance around the EDB. Unfortunately, it is difficult to review historic information to identify which bids this would apply to.

(9) Councillor Grimshaw – Assisted Bin Collection Service:

93.22 Can it be confirmed how many residents use the assisted bin collection service and what are the figures regarding complaints? Is there a dedicated officer to coordinate assisted collections and how do the teams ensure that recycling, garden refuse and general waste are all aware of the need for assisted collection?

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

93.23 There are currently:

- 3156 assisted collections for recycling
- 3391 assisted collections for refuse
- 231 assisted collections for garden waste

It is not possible to breakdown the number of formal stage 1 complaints received about assisted collections.

There is not one dedicated officer, rather a team that support requests for assisted collections, as well as the crews that collect from these properties.

To obtain an assisted collection, residents are required to complete a form on the website or contact Cityclean for one of the Contact Centre team to request it on their behalf.

The completed form is sent to a dedicated mailbox where a Project Development Officer the request to a "beat sheet".

A beat sheet is a list of roads given to crews each day for them to empty the refuse, recycling or garden waste.

On the beat sheet, there is a column that indicates which houses on each street have an assisted collection and where the bin is situated.

Operatives will put the bin back to where they retrieved it from.

(10) Councillor Williams – SWEP:

93.24 There have been concerns raised by community groups that the council are operating what has been termed as 'Secret SWEP'. This is because arrangements for SWEP are not announced publicly thus difficult discover.

It is recognised that due to the pandemic, specific strategies to help rough sleepers have been put in place, and a lot of good work is being done. However, it is important concerned people, groups, and councillors are kept informed to enable people to actively help the homeless in bad weather. This is particularly important to make sure no one is left out.

The public wish to know what is the rationale for SWEP method of operation at this time, is the everyone in policy being implemented compassionately and sufficiently to include everyone in need and can we find a way to better inform when SWEP is triggered?

Reply from Councillor Gibson/Hugh-Jones, Joint Chair of the Housing Committee

93.25 We are also keen to ensure people know how to access our services and, as you know, during the current pandemic. The response to the pandemic means that rough sleepers get offers of accommodation 7 days a week, whatever the weather and as a result there are less than 30 people estimated to be rough sleeping at present. A very different set of circumstances. In this context for SWEP We had to reconsider how we reach out to people whilst striking a balance so that we don't want to attract people who already have accommodation as that could overwhelm services which are at full stretch particularly as we are currently unable to provide congregate accommodation.

As previously reported to Housing Committee, SWEP has not been secret. Information on how to support people to access SWEP has been shared in local media, via social media and is on our website. All organisations working with homeless people have had this information shared with them through the VCS and Operational Forums.

We have made a lot of accommodation available since the start of the pandemic for people who are assessed as at risk of rough sleeping in addition to those who are verified rough sleepers. There is no need for anyone to therefore be sleeping rough in the city. However, we recognise that there are a few people who have found it difficult to come in, and for those people when SWEP is triggered, we have made provision through our Street Outreach Services who are identifying anyone who is rough sleeping and in addition the public can report anyone they see or are concerned about through Streetlink. The Street Outreach Service are carrying out outreach shifts 7 days a week including bank holidays and over the full Christmas period.

This winter so far as at 22nd January 2021, we have been open on 31 separate occasions including being open every day from the 24 December 2020 to date 8 January 2021. We offer hot meals, snacks, drinks and support. We have provided 173 units of accommodation with an average of 8 people each night we have been open. We are ensuring that where someone will accept engagement, we have a clear onward accommodation offer in place and nobody needs to return to rough sleeping. It is pleasing to report that 22 people brought in through SWEP moved onto longer term emergency accommodation and remained housed when SWEP closed

This year due to the pandemic, we are unable to use congregate sleep space arrangements or offer open access to a single hub as in previous years. Instead we have acquired 14 units of self-contained accommodation to meet the needs of people who would otherwise rough sleep. Referrals therefore need to be managed but we do not turn people away, and if the 14 units are full, colleagues in Housing Options and St Mungo's No Second Night Out Service work together to ensure that everyone in need is offered safe accommodation during periods of severe weather

93.26 The trigger for us to open SWEP is the same this year as it has been for the previous two years: a predicated "feels like" temperature of 0 degrees Celsius or an Amber Weather warning. We also always open across the Christmas period regardless of

weather. Due to the current pandemic and advice from Public Health England, local Public Health colleagues and the MHCLG SWEP could not be delivered as it has been in previous years. Anyone seen rough sleeping by a member of the public can be referred to the SOS team via Streetlink or can be supported to access housing by calling the Housing Options duty line (available 24 hours 7 days a week including Bank Holidays).

(11) Councillor Childs – Planning:

93.27 I note with alarm the Government's new method for calculating house building targets which place the majority of the burden on the largest 20 English cities to fulfil national needs thus relieving Tory rural authorities of the need to build sufficient housing.

Will the Administration, take up with the Secretary of State, as a matter of urgency the new proposed housing targets that would require Brighton & Hove to increase its new housing target by over a third - placing more Green Field land at risk of development - and will they condemn the blatantly political method proposed by the Government that favours Conservative-led Councils?

Reply from Councillor Littman, Chair of the Planning Committee

93.28 In December the Government announced without any warning, evidence or consultation, it would add a further 35 per cent to the city's housing needs. Our housing needs will increase from 924 new homes needs per year to 1250. For a city that incredibly constrained.

This change was largely in response to the backlash the Government received to their proposals, last summer, to use a housing algorithm to calculate housing needs across the country. You are quite right - objections to this were strongest from rural districts where the increased needs would have been highest.

The result of the announcement for us though, and the other 19 cities, is that we will have additional pressure for development on our valuable open spaces and employment space. And we will also have a reduced ability to use our locally adopted policies to assess applications for housing. With the risk of more decision overturned at appeal.

Matters will be further worsened if the government goes ahead with its proposal to allow office, commercial and community uses - that contribute to the economy and the vibrancy and character of the city - to change to housing without needing planning permission. Once again, if this comes into force, we won't be able to use our locally agreed policies which further undermines local democracy.

I can confirm that the Administration will be writing to the Secretary of State to object in the strongest terms. I invite both Labour and Conservative colleagues to sign the letter so it can be a joint letter sent on behalf of all Groups.

(12) Councillor Wilkinson:

93.29 What measures are the Council taking to reduce vehicle speeds, improve pedestrian and cycle safety, improve air quality and encourage reduced car use in the Central Hove area?

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

93.30 As opposition spokesperson on the ETS committee you are very up to date with the council's work in tackling vehicle speeds, improving pedestrian and cycle safety, improving air quality and encouraging reduced care use across the city, which will all impact on central hove ward.

Speed reduction

As you know, The Council works positively with the Police and are supporting their efforts with speed reduction throughout the city but more recently in Hove with the use of a Speed Indicator Device (SID) and our use of 9 mobile Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) that have also been deployed in several roads in the area and beyond. The SID tells the drivers what speed they are doing and the VAS give a reminder of the speed limit with an accompanying legend SLOW DOWN. You are also seconding a Notice of Motion to this same full council meeting that encourages a more modern approach to road safety in the city, so I refer you the content of that motion you are seconding with my colleague Cllr Hills. You will have more detailed knowledge of the specific issues in central Hove, so I would urge you to let me and officers know of any particularly bad areas that can be improved.

Walking and cycling

As a member of the LCWIP task and finish group, you are already aware of our work on this and have had the opportunity to give feedback regarding particular areas of improvement needed in your ward of central hove. This feedback will input into the process.

At the junction of Eaton Rd/The Drive, improvements have been made to the existing pedestrian facilities and additional crossings have been added so that all arms now have a safe crossing movement. We have also introduced an early cycle start stage at this junction with low level cycle lanterns and modified the stop line to discourage vehicles from entering the advanced stop line.

Central Hove also benefits from direct access to the new temporary cycle facilities on the seafront that were introduced as part of the Emergency Active Travel Fund programme, which we have worked together on in a lot of detail. This scheme is due to be extended further in the coming year including the introduction of further low-level cycle signals along the route as you know.

We are also trialling the use of a system called SmartCross. The primary aim of this system is to empower disabled pedestrians, particularly wheelchair and mobility impaired users who find it difficult to get to the push button. It will make it possible to trigger the wait box using an online app. Additionally it has a Covid related function where the wait can be triggered by passing your hand under the push button box without

having to actually touch it. If this trial proves successful, then it will be rolled out to a wider area.

Air quality & reducing car use

In January 2020, you seconded a motion that I proposed called “car free city centre by 2023” and last week at the ETS committee we both voted to advance this project further. This also includes plans for a city wide ultra low emission zone in order to radically improve air quality in the city, which will include central hove.

All new traffic signals in the City are ELV & LED so 90% saving in power consumption. We are also taking steps to improve remote monitoring of signals to avoid unnecessary visits (by car) to the signal faults plus the engineers are now being issued with hybrid or electric vehicles.

We are continuing to roll out the Citywide Spend-to-Save programme of replacing street lighting with LEDs to reduce power consumption and to reduce maintenance requirements.

Other measures being introduced as part of the Tranche 2 Emergency Active Travel programme will include a series of Active & Healthy Travel campaigns as well as more bikeshare hubs, Park Active schemes to encourage people to travel actively in the last mile of their journey as well as other incentive schemes such use of the Better Points app, which you are aware of through our extensive discussions at the ETS committee.

Access and School Travel

Through the Access Fund for Sustainable Travel, we’ve provided in-depth help to 12 Central Hove residents to support them into work by providing financial support for cycles, cycle fixing and training or paid their first month of travel using public transport.

The council’s School Travel Team have engaged Early Years and Schools in Central Hove, including providing support to St Andrew’s Primary with their road safety issues with more A-boards and on-going site visits at this school. The first Meerkat Trail to promote walking and scooting to nursery and school as part of the Access Project (Access Year 1) was focused around this area of Hove.

More recently, we supported West Hove Infants School through the implementation of an Emergency School Streets closure from Sept – October half term, which enabled social distancing outside the school when they returned during the Covid-19 pandemic. This also supported wider objectives of School Streets by encouraging families to use sustainable, active travel to and from school and deterring parking near the school gates, making it safer for children.

Several Early Years in CH have received Modeshift STARS accreditation including:
Honeycroft Centre nursery achieved Gold and we financed a bespoke buggy/bike shed for them

Helped Each Peach Childcare achieve Silver

Working with Dolphins Pre-school to move from Bronze to Silver

Working with Footsteps Day Nursery to maintain Gold

Have started working with Shirley Street Day Nursery and Hopscotch Nursery (Hove Station) on Bronze

Hundreds of school children in CH have taken part in Walk to School Week:

- October 2020: St Andrews took part – 622 children
- May 2019 : West Hove Connaught took part - 630 children

Six CH schools participated in the SMILE project with Reception children 2020:

Aldrington CE Primary
 Brunswick Primary
 Cottesmore St Mary's RC Primary
 St Andrew's CE Primary
 West Hove Infant - Connaught Road
 West Hove Infant - School Road

(13) Councillor Mears – Contracts and Accountability (Spend Tables):

93.31 The Council's website states that payments over £250 are to be published each month on the council website in 'spend tables':

"Each month we publish all the payments over £250 that we've made. They include payments to suppliers, grants to voluntary organisations and payments to individuals.

We reduced the threshold of publishing payments from £500 to £250, following changes introduced by the government."

<https://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/content/council-and-democracy/council-finance/payments-over-%C2%A3250>

Despite this policy, the last spend table uploaded by the Council for scrutiny by the public was for June 2020.

At a time when so much Government funding is being provided and spent there is a need for accountability and transparency.

Can the Finance Chair advise why no spend tables have been uploaded since June 2020?

Can the Finance Chair please provide the spend tables for the missing months in the response?

Reply from Councillor Gibson, Joint Deputy Chair (Finance) of the Policy & Resources Committee

93.32 I am aware that there is currently a technical issue regarding the upload of this information to the council's website. Unfortunately, the advent of the pandemic has meant that the team, which has suffered staffing shortages due to cases of isolation and illness, has had to prioritise its primary function, which is to pay the council's many providers and suppliers promptly.

As you will be aware, cash flow is absolutely critical for local business, particularly small businesses, and in response to this we removed our standard payment terms of 30 days and effectively set this to zero so that we could get payments out to businesses as fast as possible and help them survive. This policy is still in place. This has obviously put very significant additional pressure on the team, and they have, quite rightly, prioritised paying our suppliers and providers as quickly as possible.

To give Members some further context, we have only had one Freedom of Information request in relation to the on-line payment data in the whole of last year. I am therefore happy to support the team in prioritising payment of suppliers and providers over production of this information. However, I fully agree that residents have a right to understand where government funding is deployed and would point to the many publicly available committee reports which detail the council's decisions as to how each and every allocation of grant funding is to be used.

The team have advised that the over £250 payment information should be available on-line within two weeks.

(14) Councillor Mears – Housing Repairs

93.33 The then Administration made a policy decision to insource the Housing Repairs Budget prior to last election.

Paperwork from the time estimated the cost of this policy decision would be nearly £10 million – to be incurred by the Housing Revenue Account.

What has been the additional cost of this policy to date beyond the original estimate, including costs associated with ongoing industrial action?

Bearing in mind that when this policy was presented prior to an election that very clear indications of the cost were provided, can the Chair confirm that the Housing Revenue Account, which is made up of tenants rent, will not be used to incur any ongoing additional costs going forward.

Reply from Councillor Gibson / Hugh-Jones, Joint Chair of the Housing Committee

93.34 For clarification, the decision made to bring the repairs and Maintenance Service in house has not cost the council £10m. The previous service had a cost comparable with the current service. Due to organisational changes in the wider repairs service including property and investment services, and impact on service of the COVID10 pandemic, it is difficult to make a like for like comparison with the costs prior to the service coming in-house. This is a wider piece of work which will take more time and will be reported to Housing Committee as requested by Councillor Mears. However, for information, the 2020/21 budget for the Repairs and Maintenance service is £10.315m. This includes one-off Programme Team funding of £0.410m, leaving a core budget of £9.905m for the in-house Repairs and Maintenance service.

For 2021/22, the budget proposals allow for an additional net increase of £0.436m for inflationary pressures and to reflect the updated staffing establishment costs when

compared to estimates at budget setting for 2020/21. So a total budget of £10.341m for 2021/22. There is also a further proposal for a one year cost of the programme team of £0.437m.

It is difficult to express whether there are any additional costs as a result of the industrial dispute as it is impossible to distinguish between the effects of the pandemic and the dispute. However, as you will be aware, the industrial action was contained to two occasions. What is more, any additional costs would need to be offset against the reduction in staff pay as a result of the strike and the possible reduced pay costs if recruitment was delayed. In the meantime, you will no doubt be pleased to hear that the council's proposal to bring the dispute to an end has been accepted by the GMB and we can now move forward with the harmonisation process.

(15) Councillor Barnett – Begging in the City

93.35 In an article in *The Argus* on 14 November 2020, Brighton Housing Trust's Andy Winter said that begging was the elephant in the room that needed addressing by the council and that a great opportunity has been missed to address these problems.

Mr Winter works very hard in Brighton and Hove and is well respected. He says that unless we actively challenge begging we won't effectively address addictions, and without addressing addictions, we won't end rough sleeping.

I wholeheartedly agree and so would most of Brighton and Hove in my opinion. In my ward of Hangleton and Knoll I often speak to beggars to understand the situation they are in. Several have told me they live in accommodation provided by the council and receive food and benefits but continue to beg on the streets due to their addictions and because they feel nothing will be done to stop them.

We must take heed of Mr Winter's advice.

Please could you provide advice on the following?:

- a) The number of people the council estimates are currently begging in Brighton & Hove
- b) What efforts the council are making to end begging and aggressive begging on the streets of Brighton & Hove City Council
- c) Whether the Council would support a Cashless Donation Scheme such as that recently introduced in the Royal Borough. The Cashless Donation Scheme encourages residents to support a rough sleeper pathway as opposed to giving spare change to beggars in order to provide more effective help to people.
- d) If so, whether the council would use its Communications programme to support a Cashless Donation Scheme in the City with the aim of providing better care and ending begging on the streets.

Supporting information:

<https://www.sloughexpress.co.uk/news/maidenhead/164657/council-to-launch-cashless-support-for-rough-sleepers.html>

Supporting information:

<https://www.theargus.co.uk/news/18871492.brighton-housing-trust-boss-prevention-key-ending-homelessness/>

Reply from Councillor Gibson / Hugh-Jones, Joint Chair of the Housing Committee

93.36 I am afraid that we do not have details of the number of people begging in the City. It is worth noting (especially in the context of everyone in) that some people begging are accommodated and should not be understood as homeless. However the Council works with partners such as the police and outreach services to ensure that those identified are offered opportunities to engage with support services to address issues such as substance misuse, which can lead to the need to beg. Police colleagues will take enforcement action where individuals are identified to be causing particular and persistent concern. The council and partners already have in place a donation scheme, 'Make Change Count' ([Make Change Count 2020: support for homeless women and men - JustGiving](#)) which we encourage residents to give to rather than directly to those begging and donations will be used by charities supporting those individuals who feel the need to beg. The Council comms team promote this through the website.

(16) Councillor Simson – Public Space Protection Orders

93.37 Can the Chair of the TECC Committee please advise:

- a) Why has the Council not renewed PSPOs on the City's Parks?
- b) When and by whom was this decision taken and was there a vote?
- c) When did PSPOs for city parks expire?

Reply from Councillor Osborne / Powell, Joint Chair of the Tourism, Equalities, Communities & Culture Committee

93.38 The PSPOs for Parks and Open Spaces expired in December 2019 and a report went before the TECC committee in November 2019 where a vote was taken by the committee not to extend them.

(17) Councillor Theobald – Patcham Roundabout

93.39 Thank you for your answer to my written question at the last council meeting.

In your answer you advised the following:

Work is in progress to reach an agreement between Highways England, the council and a contractor for these works to go ahead. The roundabout is owned by Highways England and therefore a 3-way contractual arrangement is required which is agreed by all parties. Negotiations and due diligence are progressing and we hope this will be finalised shortly so that works can start in the New Year.

93.40 Can you provide any update since the last meeting on the status of this project including whether negotiations and due diligence have now been finalised?

93.41 Is there a start date for works yet?

93.42 I have been asking these questions for at least the last five years and had a number of incorrect answers.

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

93.43 I appreciate that it has taken a very long time to find a solution to improve this roundabout. This is because of the complexity of the location, there are underground tanks and it will be costly for any contractor to get on and off the roundabout in order to be compliant with health and safety and traffic management regulations given its location. Officers are still progressing the 3-way agreement and a lot of the work has been completed by it is not yet final. All being well the project should be signed off and started soon. I have asked officers to brief ward councillors as soon as we have a date.

94 ORAL QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

94.1 The Mayor noted that 13 oral questions had received and that 30 minutes were set aside for the duration of the item. The Mayor then called on Councillor Platts to put her question to Councillor Mac Cafferty.

94.2 Councillor Platts asked the following question, Residents in my ward of East Brighton have been suffering the impact of drug dealing, this includes anti-social behaviour, disturbances at all hours of the day and night and, in some cases, violence. Residents are living in fear when they should have the right to a peaceful life. Plus, the local government and the police have left our resources stretched and we urgently need a more effective multi agency response. Will the Leader of the Council join me in writing to the Police and Crime Commissioner, and the Government demanding more resources to tackle drug dealing in our city?

94.3 Councillor Mac Cafferty replied, Yes, of course, I would be very happy to on such an important issue. Drug dealing and the pernicious effect on the city is affecting all communities in the city. I know from the conversations I have had with you and the other Brighton & Hove councillors that it is having a really nasty affect and the events like cuckooing and there have been really bad problems with a number of our own tenants in different parts of your ward.

94.4 Councillor Platts asked the following supplementary question, I think that we need an officer that deals specifically with drug use and abusive tenants to tackle the scourge of drug abuse and dealing in our city. Will the Leader of the Council appoint such an officer and work with me to set up a drugs summit to kick this process off, or will Labour need to propose this as part of our budget amendments?

94.5 Councillor Mac Cafferty replied, I am more than happy to explore it and am more than happy to work with you and the other agencies on creating a summit. As to the specific point about the budget I am happy to explore out of this meeting what that might look like. But I hope you take me on my word that I am very serious about doing something about this, as I imagine we all are as it is very important.

- 94.6 Councillor Bell asked the following question, Does the Leader of the Council believe that social value should be high on the agenda for a balance of economics?
- 94.7 Councillor Mac Cafferty replied, When I got the topic of your question I thought it was going to be about an economic theorist Rosenstein's seminal work about balanced economics in 1943. I am really disappointed not to get that. You raised a really good point however about social value and how it impacts, and of course it is centrally important to how we do things to do with the local economy. This is why when we last ran the city council between 2011 and 2015 for example we did set up a scrutiny on this, I believe Councillor Simson chaired that particular scrutiny work and we all agreed at the time that it was really important in terms of what it was going to say and do especially around things like procurement and the evidence of that is now out there with things like the Procurement Advisory Board, which we all know is helping us make sensible decisions and helping drive our decisions that will be good for local communities.
- 94.8 Councillor Bell asked the following supplementary question, I would like to ask further if you would agree with me that social value, residents and business consultation must be a part of all that we are looking to achieve and I are not just noted, but are actioned on within the corporate plan. And that would you put the most important interest above the ideology policy making and consider the impact of these on our tourism and hospitality sectors. Finally, I would like to ask the leader if he would please request that he bring members to stop talking down our tourism sector in the media.
- 94.9 Councillor Mac Cafferty replied, I am not aware of any of my colleagues talking down the tourism in the city and I would find that very hard to believe and we are all committed in my administration so that when the time is right that we are able, once again, to be the envy of the country with record tourism numbers and to recall visitors to the city. In terms of the broader question here in terms of the sense of value to the way that we do the budget, but also the way that we conduct the consultation, especially around those landmark decisions such as the budget every year, we have indeed incorporated a whole load of that into the way that we are talking to different communities in the city around the budget so believe that we are doing some of that. If your question is, do we need to do more? I believe we do need to do a bit more in terms of what way we engage businesses in the city and that is why I am more than happy to commit out of this meeting for both myself and Councillor Druitt as we have scheduled meetings with representatives of local businesses again before the budget and we will of course be raising the budget with them and trying to reflect the budget as a result of these discussions.
- 94.10 Councillor Childs asked the following question, In view of the current and planned house building program across the city, what action is being taken by the Council to ensure adequate public infrastructure both that provided by us directly but in terms of us working with other bodies to ensure provision of essential services such as GP services, NHS dentists, school places, roads, transport and other services are in place.
- 94.11 Councillor Littman replied, I will do my best to answer. It is tricky when the title is planning and that is the name of the committee I chair. We have partners like the CCS and utility providers who are consulted on the City Plan and are consulted on any major applications. The Council introduced a Cumulative Infrastructure Levy (CIL) which will operate alongside the Section 106 developer contributions. The S106 money will

address site specific infrastructure requirements, the CIL will be used to address cumulative infrastructure requirements associated with developments. Officers are updating the Infrastructure Delivery Plan which will identify 4 grades of infrastructure required and specific infrastructure projects which need funding. Government's arrangements for CIL will be set out on how the CIL money can be bid for in order to progress projects across the city.

94.12 Councillor Childs asked the following supplementary question, What specific action will be taken by the Council to ensure the residents of Saltdean are not placed as a service detriment as a consequence of the Coombe Farm housing development and, in particular, that there will be sufficient NHS dentists, nursery school, GP and bus services provided to meet the demand of the 70 new planned houses?

94.13 Councillor Littman replied, Looking specifically at the Coombe Farm development this application is still viable so CIL will be collected 15% of that CIL money will go into a neighbourhood fund for Saltdean. More strategic requirements around the need for school infrastructure and health facilities will be addressed through the Infrastructure Delivery Plan, provision of health care services is taken into account city wide through liaison with the NHS. The CCG is taking forward a significant number of primary care developments to ensure capacity to deliver additional services as well as increasing outreach services for secondary care. Local primary schools currently have a surplus capacity and young children from families moving into Coombe Farm and Falmer Avenue should help reverse the dwindling pupil numbers forecast for local schools. Neither of the recent consented developments would result in vehicular trips to warrant any junction modelling. So, I am sure you will join me in lobbying, through our city's MPs for a legislative framework for town planning which will give us greater control over these issues.

We are currently doing everything we legally can to ensure appropriate infrastructure especially for new developments such as those in Saltdean which will result in an additional 104 much needed new homes, including affordable homes and contribute to us achieving our very challenging housing target.

94.14 Councillor Nemeth asked the following question, Our research shows that eight and a half hours and counting amounting to 76% of Green and Labour allotted Notice of Motion time has been spent talking about parliamentary matters in council meetings over the past year. Without resorting to referring to our National Government, and in doing so helping me to make the point further, does the Leader of the Council understand why residents are furious that councillors, like us, who have been democratically elected to run the council are both avoiding their own duties and undermining our local members of parliament when they continually raise parliamentary matters in the council chamber?

94.15 Councillor Mac Cafferty replied, In terms of the question I do hope that you understand that this is the third time in 3 months that you have raised the same question, so debatably you could be accused of the very thing you are trying to accuse me of which is sadly wasting time.

As far as the consideration around our relationship with Government, our problem is that we are such a centralised society, economy and democracy that we are having to lobby

our Government around so many different issues. You will also know, from the very start off our administration onwards and the very opening speeches I gave when we became the administration that we have been lobbying and are more than happy to work with your colleague Councillor Bell on this for more powers locally. I am happy to do that with you, because I believe you may indeed have a point that I agree with which is – of course we need more powers locally we need more budget capacity locally, we need to be able to set our budgets more locally, but there is a big problem there because it is still an ask of central government.

94.16 Councillor Nemeth asked the following supplementary question, Just to clarify I didn't ask this question before, I asked about the secret agreement last time, but I am happy with that answer and I am not going to ask a supplementary.

94.17 Councillor Fishleigh asked the following question, Lockdown confirmed how vital our city's parks, playgrounds and other public green spaces are for our physical and mental well-being.

How well these assets are maintained is a reflection of our city's values and priorities? Cityparks receives a fraction of the council's annual budget and is a genuinely low-cost service that can be enjoyed by residents regardless of their income or where they live. Please would the council look at every way possible to increase City Park's budget in 2021/22 so that additional people can be recruited for enforcement, graffiti removal, organising volunteer teams and, perhaps most importantly, ensuring that all external funding sources are continually investigated.

Please would the council reconsider its appointment of a private company to dish out £100 parking fines to residents who simply want to go for a nice walk around Stanmer Park?

94.18 Councillor Heley replied, We do of course understand the importance of parks and open spaces to takes walks and recreation and this has been highlighted during the pandemic. There are dedicated car parks available for visitors to Stanmer Park. Parking enforcement is taken against vehicles parked on the grass verges and in other areas which are not safe or suitable for parking. There is clear signage to indicate where parking is not permitted and where it is. Vehicles parking on the grass areas cause damage to the beautiful environment that people are there to enjoy. Verge parking also causes problems for larger vehicles that need to access and exit the park including buses, tractors, service and emergency vehicles. Designated parking will be increased in the park in the coming months as the Stanmer Restoration Project is due to complete in the Spring. However, we would like to encourage park users to consider other forms of travel in the park such as cycling, walking and the many transport options when covid transmissions respite. The Council will therefore be retaining the services of the private company to enforce parking restrictions on verges in order to protect the beautiful park and environment.

94.19 Councillor Fishleigh asked the following supplementary question, Just for the record in 2019 when this private parking company lost a contract in Peacehaven, Lloyd Russell Moyle, MP, who pushed for the decision, said "that he wants that company chucked out of the area entirely". Do you think it is acceptable for cars with blue badges on them to

get parking fines on council owned land? And if you don't think it is acceptable then will you instruct the parking to stop issuing fines?

- 94.20 Councillor Heley replied, I didn't really hear that, but I support the right that blue badge holders have and that would apply in Stanmer Park as well, so if you have a specific issue let me know. But the parking restrictions are there for the safety of everyone, including disabled drivers.
- 94.21 Councillor Fowler asked the following question, I have been asked by the residents of Hollingdean and Stanmer when we will have more electric vehicle charging points as often the lamp post charging points have non-electric cars parked in them. I have read a recent survey and more than half of people looking to buy electric vehicles are put off as they will find it difficult to charge them. Some residents were looking forward to 2 dedicated charging spaces in Hollingbury Rise. Please can I have an update on when they will be installed and when they will be installed across the city?
- 94.22 Councillor Heley replied, I totally understand, and I have been pushing for that as well. By May this year we will have 88 legally enforceable exclusive electric vehicle charging bays across the city, with clear signing and marking that will provide further confidence to potential electric vehicle purchasers and need the assurance that you mentioned, that charging bays will not be blocked by other cars. I don't have list of each specific one, if you want to get in touch, we can find out quite easily.
- 94.23 Councillor Fowler asked the following supplementary question, Does the Administration agree that to contribute to our city becoming carbon neutral by 2030 that residents should have access to roadside electric charging and will you, as Chair, agree to expedite ways to deliver these increases of dedicated charging bays as necessary, or immediately to support residents of our city who are choosing to switch to electric vehicles.
- 94.24 Councillor Heley replied, the answer is yes.
- 94.25 Councillor Bagaeen asked the following question, The Council has pledged to use our resources and change what we do to actively dismantle racist structures and challenge racial inequality in the city. We say, on our website, that we will work in partnership with black and minority ethnic people, including council staff, residents and community groups to directly shape our Anti-Racism Strategy.
- Why then has the council failed to co-create this Anti-Racism Strategy with its only ethnic minority elected Member?
- 94.26 Councillor Mac Cafferty replied, My understanding is that the really important work on the anti-racist pledge and, I believe, it was last reported that on 18 January it goes to the TECC Committee where your Conservative Party colleagues will be party to the discussion and will be able to do all the usual things that they will be able to do with the recommendations of that particular report and it comes to each particular TECC Committee. As to the specifics of engaging your good self I am confident that we would want you to be doing that as well. But the usual way, as you know that engagement would happen to other members would be through the delegations that come through the different service committees of the council.

94.27 Councillor Bagaean asked the following supplementary question, Direct engagement is probably more effective than going through colleagues at committee on this really important matter.

Why does the Council co-opt a non-voting ethnic minority, and the emphasis here is on non-voting, to sit on the Council's main decision making committee, Policy & Resources, rather than appoint an ethnic minority representative to that role and has he found that appointment effective in terms of addressing the challenges or representing our ethnic minority communities?

94.28 Councillor Mac Cafferty replied, I chaired the panel for the co-optee to the Policy & Resources Committee and, as you know, we were inundated with this wonderful talent for it that we ended up adopting a co-optee to the TECC Committee as well. I believe Councillor Mears was the Conservative Group representative to that panel and I believe that we all were massively impressed at both the talent of the people we were short listing and the wonderful way the 2 adopted co-optees conducted themselves at those interviews which has carried on in their important work on both committees and I know, from the work that I have already conducted with Anusree Biswas, who is the Policy & Resources Committee co-optee, that we are getting effective challenge where we need it from that co-optee and I imagine my colleague Councillor Powell is receiving the same at the TECC Committee as well. I think this is a really good working relationship and it is one that we would want to foster into the future and it is indeed something that we have been trying to get changes to the Constitution adopted as well, with possible changes to other committees to really begin to move the council in the direction of fighting racism and of course all party support in that to date has been present and I hope that it continues.

94.29 Councillor Allcock asked the following question, I am sure you know that meat, dairy production and fishing are responsible for at least 18% of greenhouse gas emissions. Intensive animal farming poses a significant threat in terms of the emergence of the new pandemics and increased antibacterial resistance and extensive research has shown that the biggest change that we can all make to reduce our environmental impact is to adopt a plant based diet.

Will the Administration, in consultation with schools, seek to introduce one meat free meal a day and another fully plant based meal a day per week across all its maintained schools by the start of Autumn term to encourage diet change and demonstrate another contribution that this city can make to mitigate the global climate crisis?

94.30 Councillor Clare replied, As you may be aware the contract that we have isn't in all maintained schools, it is only in primary and secondary schools, academies have their own arrangements so we can't necessarily commit to doing so across all our maintained schools. You may remember at the November CYPS Committee, we had a public question asking about how we can introduce more vegan options and shift the emphasis around how vegan children are treated as it currently treated as a 'special' diet and that wasn't felt right. I committed in the answer to that question to discuss with Caselinks, catering providers, how we can introduce more vegan options and I am looking forward to seeing the results of that as soon as it is available.

- 94.31 Councillor Allcock asked the following supplementary question, I believe the council's school meals contract that is currently worth £4m per year and is held with Caselinks whose parent company is West...? Holdings expires on 21 July 2022, so will the Administration consider bringing this service in house when the contract ends, in order to ensure profits and wages are kept within our city's economy and also provide greater flexibility with regards to developing services such as local food suppliers and diet?
- 94.32 Councillor Clare replied, Yes as you said the contract ends, from March school governors will be canvassed for their views on whether they think we should extend the current contract and governing bodies, although not required, will be consulted in that time frame. Following consulting them we will then be considering the contract and what the future provision is and if we do go with a different contract then tendering will happen in the autumn. As you know, and as you are as well, we are very committed to community wealth building so we like to see local providers being able to take contracts so I can't commit necessarily to saying that that contract would be in house or a local provider until we have consulted with schools. I think that is the right first step, but I would like to see it based more locally.
- 94.33 Councillor McNair asked the following question, While the introduction of cycling and pedestrian friendly initiatives, such as the widening of pavements, to help combat the spread of Covid19 is sometimes welcome, some essential tradesmen such as roofers, who live in Patcham & Hollingbury, are telling me that they are finding it increasingly difficult to park close to where they need to work with the loss of available parking spaces that can take the space of a van, especially in the centre of town. They need to park close to their work, with their long ladders etc and, despite having permits which cost around £700 a year. What consideration has been given to helping these key workers park close to their work?
- 94.34 Councillor Heley replied, As you probably know, trader's parking permits can be used across all zones and within the 'Terms of Use' outlined within the Council's website. We are also, in the budget, proposing that for trader's permits the cost is frozen to recognise the fact that we are in difficult times. It may be difficult for some of them, but we are in the third lockdown which proves further why we have extended things like the pavements. If you want to get in touch with the specific areas, then we can take a look at it further.
- 94.35 Councillor Heley has made a good response, but what guarantees can you give that tradesmen key workers will be included in any future consultation regarding changes to parking availability, especially with regard to any implementation of the Carbon Assembly report and whether future permit charges will be adjusted accordingly down, as well as up?
- 94.36 Councillor Heley replied, I think what you are probably referring to are things like the 'Ultra Lower Emission Zone' and the 'City Centre Proposals' and although we are very early on in those thoughts and ideas, I believe that we have already identified traders as a particularly important stakeholder and identified them as a group to have specified exemptions, so we will continue to look into that.
- 94.37 Councillor Wilkinson asked the following question, Brighton & Hove's Climate Assembly recently published its' recommendations for how our city could meet our target of

becoming carbon neutral by 2030. In the top 3 key recommendations was the recommendation that healthier, low traffic pedestrianised communities. We have also seen clear national Government guidance and active Covid related traffic measures and last year the ETS Committee agreed to pilot a low traffic neighbourhood in the Hanover area of the city. In view of this, will you join me in welcoming me in the public discussions which have taken place in the city about the value of low traffic neighbourhoods in encouraging walking and cycling and decreasing air pollution, when also having the positive effect of opening up residential and shopping streets and their communities?

94.38 Councillor Heley replied, I am surprised you had to ask me the first half of that question because I think you know how committed I am to the idea of low traffic neighbourhoods and the fact that the Green Group put forward the idea to have a trial in Hanover, which we are progressing and are having an update report to the next ETS Committee meeting.

We are hoping to expand low traffic neighbourhoods to other areas of the city and that will, of course, involve resident's consultations.

94.39 Councillor Wilkinson asked the following supplementary question, When I speak to my local residents, there is one issue raised over and over, the issue of rat running along local roads, the result of drivers trying to shear a few seconds off of their journey by trying to avoid the main roads and traffic lights. Local residents have approached me with regard to creating a low traffic neighbourhood in my ward.

94.40 Will you give your support to a consultation on the possible implementation of a low traffic neighbourhood in Central Hove?

94.41 Councillor Heley replied, That is really good to hear, because I am interested to hear of residents who want to trial low traffic neighbourhoods. We will have to look into the details, but I believe it will be best to do the pilot in Hanover well and properly, and then we can start to think about other areas. But I support that.

95 COUNCIL TAX REDUCTION SCHEME 2021/22

95.1 Council considered the report of the Acting Chief Finance Officer regarding the Council Tax Scheme 2021/22. This report had been considered by the Policy & Resources Committee on 21 January 2021.

95.2 Councillor Gibson introduced the report. He said that the Green Group had said that they do all they could to locally to alleviate the impact of austerity and making the Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS) more generous was part of that process. One of the most important features was the 2% additional allowance. Previously the CTRS had either remained the same or become less generous and this set a new direction of travel. This was a positive report and he commended it to Council for approval.

95.3 Councillor Yates welcomed the report and noted the Labour Group amendment to the recommendations which had been agreed at the Policy & Resources Committee. There had been a 16% increase in the number of working households claiming council tax reduction, so was pleased that the CTRS had been improved. Receiving CTRS also

allowed residents to access other benefits. He confirmed the Labour Group would be supporting the report.

95.4 Councillor Miller said that the Conservative Group welcomed and supported the report.

95.5 Councillor Druitt said that main points in the report were to increase the maximum discount 80% to 82%, to reduce the minimum award from £5 per week to 1p per week, to apply council tax reduction automatically if a person was on universal credit and to increase the Discretionary Fund to a higher level of £200k. He supported Councillor Gibson is commending the report.

95.6 **RESOLVED:** That Council agreed -

- (i) The maximum rate of Council Tax Reduction discount be increased from 80% of Band D to 82% of Band D;
- (ii) The minimum award of Council Tax Reduction be reset to 1p per week;
- (iii) Funding of £0.200m be allocated for the Discretionary Council Tax Reduction fund;
- (iv) The requirement for completing a Council Tax Reduction claim form be removed for Universal Credit recipients, in the circumstances described in paragraph 4.9 of the report;
- (v) It is noted that the council's appointed S151 Chief Financial Officer will, prior to 1 April 2021, exercise delegated powers to increase the appropriate calculative elements of the scheme to give effect to national changes;
- (vi) It is noted that a more fundamental review of the Council Tax Reduction Scheme will be undertaken and consulted on for 2022/23, including the alignment of the scheme with a wider review of the council's Welfare Support Framework.

95 A BRIGHTON & HOVE CLIMATE ASSEMBLY

95.1 Council considered the report of the Executive Economy Environment & Culture which formally welcome the final report on the Brighton and Hove Climate Assembly and the interim report of the Youth Climate Assembly, noted the findings, noted the initial city council response and requested that officers consider the findings in the development of the Carbon Neutral Plan, fifth Local Transport Plan and the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan. The report was referred to this meeting by Councillor Platts on behalf of the Labour Group.

95.2 Councillor Platts thanked everyone for their involvement with the Assembly and said that the all recommendations of the Assembly should be taken and accepted as a whole.

95.3 Councillor McNair thanked those who took part in the Assembly. He noted that the Assembly had presented ten ambitious goals which they wanted to be implemented together, and that they asked for consultation with the community on an on-going basis. To achieve carbon neutrality by 2030 residents needed to change their habits and their attitudes, and the Council needed to ensure that this was communicated.

95.4 Councillor Mac Cafferty said that this was an important and exciting piece of work and had brought together residents from all works of life with their views on how the climate emergency could be addressed. He thanked everyone who had taken part.

95.5 **RESOLVED:** That the report be noted.

96 EVICTIONS

96.1 The Notice of Motion as listed on the agenda was proposed by Councillor Williams on behalf of the Labour and Green Groups and formally seconded by Councillor Osborne.

96.2 Councillor Mears proposed an amendment on behalf of the Conservative Group which was formally seconded by Councillor Barnett.

96.3 Councillor Williams noted the comments and confirmed that she did not accept the amendment.

96.4 The Mayor noted that the amendment had not been accepted and therefore put it to the vote and called on each of the Group Leaders to confirm their position as well as the Groups in turn and each of the Independent Members:

Councillor Mac Cafferty stated that the Green Group were against the amendment and this was confirmed by the Members of the Green Group;

Councillor Platts stated that the Labour Group were against the amendment and this was confirmed by the Members of the Labour Group;

Councillor Bell stated that the Conservative Group were voting for the amendment and this was confirmed by the Members of the Conservative Group. Councillor Peltzer Dunn did not vote on this item;

Councillor Brennan confirmed that she was against the amendment;

Councillor Fishleigh confirmed that she was against the amendment;

Councillor Janio confirmed that he was voting for the amendment;

Councillor Knight confirmed that she was voting against the amendment.

96.5 The Mayor confirmed that the amendment had been lost and therefore put the following motion to the vote:

The Council notes and welcomes the campaigns by the Citizens' Advice Bureau, Acorn and Shelter which call upon landlords not to evict tenants for the duration of the pandemic, and calls for;

- 1) Officers to actively contact landlords, letting agencies and housing providers to request that they;
 - do not evict tenants for the duration of the pandemic;

- work with the council, tenants' unions and representatives to find alternative solutions to eviction;
- desist from discriminatory practices that act as barriers to benefit claimants such as 'no DSS' policies, requiring 6-months rent in advance, homeowner guarantors and prohibitive terms and conditions;

2) The Council further asks the Chief Executive to write to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government urging;

- 1) The ban on evictions be extended for at least 6 months;
- 2) The exemption to this ban which allows for eviction due to rent debt accrued during the past 6 months be removed;
- 3) The introduction of a grant to help with Covid-related rent debt;
- 4) The introduction of enforcement measures to prevent unlawful discrimination against benefit claimants by landlords and letting agents.

96.6 The Mayor called on each of the Group Leaders to confirm their position as well as the Groups in turn and each of the Independent Members:

Councillor Mac Cafferty stated that the Green Group were in favour of the motion and this was confirmed by the Members of the Green Group;

Councillor Platts stated that the Labour Group were in favour of the motion and this was confirmed by the Members of the Labour Group;

Councillor Bell stated that the Conservative Group would be abstaining, and this was confirmed by the Members of the Conservative Group. Councillor Peltzer Dunn did not vote on this item;

Councillor Brennan confirmed that she was voting for the motion;

Councillor Fishleigh confirmed that she was abstaining.

Councillor Janio confirmed that he was voting against the motion;

Councillor Knight confirmed that she was voting in favour of the motion.

96.7 The Mayor confirmed that the motion had been carried.

97 SAVE THE UNION LEARNING FUND

97.1 The Notice of Motion as listed on the agenda was proposed by Councillor Childs on behalf of the Labour Group and formally seconded by Councillor Williams.

97.2 Councillor Brown proposed an amendment on behalf of the Conservative Group which was formally seconded by Councillor McNair

97.3 Councillor Childs noted the comments and confirmed that he would accept the amendment with the additional wording if Councillor Brown agreed to accept the original wording of the Notice of Motion. Councillor Brown did not agree.

97.4 The Mayor noted that the amendment had not been accepted and therefore put it to the vote and called on each of the Group Leaders to confirm their position as well as the Groups in turn and each of the Independent Members:

Councillor Mac Cafferty stated that the Green Group were against the amendment and this was confirmed by the Members of the Green Group;

Councillor Platts stated that the Labour Group were against the amendment and this was confirmed by the Members of the Labour Group;

Councillor Bell stated that the Conservative Group were voting for the amendment and this was confirmed by the Members of the Conservative Group;

Councillor Brennan confirmed that she was against the amendment;

Councillor Fishleigh confirmed that she would be abstaining;

Councillor Janio confirmed that he was voting for the amendment;

Councillor Knight confirmed that she was voting against the amendment.

97.5 The Mayor confirmed that the amendment had been lost and therefore put the following motion to the vote:

This Council notes with concern the letter received by the TUC in October from the Department for Education, outlining Ministers' decision to end the Union Learning Fund (ULF) from March 2021, and;

This Council recognises the excellent results that have been achieved by the Union Learning Fund;

- 68% of learners with no previous qualifications gained a qualification;
- 68% of employers say unions are particularly effective at inspiring reluctant learners to engage in training and development;
- 70% of learners would not have taken part in learning without union support;
- Every £1 invested in the Union Learning Fund generated a total economic return of £12.24;

This Council further requests the Chief Executive to write to the Secretary of State for Education, outlining this Council's support for the work of the Union Learning Fund, and urging;

- The Government to continue investing in the Union Learning Fund.

97.6 The Mayor called on each of the Group Leaders to confirm their position as well as the Groups in turn and each of the Independent Members:

Councillor Mac Cafferty stated that the Green Group were in favour of the motion and this was confirmed by the Members of the Green Group;

Councillor Platts stated that the Labour Group were in favour of the motion and this was confirmed by the Members of the Labour Group;

Councillor Bell stated that the Conservative Group would be abstaining, and this was confirmed by the Members of the Conservative Group;

Councillor Brennan confirmed that she was voting for the motion;

Councillor Fishleigh confirmed that she was abstaining.

Councillor Janio confirmed that he was voting against the motion;

Councillor Knight confirmed that she was voting in favour of the motion.

97.7 The Mayor confirmed that the motion had been carried.

98 BONE MARROW, STEM CELL AND ORGAN DONATION

98.1 The Notice of Motion as listed on the agenda was proposed by Councillor Miller on behalf of the Conservative Group and formally seconded by Councillor McNair.

98.2 Councillor Evans proposed an amendment on behalf of the Labour Group which was formally seconded by Councillor Williams.

98.3 Councillor Miller confirmed that he would accept the amendment.

98.4 The Mayor noted that the amendment had been accepted and therefore put the following Notice of Motion as amended to the vote:

This Council:

- Requests officers to take the necessary steps to allow staff to take time off work for bone marrow, stem cell or organ donation without having to use annual leave;
- Commends the huge personal sacrifices that residents undergo to save the lives of others and sets out to assist in promoting that endeavour;
- Requests officers to put in place a communication campaign to all staff and residents of the city encouraging them to become blood donors and bone marrow/stem cell donors through the British Bone Marrow Registry (part of the NHS Blood & Transplant service) or the leading charities in the field – Anthony Nolan and DKMS Foundation; and
- To target this communication campaign particularly at staff and residents who are under 40, and those of all Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic backgrounds, since these groups are most needed on the registries.

98.5 The Mayor called on each of the Group Leaders to confirm their position as well as the Groups in turn and each of the Independent Members:

Councillor Mac Cafferty stated that the Green Group were in favour of the motion and this was confirmed by the Members of the Green Group;

Councillor Platts stated that the Labour Group were in favour of the motion and this was confirmed by the Members of the Labour Group;

Councillor Bell stated that the Conservative Group would be abstaining, and this was confirmed by the Members of the Conservative Group;

Councillor Brennan confirmed that she was voting in favour of the motion;

Councillor Fishleigh confirmed that she was voting in favour of the motion.

Councillor Janio confirmed that he was voting in favour of the motion;

Councillor Knight confirmed that she was voting in favour of the motion.

98.6 The Mayor confirmed that the motion had been carried.

99 VALUE FOR MONEY SAVINGS

99.1 The Notice of Motion as listed on the agenda was proposed by Councillor Bagaeen on behalf of the Conservative Group and formally seconded by Councillor Miller.

99.2 The Mayor put the following Notice of Motion to the vote,

This Council:

1. Notes that the Administration is responsible for a budget of hundreds of millions of pounds each year;
2. Notes numerous recent examples of taxpayers' money being wasted as listed in Supporting Information below;
3. Requests that the Council initiates a 'value for money' programme examining back-office savings, further savings under a Workstyles programme 2 and how further similar financial occurrences can be avoided, with a report being sent to Policy & Resources Committee within 6 months to outline the results of this; and

Requests that officers provide the estimated costs in this report to Policy & Resources Committee, if necessary through going out to tender, of removing every piece of graffiti from public and private land within the city boundary; and this to be a recommendation of spend from the savings outlined in (3).

99.3 The Mayor called on each of the Group Leaders to confirm their position as well as the Groups in turn and each of the Independent Members:

Councillor Mac Cafferty stated that the Green Group were against the motion and this was confirmed by the Members of the Green Group;

Councillor Platts stated that the Labour Group were against the motion and this was confirmed by the Members of the Labour Group;

Councillor Bell stated that the Conservative Group were in favour of the motion, and this was confirmed by the Members of the Conservative Group;

Councillor Brennan confirmed that she was against the motion;

Councillor Fishleigh confirmed that she would be abstaining;

Councillor Janio confirmed that he was in favour of the motion;

Councillor Knight confirmed that she was against the motion.

99.4 The Mayor confirmed that the motion had not been carried.

100 COP 26 & WELLBEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS

100.1 The Notice of Motion as listed on the agenda was proposed by Councillor Phillips on behalf of the Green and Labour Groups and formally seconded by Councillor Platts.

100.2 Councillor Fishleigh proposed an amendment which was formally seconded by Councillor Janio.

100.3 Councillor Phillips noted the comments and confirmed that she would not accept the amendment.

100.4 The Mayor noted that the amendment had not been accepted and therefore put it to the vote and called on each of the Group Leaders to confirm their position as well as the Groups in turn and each of the Independent Members:

Councillor Mac Cafferty stated that the Green Group were against the amendment and this was confirmed by the Members of the Green Group;

Councillor Platts stated that the Labour Group were against the amendment and this was confirmed by the Members of the Labour Group;

Councillor Bell stated that the Conservative Group were voting for the amendment and this was confirmed by the Members of the Conservative Group;

Councillor Brennan confirmed that she was against the amendment;

Councillor Fishleigh confirmed that she was for the amendment;

Councillor Janio confirmed that he was for the amendment;

Councillor Knight confirmed that she was voting against the amendment.

100.5 The Mayor confirmed that the amendment had been lost and therefore put the following motion to the vote:

Council notes that this year the UK is hosting COP26, a key forum focusing on climate change and actions that will affect the wellbeing of future generations.

Council also notes the progress of the Wellbeing of Future Generations Bill, following the adoption of a similar Bill in Wales, that confers a statutory duty on councils in Wales to consider how decisions will impact upon wellbeing now and into the future.

Council therefore resolves to:

- express its support for a Wellbeing For Future Generations Act and associated impact locally, that would require public bodies to consider how decisions made now affect future needs, and tackle persistent problems such as poverty, health inequalities and climate change;
- further to the government's 10 point Environment Plan, to ask the Chief Executive to write to government to request that local councils are given the funding and powers needed to take action on the wellbeing of future generations, by implementing climate and ecological emergency action by 2030, further to the meeting of COP 26 in the UK this year.

And further, calls on Policy & Resources Committee to address the wellbeing of future generations in our city, through:

- Agreeing to commission a report to review options for how council can ensure, through cross-party and city-wide collaboration, that the impact of decisions on future generations are adequately understood, risk assessed and analysed;
- that as part of this work, councillors agree to review, through the annual KPI report and other processes, a yearly appraisal of long-term economic, social, environmental and cultural trends, and to use these trends to publish additional 'future generations' impact assessments' in council reports for decision.

100.6 The Mayor called on each of the Group Leaders to confirm their position as well as the Groups in turn and each of the Independent Members:

Councillor Mac Cafferty stated that the Green Group were in favour of the motion and this was confirmed by the Members of the Green Group;

Councillor Platts stated that the Labour Group were in favour of the motion and this was confirmed by the Members of the Labour Group;

Councillor Bell stated that the Conservative Group were in favour of the motion, and this was confirmed by the Members of the Conservative Group;

Councillor Brennan confirmed that she was for the motion;

Councillor Fishleigh confirmed that she was for the motion;

Councillor Janio confirmed that he was for the motion;

Councillor Knight confirmed that she was for the motion.

100.7 The Mayor confirmed that the motion had been carried.

Closure Motion

- 100.8 The Mayor noted the meeting had been in session for 4 hours and in accordance with council procedural rules, he was required to move a closure motion. He therefore moved that the meeting should be concluded and put the motion to the vote.
- 100.10 The Mayor called on each of the Group Leaders to confirm their position as well as the Groups in turn and each of the Independent Members:
- Councillor Mac Cafferty stated that the Green Group were in against the motion and this was confirmed by the Members of the Green Group;
- Councillor Platts stated that the Labour Group were in favour of the motion and this was confirmed by the Members of the Labour Group;
- Councillor Bell stated that the Conservative Group were against the motion and this was confirmed by the Members of the Conservative Group;
- Councillor Brennan confirmed that she would be abstaining;
- Councillor Fishleigh confirmed that she was voting against the motion;
- Councillor Janio confirmed that he was voting against the motion;
- Councillor Knight confirmed that she was against the motion.
- 100.11 **RESOLVED:** The Mayor noted that the motion had been lost and therefore moved to the next item.

101 ROAD DANGER REDUCTION

- 101.1 The Notice of Motion as listed on the agenda was proposed by Councillor Hills on behalf of the Green and Labour Group and formally seconded by Councillor Wilkins.
- 101.2 Councillors Peltzer Dunn, Janio, Fishleigh, Lewry, Gibson and Nield spoke on the motion.
- 101.3 The Mayor put the following Notice of Motion to the vote,

This council notes that the Government looks set to incorporate a 'hierarchy of road users' into the Highway Code, with cyclists, pedestrians and horse riders defined as our most vulnerable road users. This acknowledges the vehicles with the greatest potential to cause harm to other road users.

We call upon the council to:

- sign up to the Road Danger Reduction Forum Charter², which looks at ways to make roads safer for all road users;
- work with Sussex Police on ways to keep our most vulnerable residents safe on our roads;

Update the city's road safety strategy through:

- bringing to the Environment, Transport and Sustainability Committee an updated safety strategy including road danger reduction measures such as:

- creating an environment, using positive incentives, that supports the use of active travel methods and explores options for future financial subsidies for active travel where finance allows;
- measuring danger on our roads through metrics other than just a reduction in casualty numbers, with a view to a proactive approach that does not require incidents to occur before action is taken;
- increasing the number of pedestrian crossings by schools and parks;
- looking to expand the number of school road closure orders;
- expanding interventions designed to cut drivers' speed, such as Low Traffic Neighbourhoods.

101.4 The Mayor called on each of the Group Leaders to confirm their position as well as the Groups in turn and each of the Independent Members:

Councillor Mac Cafferty stated that the Green Group were for the motion and this was confirmed by the Members of the Green Group;

Councillor Platts stated that the Labour Group were for the motion and this was confirmed by the Members of the Labour Group;

Councillor Bell stated that the Conservative Group were for the motion, and this was confirmed by the Members of the Conservative Group;

Councillor Brennan confirmed that she was for the motion;

Councillor Fishleigh confirmed that she was for the motion;

Councillor Janio confirmed that he would be abstaining;

Councillor Knight confirmed that she was for the motion.

101.5 The Mayor confirmed that the motion had been agreed.

102 TRANS INCLUSION

102.1 The Notice of Motion as listed on the agenda was proposed by Councillor Powell on behalf of the Green, Labour and Conservative Groups and formally seconded by Councillor Evans and Councillor Simson.

102.2 Councillor Janio spoke on the motion.

102.3 The Mayor put the following Notice of Motion to the vote,

This council notes that:

- Brighton & Hove has seen rising levels of hate crime towards transgender people by 43%.

- the recent High Court judgment on transgender young people's access to healthcare pathways has caused great uncertainty and anxiety for many transgender children, young people and their families in our city and across the UK.

This council believes:

- that all people should feel safe in our city, be treated with compassion and deserve equality.
- all people should be treated as equals, regardless of their gender identity
- the gender identities of cisgender, transgender and non-binary people alike are all equally valid.
- Trans men are men. Trans women are women. Non-binary identities exist and are valid.

Further that this council reaffirms its commitment to:

- Working towards equality and a safer city for transgender people.
- Working to ensure inclusive practices are implemented across the council in order that all people feel welcome and valued.

102.4 The Mayor and called on each of the Group Leaders to confirm their position as well as the Groups in turn and each of the Independent Members:

Councillor Mac Cafferty stated that the Green Group were for the motion and this was confirmed by the Members of the Green Group;

Councillor Platts stated that the Labour Group were for the motion and this was confirmed by the Members of the Labour Group;

Councillor Bell stated that the Conservative Group were for the motion, and this was confirmed by the Members of the Conservative Group;

Councillor Brennan confirmed that she was for the motion;

Councillor Fishleigh confirmed that she was for the motion;

Councillor Janio confirmed that he was for the motion;

Councillor Knight confirmed that she was for the motion.

102.5 The Mayor confirmed that the motion had been agreed.

103 SUPPORT FOR EXCLUDED UK AND THOSE EXCLUDED FROM COVID SUPPORT SCHEMES IN THE CITY

103.1 The Notice of Motion as listed on the agenda was proposed by Councillor Osborne on behalf of the Green Group and formally seconded by Councillor Hugh-Jones.

103.2 Councillor Theobald proposed an amendment on behalf of the Conservative Group which was formally seconded by Councillor Barnett.

103.3 Councillors Janio and Appich spoke on the motion.

103.4 Councillor Osborne noted the comments and confirmed that he would not accept the amendment.

103.5 The Mayor noted that the amendment had not been accepted and therefore put it to the vote and called on each of the Group Leaders to confirm their position as well as the Groups in turn and each of the Independent Members:

Councillor Mac Cafferty stated that the Green Group were against the amendment and this was confirmed by the Members of the Green Group;

Councillor Platts stated that the Labour Group were against the amendment and this was confirmed by the Members of the Labour Group;

Councillor Bell stated that the Conservative Group were voting for the amendment and this was confirmed by the Members of the Conservative Group;

Councillor Brennan confirmed that she was against the amendment;

Councillor Fishleigh confirmed that she would be abstaining;

Councillor Janio confirmed that he was for the amendment;

Councillor Knight confirmed that she was voting against the amendment.

103.6 The Mayor confirmed that the amendment had been lost and therefore put the following motion to the vote:

This council notes that three million people across the UK have missed out on Government financial support schemes set up in the pandemic ('the excluded') due to technicalities such as:

- recently changing job;
- being a director of a limited company;
- earning less than half their income through self-employment;

Council notes that campaigns such as ExcludedUK have asked that the Government close the gaps in its financial support schemes, and explore options to retroactively compensate people and businesses that were ineligible for the Government's financial support.

Council therefore resolves to:

- Support the 'Excluded UK' campaign and its efforts to support 'the excluded';
- ask all councillors to sign ExcludedUK's open letter to the Chancellor that calls for such consideration; calling on the government to address the disparities in support, to ensure that all can receive support they need at this time;
- seek the support of councillors in promoting support available from organisations focused on financial inclusion and support in the city, including by:

- Requesting that Policy and Resources Committee consider what additional practical steps the Council can offer to offer support and advice wherever possible to those affected;
- Continuing to promote the council's community hub that can assist with such matters as help with bills and mental health.

103.7 The Mayor called on each of the Group Leaders to confirm their position as well as the Groups in turn and each of the Independent Members:

Councillor Mac Cafferty stated that the Green Group were in favour of the motion and this was confirmed by the Members of the Green Group;

Councillor Platts stated that the Labour Group were in favour of the motion and this was confirmed by the Members of the Labour Group;

Councillor Bell stated that the Conservative Group would be abstaining, and this was confirmed by the Members of the Conservative Group;

Councillor Brennan confirmed that she was for the motion;

Councillor Fishleigh confirmed that she was for the motion;

Councillor Janio confirmed that he would be abstaining;

Councillor Knight confirmed that she was for the motion.

103.8 The Mayor confirmed that the motion had been carried.

104 UNIVERSAL CREDIT

Notices of Motion for Confirmatory Vote

104.1 The Mayor advised that following the difficulties with the webcasting at the 17 December 2020 Council meeting, there was a need to hold confirmatory votes for the following notices of motion:

Item 104 - Universal Credit (Item 75 on the agenda for December meeting)

Item 105 - Action to Reduce the Impact of Fireworks (Item 76 on the agenda for December meeting)

Item 106 - Support United Nations TPNW – ICAN Cities Appeal (Item 77 on the agenda for December meeting)

Item 107 - Power of Youth Charter (Item 78 on the agenda for December meeting)

104.2 The Monitoring Officer said at the 17 December 2020 meeting the above Notices of Motion were discussed and voted on when the webcast was not working, because of that those proceedings were not held in accordance with the regulations relating to virtual meetings, which meant that those votes were effectively void or of doubtful legality. It was therefore suggested that members have a confirmatory vote on those items again without further discussion. There were two options, either to vote on each item separately or to take a block vote. It was suggested that Items 104, 105 and 107 be

taken by a block vote and Item 106 be voted on separately as there had been an amendment on that item which was carried by the Mayor's casting vote.

- 104.3 Councillor Platts noted that one of the Labour Group had had to leave this meeting, and that could impact on a vote for Item 106. Councillor Bell asked if someone who was not at the December meeting, and so had not heard the full discussion on the items, could vote at this meeting. The Monitoring officer confirmed that it was not essential for someone to have heard the discussion to be able to vote. Councillor Bell asked if Members could change the way they voted at the December meeting, and was advised they could.
- 104.4 The Monitoring Officer confirmed that if Members wanted to have a block vote they would need to suspend the Standing Orders. Alternatively, Members could vote on each item separately which would mean that Standing Orders would not need to be suspended.
- 104.5 Councillors Mac Cafferty, Platts and Bell confirmed that they would agree to having a block vote to confirm that they would be voting the same way for Items 104, 105 and 107 and to have a recorded vote for Item 106.
- 104.6 The Mayor asked if Council were agreeable to suspend Standing Orders to have a block vote on Items 104, 105 and 107. Council agreed. The Mayor confirmed that there would be a recorded vote on Item 106 for both the amendment and the motion.
- 104.7 The Mayor put Items 104, 105 and 107 to the vote, and called on each of the Group Leaders to confirm their position as well as the Groups in turn and each of the Independent Members:
- Councillor Mac Cafferty stated that the Green Group would be voting the same way for those motions and this was confirmed by the Members of the Green Group;
- Councillor Platts stated that the Labour Group would be voting the same way for those motions and this was confirmed by the Members of the Labour Group;
- Councillor Bell stated that the Conservative Group would be voting the same way for those motions, and this was confirmed by the Members of the Conservative Group;
- Councillor Brennan confirmed that she would be voting the same way for those motions;
- Councillor Fishleigh confirmed that she would be voting the same way for those motions;
- Councillor Janio confirmed that he would be voting the same way for those motions;
- Councillor Knight confirmed that she would be voting the same way for those motions.
- 104.6 The Mayor referred Item 106 and said that there would be a recorded vote for both the amendment and the motion. He called on each member to confirm if they would vote for, against or abstain on the amendment.

The votes were 20 For, 18 Against and 13 Abstentions (three Councillors were not in attendance when the vote was taken).

		For	Against	Abstain			For	Against	Abstain
1	Allcock		√		28	Lewry			√
2	Appich		√		29	Littman	√		
3	Atkinson		√		30	Lloyd	√		
4	Bagaeen			√	31	MacCafferty	√		
5	Barnett			√	32	McNair			√
6	Bell			√	33	Mears			√
7	Brennan	√			34	Miller			√
8	Brown			√	35	Moonan		√	
9	Childs		√		36	Nemeth			√
10	Clare	√			37	Nield	√		
11	Davis	√			38	O'Quinn			
12	Deane	√			39	Osborne	√		
13	Druitt	√			40	Peltzer Dunn			√
14	Gibson	√			41	Phillips	√		
15	Grimshaw		√		42	Pissaridou		√	
16	Ebel	√			43	Powell	√		
17	Evans		√		44	Platts		√	
18	Fishleigh			√	45	Rainey			
19	Fowler		√		46	Robins		√	
20	Hamilton		√		47	Shanks	√		
21	Heley	√			48	Simson			√
22	Henry		√		49	Theobald			√
23	Hill		√		50	Wares			
24	Hills	√			51	Wilkinson		√	
25	Hugh-Jones	√			52	Williams		√	

26	Janio		√		53	West	√		
27	Knight	√			54	Yates		√	

104.7 The Mayor confirmed that the amendment had been accepted.

104.8 The Mayor then called on each member to confirm if they would vote for, against or abstain on the Notice of Motion as amended. It was agreed that a recorded vote was not needed for the substantive Notice of Motion as amended. He therefore called on each of the Group Leaders to confirm their position as well as the Groups in turn and each of the Independent Members:

Councillor Mac Cafferty stated that the Green Group were for the motion and this was confirmed by the Members of the Green Group;

Councillor Platts stated that the Labour Group were for the motion and this was confirmed by the Members of the Labour Group;

Councillor Bell stated that the Conservative Group would be abstaining and this was confirmed by the Members of the Conservative Group;

Councillor Brennan confirmed that she was for the motion;

Councillor Fishleigh confirmed that she would be abstaining;

Councillor Janio confirmed that he would be voting against the motion;

Councillor Knight confirmed that she would be voting for the motion.

104.9 **RESOLVED:** It was agreed that:

- (i) Item 104 - Universal Credit. The decision to agree the Notice of Motion was confirmed.
- (ii) Item 105 - Action to Reduce the Impact of Fireworks. The decision to agree the Notice of Motion was confirmed.
- (iii) Item 106 – Support United Nations TPNW – ICAN Cities Appeal. The Notice of Motion as amended was agreed.
- (iv) Item 107 - Power of Youth Charter. The decision to agree the Notice of Motion as amended was confirmed.

105 ACTION TO REDUCE THE IMPACT OF FIREWORKS

105.1 This matter was discussed under Item 104.

105.2 **RESOLVED:** The decision taken at the meeting held on 17 December 2020 to agree the Notice of Motion was confirmed.

106 SUPPORT UNITED NATIONS TPNW - ICAN CITIES APPEAL

106.1 This matter was discussed under Item 104.

106.2 **RESOLVED:** That the Notice of Motion (as amended) was agreed.

107 POWER OF YOUTH CHARTER

107.1 This matter was discussed under Item 104.

107.2 **RESOLVED:** The decision taken at the meeting held on 17 December 2020 to agree the Notice of Motion as amended was confirmed.

108 CLOSE OF MEETING

108.1 The mayor formally closed the meeting.

The meeting concluded at 10.40pm

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of

2021

Subject:	School Places for Catchment Children - Petition for Debate		
Date of Meeting:	25 March 2021		
Report of:	Executive Lead Officer for Strategy, Governance & Law		
Contact Officer:	Name:	Mark Wall	Tel: 01273 291006
	E-mail:	mark.wall@brighton-hove.gov.uk	
Wards Affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE**1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:**

- 1.1 Under the Council's Petition Scheme if a petition contains more than 1,250 signatures and is not petition requesting officer evidence, it will be debated by the Full Council.
- 1.2 The e-petition has resulted in triggering a debate at the council meeting, having exceeded the threshold with a total of 2,402 signatures confirmed at the time of printing the report.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the petition is noted.

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION / CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:**3.1 The Petition:**

[School Places for Catchment Area Children](#)

Lead petitioner Amy Hyland

We the undersigned petition Brighton & Hove Council to review the number of secondary school places available at Dorothy Stringer and Varndean School for the September 2021 intake.

Justification:

There are 62 children in the Dorothy Stringer/Varndean catchment area who couldn't be offered a catchment area school this year. These children have already missed many months of school and contact with their friends over the past twelve months. The impact of the pandemic and a national lockdown has been huge. Their emotional resilience is at a low. Instead of being able to look forward to the next stage in their education with , they are now having to

contend with extreme disappointment and anxiety, as they have been offered places far from their homes and their local community.

In previous years, Dorothy Stringer and Varndean have taken additional students to reduce the impact of students being deprived of local school places. It seems that this year, neither school is being asked to provide any additional capacity. Indeed, capacity at Dorothy Stringer has been reduced by 30 spaces. This is despite the fact that in 2018, the Council decided not to go ahead with plans for a new secondary school on the basis of additional capacity being provided by existing schools, notably Dorothy Stringer and Varndean School, with funding being freed up to support this.

The council's data would have shown that there would be additional demand for secondary school places for September 2021. As a consequence of reducing the school spaces available, children are not able to go on to attend a secondary school in an area they have grown up and where they are part of their local community. There is a ripple effect of this reduced intake which is negatively impacting on families in other catchments areas too. We call on the Council to review the places available at Dorothy Stringer and Varndean School.

Children have suffered enough over the past year, the Council cannot champion the importance of young people's mental health and well-being and then deprive this group of the opportunity to attend a local school for this next significant chapter of their lives.

4. PROCEDURE:

- 4.1 The petition will be debated at the Council meeting in accordance with the agreed protocol:
- (i) The Lead petitioner will be invited by the Mayor to present the petition and will have up to 3 minutes in which to outline the prayer of the petition and confirm the number of signatures;
 - (ii) The Mayor will then open the matter up for debate by councillors for period of 15 minutes and will first call on the relevant Committee Chair to respond to the petition and move a proposed response. The Mayor will then call on those councillors who have indicated a desire to speak in the matter, before calling on the relevant Committee Chair to respond to the debate;
 - (iii) An amendment to the recommendation in paragraph 2.1 of the report or to add additional recommendations should be submitted by 10.00am on the day of the meeting; otherwise it will be subject to the Mayor's discretion as to being appropriate. Any such amendment will need to be formally moved and seconded at the meeting;
 - (iv) After the 15 minutes set aside for the debate, the Mayor will then formally put:
 - (a) Any amendments in the order in which they are moved, and

(b) The substantive recommendation(s) as amended (if amended).

WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

The following questions have been received from Councillors and will be taken as read along with the written answer which will be included in an addendum that will be circulated at the meeting:

(1) Councillor Fishleigh:

How many tickets have been issued for fly tipping at Saltdean Oval's recycling point?

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

(2) Councillor Fishleigh:

When will the people living in vans and the vehicles that are parked permanently at Black Rock, along Madeira Drive and East Brighton Park be moved on or given parking tickets?

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

(3) Councillor Appich - EU Citizens:

EU citizens legally resident in the UK are able to vote in the 2021 local elections in England. EU citizens currently retain their right to vote in local elections even though the UK has already left the EU, and do not required settled or pre settled status to be able to register to vote. Despite that, half of EU citizens resident in the UK are not registered to vote.

Given that we have two by-elections and the PCC elections in May, I'd like to know how we are encouraging EU citizens to register to vote.

I would also like an update on the numbers of EU citizens in the city who have applied for settled and pre settled status, how we are encouraging EU citizens to apply for settled status, and what assistance we are giving to people who are finding it difficult to apply or have difficulties in obtaining settled status.

Reply from Councillor Gibson, Deputy Chair (Finance) of the Policy & Resources Committee

(4) Councillor Childs – Housing sites in Freshfield Road:

Given the dire housing shortage in our city, what action will the Administration take to unlock the 10 priority housing development sites in our city, and in particular the Freshfield Road Industrial Estate site, for new homes?

Reply from Councillor Gibson / Hugh-Jones, Joint Chair of the Housing Committee

(5) Councillor Allcock – Use and cost of Agency Teaching Staff:

What were the costs of using agency teaching staff in the City's maintained and voluntary aided schools in comparison with directly employed teaching staff for financial years:

- 2018 to 2019
- 2019 to 2020
- 2020 to 2021

What agencies were used during these financial years?

Did the cost of using agencies vary, and if so what was the difference?

Reply from Councillor Clare, Chair of the Children, Young People & Skills Committee

(6) Councillor Williams – No Recourse to Public Funds:

Why has Brighton & Hove City Council been tangled up in court battles with regard to 'no recourse to public funds' rough sleepers? Can you explain the outcome of the recent court judgement and what Brighton & Hove City Council will be doing in the future for this vulnerable group?

Reply from Councillor Gibson / Hugh-Jones, Joint Chair of the Housing Committee

(7) Councillor Williams – Madeira Drive:

There is chaos on Madeira Drive. Pedestrians cannot socially distance due to ridiculously narrow paths and are forced to take their lives in their hands by just trying take a much-needed walk. What is being done about this?

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

(8) Councillor Williams – Housing Dispute:

The dispute with housing repair workers transferred over from the former Mears contract has been rumbling on for some time. Can this council confirm that the present Administration is not anti-union and explain why this dispute is taking so long to resolve?

Reply from Councillor Gibson/Hugh-Jones, Joint Chair of the Housing Committee

(9) Councillor Moonan – Vaccination Uptake:

What has been the percentage vaccination uptake rate for the top 4 government priority groups in Brighton & Hove specifically, for the last three months? Why has there been a delay in meeting the 90% target rate for the over 80 age

group? What percentage rates of Black and minority ethnic groups have accessed vaccinations across Brighton & Hove as a whole and at ward level, and how does this compare to national averages?

Reply from Councillor Shanks, Chair of the Health & Wellbeing Board

(10) Councillor Janio

Has a Safety Audit been completed for the Temporary Cycle Lanes on the Old Shoreham Road?

- a. If a Safety Audit has been completed, are the published plans for work along the Old Shoreham Road designed to reverse any negative findings within the report?
- b. If a Safety Audit has not been completed – why not?

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

(11) Councillor Janio

Has a 'Sustainability' report been completed for the Temporary Cycle Lanes on the Old Shoreham Road and, given the increase in traffic congestion at the junctions, why have portable pollution monitors not been placed along the Old Shoreham Road to detect any increase in emissions, which are certain to increase to even higher levels than those reported now, as we move out of lockdown?

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

(12) Councillor Janio

Does any government 'Emergency Covid Guidance' exist that allows for Sustainability Assessments to be either not completed or ignored whilst designing and implementing local transport schemes?

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

(13) Councillor Janio

To be certain that the proposed permanent cycle lanes on the Old Shoreham Road will not lead to even greater increases in gaseous and Carbon emissions, have officers suggested to councillors within the administration that a monitoring plan of the currently configured temporary cycle lanes should be considered, once lockdown has ended, before the temporary scheme is made permanent?

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

(14) Councillor Wilkinson

Cycle Hangars

Are there any plans to install cycle hangers across the city and if so how many cycle hangars will be installed/are estimated to be installed across the city in 2021/22, 2022/23 and 2023/24 and could you explain what the methodology is of choosing locations for those cycle hangars?

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

(15) Councillor Wilkinson

Funding for Green Spaces and Growing Projects

I am keen to ensure that areas in my Central Hove ward get proper funding for green spaces and growing projects that benefit the whole community. Can you provide details of planned investment, including the use of section 106 monies, in any green spaces and projects in my ward in the coming year?

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

(16) Councillor Wilkinson

5G Upgrades

Will the Council ensure that residents living near telecommunications aerials are fully informed, even when their consent is immaterial, before any upgrade to 5G?

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

ORAL QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

A period of not more than 30 minutes is set aside for oral questions from Members, at the expiry of which, the Mayor will call a halt and proceed to the next item of business of the agenda. Any Member whose question then remains outstanding will be contacted to determine whether they wish to have a written answer provided or for their question to be carried over to the next meeting.

The following Members have indicated that they wish to put questions to the Leader, Chairs of Committees or Members of the Council that have been appointed to an outside body. The Councillor asking the question may then ask one relevant supplementary question which shall be put and answered without discussion:

(1) Councillor Platts

Subject matter: **Gasworks**

Reply from Councillor Osborne / Powell, Joint Chair of the Tourism, Equalities, Communities & Culture Committee

(2) Councillor Bell

Subject matter: School Placements

Reply from Councillor Clare, Chair of the Children, Young People & Skills Committee

(3) Councillor Wilkinson

Subject matter: **Temporary Active Travel Schemes**

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

(4) Councillor Nemeth

Subject matter: Cycle Lane Consultation

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

(5) Councillor Fishleigh

Subject matter: **Subsidised Bus Services**

When will the bus services that are subsidised by the council be reviewed and can the ward councillors for Rottingdean Coastal be part of that process please?

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

(6) Councillor Janio

Subject matter: **Transport**

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

- (7) **Councillor Henry**
Subject matter: **Rough Sleepers and Tents**
- Reply from Councillor Gibson / Hugh-Jones, Joint Chair of the Housing Committee
- (8) **Councillor Theobald**
Subject matter: Litter in the City
- Reply from Councillor Heley, Chair of the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee
- (9) **Councillor Appich**
Subject matter: **Vacant Private Sector Dwellings**
- Reply from Councillor Gibson / Hugh-Jones, Joint Chair of the Housing Committee
- (10) **Councillor Mears**
Subject matter: Housing Homeless and Rough Sleepers Outside the City
- Reply from Councillor Gibson / Hugh-Jones, Joint Chair of the Housing Committee
- (11) **Councillor O'Quinn**
Subject matter: Waste Disposal at Waterhall
- Reply from Councillor Heley, Chair of the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee
- (12) **Councillor Bagaean**
Subject matter: Anti-Racism Strategy
- Councillor Mac Cafferty, Leader of the Council
- (13) **Councillor Childs**
Subject matter: **Toads Hole Valley Development**
- Reply from Councillor Heley, Chair of the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee
- (14) **Councillor Williams**
Subject matter: **Landlord Licensing**
- Reply from Councillor Gibson / Hugh-Jones, Joint Chair of the Housing Committee
- (15) **Councillor Yates**
Subject matter: **Governance**
- Reply from Councillor Mac Cafferty, Leader of the Council

(16) Councillor Moonan

Subject matter: **Vaccination Rules**

Reply from Councillor Shanks, Chair of the Health & Wellbeing Board

(17) Councillor Fowler

Subject matter: **Road Signage**

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

Council

25 March 2021

Agenda Item 126

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject:	City of Sanctuary Re-accreditation – Extract from the proceedings of the Tourism, Equalities, Communities & Culture Committee meeting held on the 11 March 2021		
Date of Meeting:	25 March 2021		
Report of:	Executive Lead Officer for Strategy, Governance & Law		
Contact Officer:	Name:	Greg Weaver	Tel: 01273 291214
	E-mail:	greg.weaver@brighton-hove.gov.uk	
Wards Affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

Action Required of Council: To receive the report and the recommendations of the Tourism, Equalities, Communities and Culture Committee.

Recommendations: That the City of Sanctuary Charter as set out I appendix 1 to the report be endorsed.

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL
TOURISM, EQUALITIES, COMMUNITIES & CULTURE COMMITTEE

4.00pm 11 March 2021

VIRTUAL MEETING - TEAMS

MINUTES

Present: Councillor Powell (Joint Chair), Osborne (Joint Chair), Ebel (Joint Deputy Chair), Evans (Opposition Spokesperson), Nemeth (Group Spokesperson), Grimshaw, Mac Cafferty, Mears, O'Quinn and Simson

Other Members present: Joanna Martindale, Lola Banjoko, Nick May and Stephanie Prior.

MINUTE EXTRACT

PART ONE

79 CITY OF SANCTUARY RE-ACCREDITATION

79.1 The Committee considered a report of the Executive Director of Housing, Neighbourhoods and Communities which sought to inform members about the city council's current status with the regard of the national City of Sanctuary movement and outlines the steps that need to be taken to become 're-accredited' as a city of sanctuary. The report was provided by the Community Safety Manager.

79.2 Councillor Simson expressed support for this programme.

79.3 RESOLVED:

- (1) That officers be instructed to progress an application to City of Sanctuary UK for the council's reaccreditation as a City of Sanctuary as per outlined in appendix 2 to the report;
- (2) That full Council be recommended to endorse the City of Sanctuary Charter as outlined in appendix 1 to the report;
- (3) That officers be instructed to work with the local city of sanctuary Group – Sanctuary on Sea – to support the group and the council's commitment to Brighton & Hove being a place of sanctuary;
- (4) That the council joining the City of Sanctuary Local Authority Network and being a member of the Network's steering group as outlined in paragraph 3.5 of the report be approved; and

- (5) That it be noted that the City of Sanctuary application process will be carried out as part of the council's development of its Inclusive Cities Action Plan agreed at TECC committee September 2019.

79.4 **RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND:** That full Council endorses the City of Sanctuary Charter as outlined in appendix 1 to the report.

Subject:	Brighton & Hove's Re-accreditation as a City of Sanctuary		
Date of Meeting:	11th March 2021		
Report of:	Executive Director of Housing, Neighbourhoods and Communities		
Contact Officer:	Name:	Lucy Bryson	Tel: 01273 292572
	Email:	Lucy.bryson@brighton-hove.gov.uk	
Ward(s) affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND POLICY CONTEXT

- 1.1 The report informs the committee about the city council's current status with regard to the national City of Sanctuary movement and outlines the steps that need to be taken to become 're-accredited' as a city of sanctuary.
- 1.2 The city council's Corporate Plan 2020-2023 includes the following commitment: "*We will continue to play our part in the international refugee crisis and promote our status as a proud City of Sanctuary*". Also, a recommendation in the International Migrants Needs Assessment, accepted by the Neighbourhoods, Inclusion, Communities and Equality (NICE) committee in January 2018 is for the council to '*maintain and develop local commitment to City of Sanctuary status.*'

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Tourism, Equalities, Communities & Culture Committee:

- 2.1 instructs officers to progress an application to City of Sanctuary UK for the council's reaccreditation as a City of Sanctuary as per outlined in appendix 2.
- 2.2 recommends to Full Council that it endorses the City of Sanctuary Charter (appendix 1).
- 2.3 instructs officers to work with the local city of sanctuary Group – Sanctuary on Sea – to support the group and the council's commitment to Brighton & Hove being a place of sanctuary.
- 2.4 approve the council joining the City of Sanctuary Local Authority Network and being a member of the Network's steering group (paragraph 3.5)
- 2.5 note the City of Sanctuary application process will be carried out as part of the council's development of its Inclusive Cities Action Plan agreed at TECC committee September 2019.

That Full Council:

2.6 endorses the City of Sanctuary Charter (appendix 1).

3. CONTEXT/ BACKGROUND INFORMATION

3.1 Since 2007, City of Sanctuary UK, (a national umbrella organisation), has supported the development of a network of ‘groups’ in villages, towns and cities across the UK to encourage places to become ‘cities of sanctuary’. Brighton & Hove’s City of Sanctuary group – called [Sanctuary on Sea](#) – has existed since 2013. Brighton & Hove was designated as a City of Sanctuary in June 2015.

3.2 While City of Sanctuary UK started with a narrow focus on people seeking sanctuary, welcoming people fleeing persecution and violence, it has widened to a welcome ‘for all’, albeit with an emphasis on offering sanctuary.

3.3 At the City of Sanctuary UK AGM in June 2020 the membership voted to discontinue the ad-hoc recognition process for local authorities and to establish a UK wide City of Sanctuary Local Authority Network, as a way of designating and assessing ‘City of Sanctuary’ status. Any local authority can apply to become a member of the network. There are two types of membership: ‘Awarded’ member and ‘Non-awarded’ member. As Brighton & Hove City Council had already been awarded City-wide recognition, the city will be classed as an ‘awarded member’ but will be expected to submit an application form for re-accreditation within six months of its membership application.

3.4 In applying for membership of the Local Authority Network, the city council is pledging:

- To support the ‘City of Sanctuary’ vision that *the UK will be a welcoming place of safety for all and proud to offer sanctuary to people fleeing violence and persecution.*
- To endorse the City of Sanctuary Charter (appendix 1) and agree to act in accordance with City of Sanctuary values, applying the network principles within its work (as far as the Brighton & Hove context enables this).
- To recognise the contribution of people seeking sanctuary, welcoming, including and supporting them within the Brighton & Hove context. The council is also expected to support Sanctuary on Sea in their work.
- To add the city council’s name to a list of supporters of City of Sanctuary and a list of members of the Local Authority Network on the national website.
- To agree to work towards a City of Sanctuary Local Authority Award with the aim of becoming a recognised Council of Sanctuary.

3.5 Given the longstanding nature of its commitment to supporting sanctuary seekers, Brighton & Hove City Council has also been invited to join the Steering Group of the Local Authority Network, alongside the Brighton & Hove Sanctuary on Sea group. This smaller group oversees the above membership process for

the local authority network and makes decisions about the city of sanctuary movement – as it applies to local government – at a national level.

- 3.6 The procedure to be followed by a local authority in applying for a City of Sanctuary Award is included as Appendix 2 to this report. Publicly agreeing to be a member of the Local Authority Network and endorsing the City of Sanctuary charter is the first requirement of the application process.
- 3.7 Thereafter local authorities are expected to produce an action plan describing how the criteria will be met. These criteria (outlined in Appendix 2) follow the principles of ‘Learn, Embed and Share’. Once the plan is developed, the city council can apply to become a city of sanctuary, with the endorsement of the Sanctuary on Sea group.
- 3.8 The criteria also include participating in collective representations to national government on relevant policy issues and the production of a written strategy (either an independent strategy or as part of a broader strategy) which is publicly available and sets out commitment for at least three years. The intention is for this to be part of the council’s Inclusive Cities Action Plan. The Inclusive Cities programme is focused on areas’ making a step change in their welcome and settling of ‘newcomers’. TECC committee approved the council’s participation in the programme in September 2019. The work on this was paused due to the Covid pandemic and has recently restarted with the first meeting of the local task force on 8th February 2021, chaired by the TECC co-chair Cllr Powell.
- 3.9 Given the work on the two action plans (for City of Sanctuary and Inclusive Cities) is running concurrently and is intrinsically linked, to maximise resources and avoid duplication the City of Sanctuary action plan will become a part of the Inclusive Cities action plan. Newcomers arriving seeking sanctuary from violence and persecution are a particularly vulnerable sub-set of the wider population of newcomers to the UK. Therefore, the actions required to advance the city’s welcoming approach to seekers of sanctuary will enhance the wider work on inclusivity for all newcomers. The chair of Sanctuary on Sea has therefore been invited to join the Inclusive Cities Task Force to facilitate this joint working.

4. ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

In light of the corporate plan commitment “*We will continue to play our part in the international refugee crisis and promote our status as a proud City of Sanctuary*”. and the council’s involvement in the Inclusive Cities programme no other alternative options have been considered.

5. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & CONSULTATION

- 5.1 The local City of Sanctuary group (Sanctuary on Sea) has been consulted about the council pursuing re-accreditation and joining the Network. The group has agreed to work with and support the council’s application for re-accreditation.
- 5.2 The creation of the wider Inclusive Cities action plan (within which the City of Sanctuary actions will be embedded) will include a programme of community engagement with newcomers and longstanding residents, to include sanctuary seekers.

6. CONCLUSION

Given the city council's commitment to being a city of sanctuary within the 2020-23 corporate plan, these recommendations represent the best way of achieving this ambition.

7. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 7.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from the recommendations made in report. The application process will be taken forward from within existing staffing resources.

Finance Officer Consulted: Michael Bentley Date: 12/02/21

Legal Implications:

- 7.2 The Council's Constitution requires decisions to endorse, approve or otherwise commit the Council to any charter, alliance or pledge are taken by Full Council.

Lawyer Consulted: Alice Rowland Date: 15/2/21

Equalities Implications:

By analysing its own policies, procedures and work as part of the City of Sanctuary reaccreditation process, the city council will be enhancing its work to counteract discrimination against Black, Asian and minority ethnic residents and its anti-racism work.

Sustainability Implications:

- 7.3 None

Brexit Implications:

- 7.4 It is not yet clear what implications post Brexit changes to the immigration rules will have on Brighton & Hove's migrant population and the risk of migrants in precarious situations becoming more numerous or more marginalised.

Any Other Significant Implications:

Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 7.5 None

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

- 7.6 Assets based approach to diverse city, welcoming refugees and migrants from across the globe.

Public Health Implications:

- 7.7 Multi- agency work to consider the needs of the city's most vulnerable migrant and refugee residents helps fulfil the council's duty to promote the public health and wellbeing of our residents. For example it is more likely that those with a sense of belonging to the local area and who have a good understanding of local services will register with a GP and seek timely medical advice, follow public health advice and take up vaccinations when offered to them.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. City of Sanctuary Charter
2. Council of Sanctuary Award – Procedure and Criteria

Background Documents

[Inclusive Cities Project](#) -report to meeting of the Tourism, Equalities, Communities and Culture Committee 26th September 2019

City of Sanctuary Charter

Purpose of the charter

This charter describes what City of Sanctuary is and what it does. It will form the first section of our organisational strategy and can also be used as a stand-alone document to build internal cohesion and external profile.

Our vision

We hold the vision that the UK will be a welcoming place of safety for all and proud to offer sanctuary to people fleeing violence and persecution.

Values

The organisation and network will be guided and informed by commitment to the following values:-

Inclusiveness — *We welcome and respect people from all backgrounds, place the highest value on diversity and are committed to equality.*

Openness - *We are committed to a culture of working collaboratively within the network and in partnership with others.*

Participation — *Those who support our vision work together with people seeking sanctuary. We value and recognise the contribution of all involved. We aspire to ensure people seeking sanctuary are fully involved in decision making processes and supported to become leaders within the City of Sanctuary organisation and network as well as within the wider movement.*

Inspiring — *We work with enthusiasm and positivity and are determined to surpass what has already been achieved to welcome refugees and people seeking sanctuary. We act as a catalyst for change by being open to new and innovative ideas and through sharing knowledge gained with others and working in partnership.*

Integrity — *We aspire to high standards of honesty and behaviour, and always to act in the interests of people seeking sanctuary.*



City of Sanctuary

Definitions

The Movement

A movement is a loose collection of independent groups and individuals united by a common purpose but with no one leader.

City of Sanctuary contributes to building an ever broader social movement to ensure that all people seeking sanctuary within the UK are made welcome in our countries and that the aspirations of the Birmingham Declaration become a reality. The Birmingham Declaration was launched at the first Sanctuary Summit in 2014 and has since been endorsed by more than 320 organisations. The core principles in the Declaration are:

1. All asylum seekers, refugees and migrants should be treated with dignity and respect.
2. A fair and effective process to decide whether people need protection should be in place.
3. No one should be locked up indefinitely.
4. No one should be left sick or destitute in our society.
5. We should welcome the stranger and help them to integrate.

The Organisation

City of Sanctuary UK is an organisation that provides a focus for coordination and development of the network. This contributes to building a wider sanctuary movement. In addition to undertaking City of Sanctuary activities and initiatives at a UK level, the role of the organisation is to ensure that there is good communication across the network, to coordinate decision-making and to help raise the profile of City of Sanctuary overall.

The Network

Our network includes groups, and others engaged in Streams of Sanctuary work, that are focused on bringing about both local and national social change. Groups, and others engaged in streams of sanctuary work who are aligned with the network principles, have flexibility to develop local, regional and national responses to local, regional and national challenges (e.g. developing Wales as a Nation of Sanctuary). Together such networks affirm and achieve our overarching vision.

Network principles

The City of Sanctuary network is part of a mainstream, grassroots movement working towards achieving the overall vision. Whilst there is flexibility in determining how best to work towards the vision, the following principles apply to all groups, networks and streams operating under the name of City of Sanctuary:-

- ◇ Offer a positive vision of a culture of welcome and hospitality to all;
- ◇ Create opportunities for relationships of friendship and solidarity between local people and those seeking sanctuary;
- ◇ Recognise and encourage partnership working and network development across localities;
- ◇ Identify opportunities for practical action and work on common cause issues to effect change within and across communities (turning empathy into action);
- ◇ Celebrate and promote the welcome and contribution of people seeking sanctuary;
- ◇ Engage people seeking sanctuary in decision making processes at all levels and in all activities;
- ◇ Promote understanding of asylum and refugee issues, especially by enabling refugee voices to be heard directly.

City of Sanctuary Groups

When a group first registers with City of Sanctuary UK they agree to:-

- ◇ Work towards making their city, town or area into a City, Town, Region or Area of Sanctuary by creating a culture of welcome and hospitality for people seeking safety.
- ◇ Work to connect people seeking sanctuary with other local people and to celebrate their contribution to our communities, towns and cities.
- ◇ Seek to be inclusive in generating a culture of welcome, involving different sectors such as education, local government, health, sports and arts, as well as refugee organisations.
- ◇ Work as an alliance between local people and sanctuary seekers to run the group wherever possible and appropriate.
- ◇ Be prepared to share successes, ideas and learning with other groups and the network.
- ◇ Join in regional events where possible.
- ◇ Avoid bringing the name of City of Sanctuary into disrepute, in particular by not engaging in abusive, racist, discriminatory, exclusionary, offensive or dangerous behaviour.
- ◇ Identify between three and five contacts to enable the City of Sanctuary to keep in touch and keep the team updated when changes to these contact details occur, providing full name, telephone and email details for each contact where possible

There is no single formula for developing a successful and effective City of Sanctuary group. In general terms groups should work towards undertaking the following actions:-

1. Develop a strategy, agreed by the main supporting organisations, for how the city, town or area is to continue working towards greater inclusion and equality for refugees and people seeking sanctuary, as well as greater public awareness, through a range of initiatives, projects and activities;
2. Gather resolutions of support from a significant and representative proportion of groups and organisations;
3. Encourage supporting organisations (whether formally pledged or not) to turn their commitment into actions;
4. Engage with other groups across the network, in the expectation that such a conversation will lead to a mutually beneficial sharing of good practice;
5. Support and work alongside refugees and people seeking sanctuary in the City of Sanctuary group, including representation on its steering group or committee;
6. Wherever possible sustain engagement with the local authority or other relevant authorities.

Groups may, if they wish, apply to City of Sanctuary UK for sanctuary recognition for their city, town or region by submitting an application for appraisal.



Streams of Sanctuary

A Stream of Sanctuary encourages professionals within 'communities of practices or interests' to come together to embed the concepts of welcome, safety and inclusion within their professions, sectors and organisations, together with other interested individuals (including people seeking sanctuary), groups and organisations.

Any individual or organisation working within a Stream of Sanctuary must be committed to the vision and values of City of Sanctuary. The development of new activities, projects and initiatives within a Stream must be aligned with City of Sanctuary network principles. A Stream will also enable the sharing of best practice, resources and ideas.

Organisations that fall within a Stream of Sanctuary may wish to apply for a Sanctuary Award (see below) following specific criteria which have been developed by City of Sanctuary UK.

Sanctuary Awards

Sanctuary Awards are used to recognise exemplary work in this field. These can be organisations which fall within a Stream of Sanctuary, or not.

A Sanctuary Award is given to an organisation that is able to demonstrate commitment to our values and vision of welcome, and that has applied our network principles within the organisation and its projects or activities.

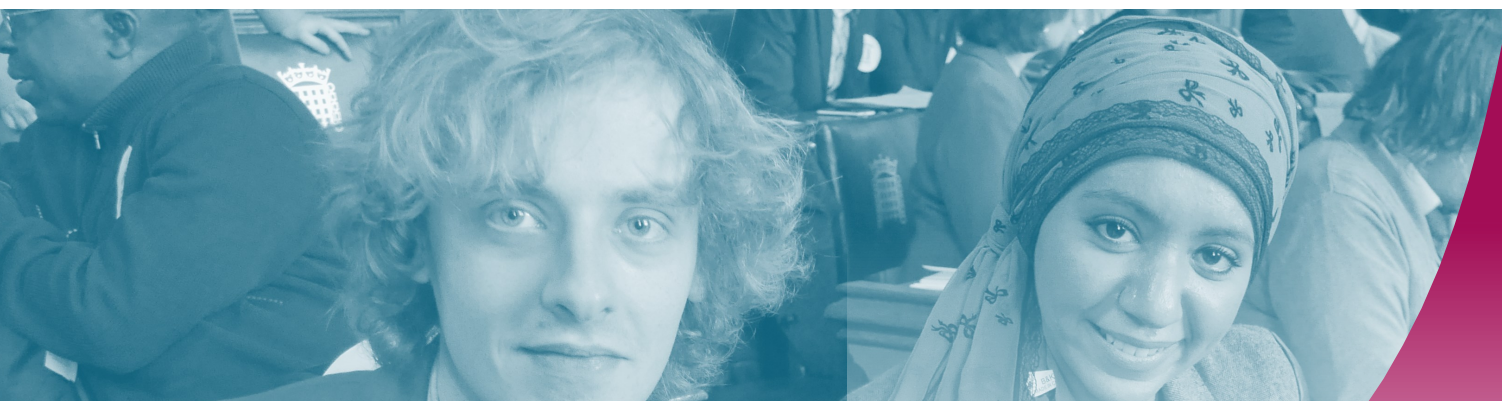
An appraisal committee is nominated to undertake the process either locally, regionally or nationally (depending on the circumstances). At least one person on the committee must be a sanctuary seeker. We encourage groups to actively review awards every three years.

Asylum Matters

City of Sanctuary UK hosts the advocacy and campaigns project, Asylum Matters. Asylum Matters is a project that works in partnership locally, regionally and nationally across the UK to improve the lives of people seeking sanctuary through social and political change. It incorporates and builds on the work of the Still Human Still Here coalition and the Regional Asylum Activism (RAA) Project. It provides opportunities to increase collective impact. Whilst Asylum Matters is independent in setting its objectives and remit, City of Sanctuary UK is responsible for its delivery and, through the project, demonstrates its commitment to movement building.

The mandate of the project is to drive forward and secure the eight goals identified at the Sanctuary Summit in November 2014, which were endorsed by more than 320 organisations as part of the Birmingham Declaration.

The project works very closely with the City of Sanctuary network, as well as working across the UK on a collaborative basis. Through engagement with Asylum Matters staff, City of Sanctuary groups can access additional opportunities to engage in advocacy activities. The kinds of initiatives groups can take part in vary depending on the influencing opportunity and can include things like collecting case studies and evidence to inform policy-making, lobbying MPs, AMs and local councillors on our issues, or supporting people seeking sanctuary to ensure their voices are heard on a range of public platforms.



Council of Sanctuary¹ Award

Procedure and Criteria

Introduction

City of Sanctuary UK holds the vision that the UK will be a welcoming place of safety for all and proud to offer sanctuary to people fleeing violence and persecution. In order to realise this vision, City of Sanctuary UK supports a [network of groups](#), which includes cities, towns, villages, boroughs and regions across the UK, and others engaged in Streams of Sanctuary, Sanctuary Awards and activities intended to welcome people seeking sanctuary¹. For more information see our [Charter](#).

In June 2020 the City of Sanctuary Network voted at the AGM to dispense with the city-wide recognition process and to establish a local authority network. Any local authority can apply to become an awarded or non-awarded member of this network –to join click [here](#).

What are Sanctuary Awards?

Sanctuary Awards are provided by the network of local groups and City of Sanctuary UK to recognise and celebrate commitment to our values and vision of welcome and inclusivity and enabling them to become active participants in the City of Sanctuary network. This document is specifically guidance for local authorities to apply for a Council of Sanctuary award.

Any local authority who has previously been awarded as part of a City of Sanctuary group city-wide recognition process, or awarded by a group as part of their self-recognition process, will not need to follow all the steps below but will need to submit an application form within six months of joining the network (step 4). Similarly any local authority which has made significant progress towards becoming a welcoming place of sanctuary may be in position to go straight to step. Please liaise with your local group and/or regional coordinator to discuss further.

The procedure

Award applications usually start with a conversation with your [local City of Sanctuary group](#) or a City of Sanctuary UK [officer](#) if no local group is available.

Here is a step by step guide:-

¹ We use the term 'local authorities' to include all types of local government from across the whole of the UK e.g. county councils, districts, boroughs or city councils, unitary councils, London boroughs, combined authorities, metropolitan boroughs as well as parish and town councils]

Step 1 – Contact your local group to pledge support and connect with their / your shared vision

Step 2 – Join the local authority network. In joining the network you are committing to work towards the Council of Sanctuary Award and are agreeing to sign up as a Supporting Organisation (this includes an endorsement of the [City of Sanctuary Charter](#))

Step 3 – Produce an Action Plan using the 'LEARN, EMBED, SHARE' criteria. Include how you will meet the City of Sanctuary UK Local Authority Network criteria within the plan.

Step 4 – Then when ready apply for recognition. You can submit a written application for an award using the generic [Awards Application form](#).

Step 5 – The nomination will be appraised by a Sanctuary Recognition panel which will normally include as a minimum, a local member of City of Sanctuary, someone who has lived experience of seeking sanctuary and a member of the City of Sanctuary Local Authority Steering Group. The panel may request a visit to the nominated organisation during the appraisal, and will usually involve a conversation between councillors, officers and the panel.

Step 6 - When a local authority is able to demonstrate they have met all the criteria they would be given the right to use the Council of Sanctuary logo to recognise their commitment accompanied by the wording “X...*is a recognised County/District/Borough/City/Unitary/Parish/Town [delete as appropriate] Council of Sanctuary*”²;

Step 7 – Once the award is agreed, a plan should to be made for its presentation to include a celebratory event/ media statements etc. You are making a public declaration of support for people seeking sanctuary and City of Sanctuary.

Step 8 –The conversations begun during appraisal will continue throughout the three year award period and will inform a review at the end of the three years. A new application has to be submitted to renew the award after three years and if successful an updated certificate of recognition can be issued.

² Whilst this is the recommended terminology we acknowledge the need for flexibility due to the differing local government contexts, although in all cases we would encourage local authorities to discuss with their local group with the aim of achieving agreement between the two.

What is the Award criteria?

This guidance document aims to outline the criteria required for the award. We would encourage local authorities to build on the criteria in a way that best reflects their specific context.

The Process: Learn, Embed & Share

Any local authority contributing towards the vision of welcome can apply for the award by signing up to our charter, values and principles and demonstrating their commitment by providing evidence that they have integrated the following:

- **Learn:** learning about what it means to be seeking sanctuary, both in general, and specifically.
- **Embed:** taking positive action to embed concepts of welcome, safety and inclusion. To take steps to ensure this progress remains sustainable.
- **Share:** sharing your vision, achievements, what you have learned, and good practice with other local authorities, the local community and beyond.

The Criteria

- Join the City of Sanctuary Local Authority Network which includes a pledge to support the vision of City of Sanctuary and an endorsement of its charter
- Pass a council motion setting out commitment to being a place of sanctuary
- Commit to working with the local City of Sanctuary (which could be via a specific local pledge) (and/or other refugee networks)
- Show evidence of the work with the local City of Sanctuary group (and/or other refugee networks) and receive the endorsement from those groups for the award application
- Commit to work with partners to identify national policy issues in order to make collective representations to government to encourage and enable change
- Produce a written strategy (either an independent strategy or as part of a broader strategy e.g. equality, migration etc) which is publicly available and sets out commitment for at least three years.

The 'Learn, Embed and Share' criteria are outlined below. Please provide evidence of meeting each of the criteria in the relevant section of the generic award application.

Learn

In this section of the application, we will be looking for examples of work which signals the commitment of the local authority to learn about what it means to be seeking sanctuary. It is also important that include people seeking sanctuary in those learning opportunities if at all possible. We recognise that this may be challenging in certain locations and situations, and City of Sanctuary UK and via its local groups will try to assist.

To receive an award, the local authority must meet the following LEARN criteria:

- Criterion 1: **Awareness raising opportunities** are provided, and opportunities for discussion around the theme of welcome and sanctuary are facilitated.
- Criterion 2: **Evidence of refugee/asylum/migration awareness raising** is included into everyday business of the local authority e.g. staff induction/training.
- Criterion 3: Commitment to supporting **the voices of people seeking sanctuary to be heard.**

Embed

The second process used by City of Sanctuary UK for its awards is Embed. For City of Sanctuary UK, embedding means that the local authority is taking positive action to implement welcome, safety and inclusion. City of Sanctuary UK would like details on how the local authority will ensure a continuation of support for sanctuary on an ongoing basis.

To receive an award, the local authority must meet the following Embed criteria:

- Criterion 4: The local authority **must demonstrate how it has embedded** the concept of welcome and inclusion at all levels of the organisation. This should show how the local authority will continue to develop and sustain a culture of welcome beyond the award.
- Criterion 5: **Commitment to supporting initiatives** that **embeds welcome and fosters solidarity** between receiving communities and people seeking sanctuary e.g. participation in Refugee Week, more information about the annual event can be found here:
<http://refugeeweek.org.uk>.

Share

The third and final process in the City of Sanctuary UK model is Share. City of Sanctuary UK will be seeking evidence that the place is seeking to share its experience of sanctuary and welcome with the wider community, local organisations and spreading the word about their welcoming efforts.

To receive an award, the local authority must meet the following criteria:

- Criterion 6: A **public commitment** to the City of Sanctuary vision of welcome
- Criterion 7: The **local authority publicly highlights its work** in support of welcome and inclusion by making it visible on its website and noticeboards *NB. Once the sanctuary award is received, we would expect the logo and a link to the webpage on the website.*
- Criterion 8: Commitment to **on-going engagement with the City of Sanctuary Local Authority Network**. This may include sharing resources, ideas and achievements via the network and City of Sanctuary UK website.
- Criterion 9: Work with the network to identify national policy issues in order to make **collective representations to government to encourage and enable change**

How to complete your application form?

Your written application needs to include:

- Evidence which demonstrates how the local authority has used the three step process of learn, embed and share and how through following the process the values and principles in the charter are being upheld.
- Evidence can be collected in a variety of ways and can include self-evaluation, photos and testimony, strategic plans, training records, policies and procedures and through consulting with people seeking sanctuary.
- Applications should be no longer than 4 pages, including supporting evidence. Only photos or organisational documents can be submitted in addition to these 4 pages.

Q: Please provide a summary of how the local authority engages with people seeking sanctuary.

In this section, outline the ways the local authority has engaged with people seeking sanctuary. How has the local authority sought to build relationships with local people seeking sanctuary? Has it formed partnerships with the City of Sanctuary group and/or local support organisations?

Q: Using the 3 processes of the sanctuary award, please reflect on how you have achieved these principles attaching evidence to support your answer.

Here we are looking for evidence of initiatives, projects, policies and progress. Even if something is ongoing, include it as it helps to build a picture of how the local authority is developing its culture of welcome. Try to

be concise but don't assume that the appraisal panel have the requisite knowledge (so please explain all acronyms and give context where necessary).

Q: Please identify how people seeking sanctuary have been involved in helping you achieve these principles.

All applications for a Sanctuary Award are expected to involve people seeking sanctuary in the planning, delivery and/or evaluation of activities for each of the principles, where appropriate. Building on the examples you have given, identify the ways in which people seeking sanctuary have contributed to these successes.

Q: How do you intend to build on your achievements over the next 3 years in order that your award is renewed?

We want to acknowledge and celebrate a local authority which shows a commitment to the principles in the long-term and which have a forward-looking approach; receipt of the sanctuary award is just the beginning! Each award is valid for 3 years and renewal will be required. So, use this section of the application form as an opportunity to share information about your planning.

Questions to think about include: Has the local authority demonstrated a sustainable commitment to sanctuary in the long-term? How will the local authority re-evaluate and adapt to continue to demonstrate sanctuary, welcome and inclusion? Can you provide evidence that this commitment will continue after the award is granted?

ⁱ A term used to describe people predominantly categorised as either a refugee or an asylum seeker (including those who are appeal rights exhausted)

Subject:	Next steps - Rough Sleeping and Accommodation during Covid 19 Pandemic and Recovery		
Date of Meeting:	25 March 2021 17 March 2021- Housing Committee 18 March 2021 – Policy & Resources Committee		
Report of:	Executive Director of Housing, Neighbourhoods and Communities		
Contact Officer:	Name:	Sylvia Peckham	Tel: 01273 293318
	Email:	Sylvia.peckham@brighton-hove.gov.uk	
Ward(s) affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND POLICY CONTEXT**

- 1.1 At the outset of the pandemic and in line with advice from Public Health and Government guidance under the 'Everyone In' approach, the council acquired self-contained emergency accommodation in hotels to house: verified rough sleepers (those seen bedding down by our commissioned street out-reach services); clients from commissioned rough sleeping prevention services (including Somewhere Safe to Stay and No Second Night Out) who were in congregate accommodation which did not enable social distancing; and, those who had become homeless and were at risk of rough sleeping.
- 1.2 The council subsequently successfully bid for Government funding under the Next Steps Accommodation Programme (NSAP) to support the costs of accommodation and move on for those we had housed under the 'Everyone-In' initiative. The council received the largest funding allocation of any single local authority in the country. However, grant conditions limited support to those accommodated before 30 September 2020, while also supporting a continued accommodation offer for those subsequently verified as rough sleepers. Given the ongoing pandemic Housing Committee and Policy and Resources Committee agreed to the continuation of the council's accommodation offer for those people assessed as at risk of rough sleeping, not covered by NSAP provisions, presenting after 30th September 2020 during the on-going pandemic at a maximum cost of £0.986m.
- 1.3 Following consideration of NSAP progress and risks at earlier Housing Committees (18th November 2020 and 20 January 2021) and Policy & Resources Committee (3rd December 2020), this report provides a further update on key areas of action and issues arising up to 31st March 2021. This includes seeking the extension and acquisition approval for emergency hotel accommodation for those verified rough sleepers and those at risk of rough sleeping we continue to accommodate and support pending move on beyond 31 March 2021.

- 1.4 As the Government moves toward easing and removal of lockdown measures and ending of Covid-19 restrictions, this report also outlines a route map for the council to continue to support an accommodation offer for verified rough sleepers while ceasing the current offer of accommodation for those at risk of rough sleeping made for the duration of the pandemic by the ending of restrictions by June 21st. This will be aligned to the return of our usual customer facing homeless prevention and housing options services to support those who may be in insecure accommodation and / or facing homelessness.
- 1.5 We will also continue to work closely with Government on securing further funding and support for verified rough sleepers in the City through future NSAP, Rough Sleeper Initiative and other funding routes. In addition, we will continue to actively engage with Government and neighbouring authorities to better understand and seek to address homelessness pressures on south coast towns and cities.
- 1.6 The report also updates on: Cold Weather & Protect Funding; Severe Weather Emergency Protocol; Government Rough Sleeping Snapshot; and Homeless Bill of Rights.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That Housing Committee note the progress to date.
- 2.2 That Housing Committee note the continued role of the Homeless Reduction Board in monitoring progress on meeting the conditions of NSAP funding and next steps.
- 2.3 That Housing Committee note the move on projections outlined in the report for those clients covered by Next Steps Accommodation Funding (Covid-1 in the report) and the continued emergency accommodation requirements for this cohort beyond 31st March 2021.
- 2.4 That Housing Committee note the move on projections for those assessed as at risk of rough sleeping who we have continued to accommodate (Covid-2 in the report) and the ongoing emergency accommodation requirements of those we have housed during the on-going pandemic into the new (2021-22) financial year.
- 2.5 That Housing Committee agree that by 21st June 2021, the accommodation offer to those assessed as at risk of rough sleeping made for the duration of the pandemic (Covid-2 in the report) is ended where no accommodation duty is owed by the council as outlined in paragraphs 3.11 – 3.13. This to be reviewed if there is a further increase in the pandemic.
- 2.6 That Housing committee note the low number of verified rough sleepers (para 3.23) and that the Council will continue to seek to offer accommodation to all verified rough sleepers to whom the duty is owed to consolidate this achievement
- 2.7 That Housing Committee agree Homeless Reduction Board oversee progress with the recovery of homelessness services, including face to face services, income recovery, move on and reconnections with a report on progress to the next Housing Committee

- 2.8 That Housing Committee recommend referral to Full Council the use of the Homeless Bill of Rights, as outlined in paragraph 3.24, as a standard against which the Council and its partners judge our policies and practices. Appendix 2.

That Housing Committee recommend to Policy & Resources committee:

- 2.9 That the Executive Director of Housing, Neighbourhoods & Communities be granted delegated authority to secure accommodation up to the 31st October 2021, by entering into contracts to extend existing arrangements or alternative arrangements where necessary to extend the provision of shorter-term/interim accommodation acquired in response to the Covid 19 pandemic, including a building to deliver the No Second Night Out service up to the beginning of October 2021
- 2.10 Agree to continue to support people in the accommodation secured as para 2.9 which includes security, support and food where necessary estimated to cost £2.900m to 1st October 2021.
- 2.11 Note that if Contain Outbreak Management Fund (COMF) funding is not available, this could create a service pressure of £2.043m.

That full Council be recommended to:

- 2.12 Agree to the use of the Homeless Bill of Rights, as outlined in paragraph 3.24, as a standard against which the Council and its partners judge our policies and practices. Appendix 2.

3. CONTEXT/ BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Next Steps Accommodation Programme

- 3.1 The NSAP Report, considered at Housing Committee on 18th November set out in detail the specifics relating to the amount of grant awarded and the conditions associated with that grant. The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) have been clear that the grant funding is ringfenced to meet the needs of people accommodated as at 30th September 2020 and for those who are subsequently verified as rough sleepers as set out in the report to Housing Committee on 18th November 2020.
- 3.2 As a reminder the NSAP bid proposal included funding for:
- Ensuring current provision to safeguard rough sleepers and those assessed as at risk of rough sleeping can continue for an appropriate length of time.
 - Reconnection where safe to do so.
 - Expanding Homeless Prevention and Resolution Officers (Brighton & Hove City Council).
 - Expanding Housing First coupled with expanded Home Purchase Policy.

- Expanding provision of supported move on accommodation and increasing Private Sector Leasing via partners to provide additional supported accommodation.
- Expanding use of private rented sector accommodation.
- Provision of specialist resource to work to secure the settled status of individuals who are EEA nationals without settled status.
- Access to employment.
- Return Home reconciliation work with young people where this is a safe option.

3.3 Whilst the Council received the largest single allocation of NSAP funding nationally not all the required work was funded. Although the funding was significant it amounted to 70% of the need identified. The resources needed to move on everyone by 31st March 2021 including availability of suitable accommodation is challenging. We anticipate being able to move on 220 of the 369 accommodated by 31st March 2021. The remainder of this group, which amount to around 149 people will continue to be prioritised for move on during the early part of 2021/22.

Policy and Resources Committee on 3rd December 2020, agreed to the continuation of the accommodation offer for those people assessed as at risk of rough sleeping who present after 30th September 2020 during the pandemic To distinguish between the projects relating to the group who were assisted before 30th September or who have slept rough (Covid 1) and those after that date which are funded separately, we have termed this project Covid 2.

As at 15th February 2021 there were 191 people accommodated under Covid 1 and 207 accommodated under Covid 2.

We are continuing to focus resources on improving homelessness prevention and move on but there are still challenges with identifying suitable move on options for everyone in Covid 1 by the 31st March 2021.

3.4 The Housing Committee's Homelessness Reduction Board meets regularly and oversees this work. There are several work streams being delivered as follows with the current position against each of them:

- Identify the move on requirements of those people accommodated as at 30th September 2020 and timelines to achieve 40% move on by 31st December 2020.
- Supply of accommodation to enable 40% to move on before 31st December 2020 and then remainder to move on for 31st March 2021. Move on will also need to be identified for rough sleepers accommodated after 30th September 2020.
- Ongoing accommodation and move on requirements for those assessed as at risk of rough sleeping accommodated under the Covid-2 cohort.
- Commissioning strategy to move away from congregate accommodation for rough sleepers.
- Monitor and identify the resources and support the actions needed to ensure that more people are prevented from becoming homeless.

The move on requirements and timelines for achieving the 40% move on by 31 December 2020 were achieved. As at 31st December 2020 197 people had moved on, this equates to just over 53%, 13% over target. Full details of the various moves are contained in the weekly data spreadsheet (as at week commencing 15th February 2021) contained in Appendix 2

3.5 We are continuing to identify supply to enable the remaining Covid 1 cohort to move on as follows:

3.6 **Private rented accommodation**

We are working with landlords and agents to increase supply and offer support to both landlord and tenant to ensure the accommodation is sustained. As at 21st February 2021, 52 people had been moved into suitable private rented accommodation. This includes piloting of HMOs.

3.7 **Housing First**

Home Purchase Policy is expanded to purchase an additional 30 properties to be used as Housing first. As at 7th February 2021 we have a pipeline of purchases in place as follows:

- 10 completed purchases of which 4 are ready to let, the remainder are under refurbishment/ repair.
- 20 properties have offers accepted and are progressing towards completion; (6 have completion dates and a couple may complete after the 31st March due to delays with the sellers' ongoing purchase).

To ensure the good progress continues with the Housing First home purchases the Housing Revenue Account Budget 2021/22 includes £1.200m direct revenue funding to fund 30% of a new £4.000m budget included in the capital programme with the remainder being funded from HRA borrowing. This will enable the purchase of up to 18x1 bed properties, ensuring the borrowing required can be repaid from the new rental income. There is the potential that further Government funding will also be made available to fund the delivery of Housing First properties, where this is the case this will continue to be optimised and used to deliver these properties.

There is revenue funding in Adult Social Care budgets for this service in place already for an additional 10 homes with the remaining 8 homes subject to additional resources being sought during the year.

3.8 **Supported accommodation**

We are obtaining an average of 3 units a week. Those ready to move on from supported accommodation are being assisted to do so to facilitate this pathway. Clarion/St Mungos acquired 20 units of supported accommodation, this forms part of the NSAP grant. These units are now mobilised.

3.9 **Social Housing**

During the pandemic, due to the restrictions on being able to undertake void work, there have been relatively few properties to let. We are anticipating this improving in the coming months. We are aware that some local authorities suspended their Allocation Policies and let properties directly to homeless households, due to the exceptional challenges of the pandemic. We adjusted the Allocation Plan to increase lets to households in temporary accommodation who

we owed a statutory rehousing duty to, in order to free up those units. However, as the overall number of properties becoming available was low, it has had minimal impact. The table below provides information on the lets to the different priority groups.

Group	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 April to end of Dec 2020	Total	Overall percentage across all years
Homeless	306 (42%)	285 (40%)	230 (40.5%)	101 (47%)	922	41%
Transfers	190 (26%)	168 (24%)	138 (24.5%)	37 (17%)	533	24%
Homeseekers	209 (28%)	177 (25%)	126 (22%)	41 (19%)	553	25%
Council's interest *	30 (4%)	72 (10%)	75 (13%)	37 (17%)	214	10%
Total	735	702	569	216	2222	

*This group is people nominated by Children's services and Adult Social Care, which also includes those for Housing First.

3.10 Referrals and Reconnections

A total of 15 reconnections have been achieved. There are challenges with statutory reconnections as we must ensure there is suitable accommodation for the person to be referred into and the receiving local authority require evidence that the person has a local connection with them. This can be difficult if people are reluctant to be reconnected. To improve performance on local connection, we are establishing a cross agency team, which will include Housing colleagues, located at First Base Day Centre. We are also having discussions with our advisors at MHCLG and are developing protocols with neighbouring authorities with respect to these cases. There are a potential 49 people who could be reconnected depending on establishing robust evidence to support a referral.

3.11 With regard to continuing to provide accommodation to those assessed as at risk of rough sleeping (which we have termed Covid 2), as of 15th February 2021 we were accommodating 207 people. We will focus resources on moving people accommodated under Covid 2 during the period of the pandemic in 2021/22.

3.12 This report recommends that, in line with proposed easing and ending of national Covid-19 restrictions and opening of the council's usual homeless prevention and housing options service, that Housing Committee agree that by 21st June 2021, the accommodation offer to those at risk of rough sleeping, the Covid- 2 cohort, made for the duration of the pandemic is ended where no accommodation duty is owed by the council. Neighbouring councils such as Adur/Worthing, Eastbourne/Lewes; Crawley, Chichester and Hastings have confirmed their offer of accommodation is restricted to verified rough sleepers only and for any others only in exceptional circumstances.

3.13 Our usual service for those who are at risk of rough sleeping where no accommodation duty is owed, includes action to prevent applicants from sleeping rough. In line with the Homeless Reduction Act 2017, Housing will assist applicants to retain or secure accommodation with a reasonable prospect that it will be available for occupation for at least 6 months. This assistance will last for a minimum period of 56 days and will include a personalised housing plan, taking account of the applicant's needs. Support will be provided to the applicant both directly and by engaging relevant specialist services.

3.14 Officers worked hard to reach our end of December target to move on Covid-1 clients. While this is a significant achievement, we must also acknowledge the considerable work ahead of us. Moving people on the scale necessary puts a pressure on resources both in terms of the accommodation needed initially and to move people into but also for the staffing to support such moves.

We are aiming to complete the move on for a further 50 of the remaining 191 people accommodated under Covid 1 by 31st March 2021. This will be challenging as the remaining group include a greater proportion of people with multiple and compound needs. In addition, we are still seeing new people being verified as rough sleepers who are being added to this group which totals 33 as of the 15th February 2021. In summary, we are anticipating approximately 149 people will need to be moved on after the 31st March, during the early part of 2021/22.

3.15 We are expanding the Housing First model to meet the needs for some of these people through our Home Purchase scheme. However, there will be additional people who also require more intensive help and support. We are collaborating with partners in making offers of accommodation; enabling moves and in supporting the sustainment of accommodation offered.

3.16 **Cold Weather & Protect Funding**

To assist with the move away from congregate accommodation, we successfully bid for grant for Cold Weather Funding, which enabled 12 units of accommodation to be available to verified rough sleepers from 21st December to 31st March 2021. We can invoice up to £0.140m for this service. This relieved pressure when the Severe Weather Emergency Protocol (SWEP) operates.

3.17 In addition we successfully bid for "Protect" funding jointly with Health partners; Mobilisation was delayed slightly due to the demands on the clinical staff, but this is now operational as follows:

- A Preventing Admissions Worker based at A&E to work with rough sleeping people.
- 4 of the 5-bed unit Step Down from hospital service operational to enable patients who are ready to be discharged but are of no fixed abode and require clinical support to be safely discharged.
- An expanded peripatetic Protect team to offer clinical support to medically vulnerable people in emergency accommodation and supported accommodation.

3.18 **Homeless Prevention**

Between 1st April 2020 and 31st December 2020, the council prevented 438 households from becoming homeless, For the previous full year 1st April 2019 to 31st March 2020 we prevented 791. Whilst numbers are projected to be lower than 19/20, conditions are more challenging. Evictions from private rented accommodation have been paused due to the Government moratorium on evictions, this has been extended until 31st March 2021.

Information from the Office for National Statistics shows an increase of people claiming benefits in Brighton and Hove rose from 5,880 in March 2020 to 8,120 as of 10th December 2021. Locally, affordability is one the biggest causes of private rented sector eviction.

The Housing Options service is preparing for post pandemic changes in service demand, especially in relation to private rented evictions leading to an increase in approaches from people at risk of homelessness. It is essential we are able to respond at the earliest stage. Preparation includes building on collaborative work such as co-location with the DWP to support people back into work, joint work with Brighton and Hove Independent Mediation Service to help with negotiation between landlords and tenants. In addition, we are communicating with landlords and agents who operate in the city requesting they contact us if they are considering eviction so that we can try and resolve matters to avoid homelessness. We will also continue to work with landlords to develop our Direct Lets scheme as an option to avoid homelessness.

We are exploring extending our commissioned mediation services to support individuals and families during this challenging time and to enable more people to leave home in a planned way, where it is safe to do so. This will build upon the mediation work currently funded through our Homeless Prevention Grant.

3.19 Overall increase in emergency accommodation

Taking our usual statutory temporary accommodation placements in addition to people we have accommodated under NSAP and Covid 2, our numbers in emergency accommodation has increased significantly from approximately 500 to 800.

Whilst our outreach teams made up of Welfare Officers and some of our Homeless Prevention Officers have been going out to see people in emergency short-term accommodation, this has only been possible where it is safe to do so. Returning to a safe office environment for face to face contact with customers will be a major step forward in resuming our usual service provision.

3.20 Out of Area Placements

We have accommodated around 300 people in emergency accommodation outside of the city. Whilst we are continuing to move a lot of people on, they have been replaced by others. We are exploring additional short-term accommodation options in the city including negotiating to acquire a large hotel for short term use. This will enable us to accommodate those people assessed as high priority for a move back to the city so they can more easily receive the support, including the help to move on that they may need.

We wish to actively engage with Government and neighbouring authorities to better understand and seek to address homelessness pressures on south coast towns and cities.

3.21 Funding

Aside from core funding, there are other main sources of grant as follows:

- a) Homelessness Prevention Grant – a combination of the previously called Flexible Homeless Support Grant and Homelessness Burdens Funding. These grants are awarded by MHCLG based on previous figures of homelessness and temporary accommodation. It is primarily to fund the management element of temporary accommodation that was removed from the housing benefit several years ago, and in addition to improve prevention and reduce down the need for temporary accommodation.
- b) Rough Sleepers Initiative (RSI) 4. This is bid for through submissions that aim to support people to move on from rough sleeping. For 2021/22 there is a new element for prevention and early intervention which is very welcome.
- c) Future rounds of Next Steps Accommodation Programme funding. MHCLG have just advised that new funding of £0.500m has been awarded to the council for the continuation of housing rough sleepers up to June 2021.

3.22 SWEP – Severe Weather Emergency Protocol

Although not part of Next Steps Accommodation Programme, there have been implications for how SWEP is delivered following Covid 19.

Due to the current pandemic, advice from Public Health England, local Public Health colleagues and the MHCLG, was that SWEP could not be delivered by use of congregate sleep space arrangements or by open access to a single hub.

In response we acquired 14 units of self-contained accommodation for SWEP. Referrals are made by the Street Outreach Service who carry out outreach shifts 7 days a week including bank holidays. If the 14 units are full, colleagues in Housing and St Mungo's No Second Night Out Service work together to ensure that everyone in need is offered safe accommodation during periods of severe weather.

Information on how to support people to access SWEP has been shared in local media, via social media and is on our website. All organisations working with homeless people have had this information shared with them through the Voluntary Community Sector and Operational Forums.

This winter, SWEP has operated in a way that has successfully enabled rough sleepers to move on to longer term accommodation once SWEP is no longer available rather than returning to the streets.

3.23 Government Rough Sleeping Snapshot

The Government's Rough Sleeping Snapshot in England: Autumn 2020. reported on 25.02.21 that Brighton and Hove had the third largest decrease

nationally and the highest decrease outside of London of people sleeping rough. This count was undertaken in November 2020, 27 people were reported to be sleeping rough in the city. This is compared to 88 in November 2019, a 69% decrease. The rough sleeper count undertaken on 28th January, a night when SWEP wasn't operating, suggests this has dropped further, with 9 people sleeping out.

3.24 Homeless Bill of Rights

As outlined in the Homelessness & Rough Sleeper Strategy agreed at Housing Committee on 17 June 2020, the values of the Strategy align to the aspirations within the Homeless Bill of Rights as amended for Brighton & Hove by Housing Rights Watch, FEANTSA and Just Fair.

The Homeless Bill of Rights should be viewed as a standard against which the Council and its partners judge our policies and practices. The progress of the aspirations contained in the Homeless Bill of Rights will be monitored by the Homeless Reduction Board.

This report proposes that Housing Committee recommend to Full Council the use of the Homeless Bill of Rights, as a standard against which the Council and its partners judge our policies and practices.

4 ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

4.1 None currently.

5 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & CONSULTATION

5.1 None at this time but we will be seeking feedback from customer, partners and providers next year as part of a review of the service going forwards.

6. CONCLUSION

6.1 We met the target of moving on 40% of those accommodated under the NSAP provision by 31st December 2020 which was necessary to secure the withheld 30% of the awarded grant.

6.2 We are focusing on the remaining people accommodated under Covid 1 to move on as many people as possible by the end of March 2021, with the remainder during the first quarter of 2021/22.

6.3 We have made good progress reducing the numbers of verified rough sleepers and have dropped out of the 10 worst councils for rough sleeper numbers. We must seek to sustain our everyone in offer for rough sleepers and ensure no second night out efficiently assess and moves on all rough sleepers housed under this offer to consolidate this noteworthy achievement

6.4 We are making a high level of placements following the decision at Policy and Resources Committee in December 2020 to continue to provide accommodation to those assessed as at risk of rough sleeping during the pandemic. It will take much of 2021/22 to move those we have already housed under this provision This is because of the available capacity in the all sectors of the local housing

market. However, we propose to return to our normal service for this cohort of clients by 21 June 2021.

- 6.5 The pandemic has changed the landscape of homelessness and there are further changes anticipated as the full impact emerges and we see implications on loss of accommodation in different groups, particularly those who were previously employed. Future planning will continue to emphasise the prevention of homelessness through early intervention.

7. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 7.1 The net cost (after accounting for grant and assumed Housing Benefit income) of housing rough sleepers and those at risk of rough sleeping during the pandemic is forecast to be £4.116m for 2020/21 as included in the Targeted Budget Management (TBM) Month 9 report to P&R Committee.
- 7.2 As mentioned in this report the council has been unable to move on all of those accommodated as a result of the pandemic. The body of the report suggests that by 1st April 2021, there will be 149 'Covid 1' people and 207 'Covid 2' people remaining in temporary accommodation. Therefore, a total of 356 to continue to house in hotel. Hotel accommodation is expensive. On average one person costs an estimated £18,000 for a full year. Also, all residents in a hotel need to be moved on before a hotel is handed back and costs reduce.
- 7.3 The cost of this continued provision will depend on how quickly people can be moved on to more settled accommodation during 2021/22. Currently, although some are being moved on, overall numbers in hotels are not reducing. This is because of the continued flow of those at risk of rough sleeping being accommodated. The report recommends ending this provision after the duration of the pandemic on 21st June. The report suggests that hotels will therefore be needed until at least 1st October 2021. The cost of hotel accommodation for 356 people until 1st October is estimated to be £2.900m. The likelihood is that given the time it takes to move on all residents from one hotel, there will be no hand backs in this period. However, if a hotel was handed back earlier, costs would reduce by an average of £0.072 per month for a 50-bed hotel. Similarly, if hotels need to be kept for longer, costs will increase by £0.072m for each 50-bed hotel extended beyond this date. If all hotels were extended for a month, costs would increase by an estimated £0.500m.
- 7.4 Therefore, the council will need to ensure that homelessness prevention is a key priority to stem the flow of homelessness and ensure that the current numbers in temporary accommodation including hotels reduces as the pandemic comes to an end. If not, there is a risk that the use of these hotels may need to continue longer term. This will create a significant potential ongoing cost and add substantially to the 2022/23 budget gap which is already £11m.

Resources/Budget

Budget Council approved £0.650m for 'Ongoing use of emergency (hotel) accommodation for rough sleepers' during 2021/22. There is also further funding in the form of a newly announced grant of £0.500m from MHCLG to contribute

to additional emergency accommodation, support and move on costs during 2021/22. Total funding is therefore £1.150m for 2021/22. However, £0.293m has been earmarked for the extended lease for the 'No second night Out' venue.

- 7.5 The council has been granted £4.200m in Contain Outbreak Management Fund (COMF) grant. There is also potential to utilise this COMF grant to support these costs, however the detailed costs of supporting testing, Covid management and compliance, delivery support, etc. have not yet been finalised and are not fully understood at this time. If insufficient COMF grant is available to support these accommodation costs, this will cause a financial pressure in 2021/22 of £2.043m, assuming all are moved on after 6 months but substantially more if they are not.
- 7.6 It is therefore imperative that the use of hotel accommodation is minimised in 2021/22 by preventing homelessness and the flow into hotel accommodation and by maximising the opportunities for moving on those already there.

Finance Officer Consulted: Monica Brooks

Date 05/03/2021

Legal Implications:

- 7.7 According to the council's constitution, the " Endorsing, approving or otherwise committing the Council to any charter, alliance or pledge" is a full council function. The recommendation at 2.8 is consistent with the constitution's requirements. Otherwise, given that the actions outlined in the report are compatible with statutory and grant funding requirements, there are no legal implications that need to be drawn to Members' attention.

Lawyer Consulted: Liz Woodley Date: 05/03/2021

Equalities Implications:

- 7.8 An equalities impact assessment has been carried out

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

Weekly data report
Homelessness Bill of Rights

	Target/ MHCLO bid	Cumulative moves	Week Commencing 19.02.21	Week Commencing 06.02.21	Week Commencing 01.02.21	Week commencing 25.01.2021	Week commencing 18.01.2021	Week commencing 11.01.2021	Week commencing 04.01.2021	Week commencing 28.12.2020	Week Commencing 21.12.2020	Week commencing 14.12.2020	Week commencing 07.12.2020	Week commencing 30.11.2020	Week commencing 23.11.2020	Week commencing 16.11.2020	Week Commencing 09.11.2020	Week Commencing 02.11.20	Week Commencing 26.10.2020	Week Commencing 19.10.20	Week Commencing 12.10.20	Week Commencing 05.10.20	Number of EEA Nationals	Week Commencing 28.09.20 Start position
Number in hotels																								
Case and Protect		42	42	42	45	47	49	51	54	55	56	61	60	61	63	61	66	66	66	66	66	67		100
Other		135	139	142	152	155	160	163	168	170	178	188	201	215	220	212	223	240	246	246	254	259		289
Number of Verified Rough Sleepers currently accommodated by Housing (NSAP funding applied)																								
		14	14	13	12	14																		369
Total	221 (148 to move)	191	195	197	209	216	209	214	222	225	234	249	261	276	283	303	319	336	342	350	356			369
Movement in Covid Related Accommodation																								
Total move on's & Outs																								
		246	1	2	10	6	8	9	7	3	8	11	8	15	7	22	17	19	13	10	11	15		17
PHS		52	0	1	4	2	3	2	1	0	4	4	4	3	0	0	3	1	1	2	2	5		2
Supported		34	1	0	4	0	1	5	0	1	2	3	4	0	3	1	1	1	1	2	1	2		1
Supported - SSIS The Circle		5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0		0
Safetaven		4	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1			2
Family Friends Reconciliation		10	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	2	1	1	1	0	0	0		2
Made own arrangements		15	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	2	0	2		2
Move into social housing		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		1
Supported to reconnect (by St Mungo's)		9	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0		1
S188 referrals		6	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1					2		
Other		111	5	1	3	3	3	2	3	2	1	5	6	9	3	9	9	12	6	6	6	8		9
Of which unknown		51	1	1	3	1	0	0	1	0	0	3	1	6	2	3	3	7	4	4	3	5		3
Of which Evicted		25	1	0	0	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	4	0	0	4	1	1	1	1	1	2		1
Of which Prison/custody		9	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0			2
Deceased		5	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0		1
Hospital		5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1		1
Transfer to statutory duties		15	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	1	1	2	3	1	0	0	0		1
To Home Office Accommodation		1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1													
Moves in																								
Moves into Protect (Verified Rough Sleepers)		33	2	2	2	0	1	2	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	7	1	2	4	2	2	2		0
New at risk of rough sleepers (after 30 th September 20)		293	9	23	16	15	9	29	26	11	12	13	24	14	13	11	9	13	9	9	15	11		2
104																								
PHS	3050	67	67	68	72	74	77	79	80	80	84	88	92	95	95	103	106	107	108	108	110			115
Supported		44	45	45	49	49	50	54	54	55	57	60	64	64	67	68	69	70	71	73	74			76
Family Friends Reconciliation		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	6	7	8	8	8			8
Supported to reconnect/S198	50	49	49	49	49	49	49	49	49	49	49	49	49	49	49	49	49	50	57	57	57			70
Housing First	50/50	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4			4
Other		3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3			3
Social Housing	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			0
Sub Total		167	168	169	177	179	183	189	190	191	197	204	212	215	218	228		248	251	253	257			276
NSRF																		16	16	19				16
Total																		264	267	269	276			295
No. of rough sleepers out on street																								
Housing Benefit Claims																								
Number of HB claims completed		99				104		109	133	182		192	190	168	164	180	176	176			172			175
Number HB claims to be completed		9				14		15	20	20		26	25	28	31	46	48	48			77			81
Number of HB claims in payment		81				91		95	111	163		163	161	160	157	154	150	150			145			147
NRPF (of which EEA Nationals)		10				10		10	12	12		12	14	11	10	10	6	6			16			18

Appendix 2. THE HOMELESS BILL OF RIGHTS

The Homeless Bill of Rights

This is the English text of the document launched in Europe. We found it a poor translation of the original French text, here, and we tweaked it to make it colloquial and added two articles with FEANTSA's consent.

This is the full text of the Homeless Bill of Rights launched in Brighton in October 2018. You can download it here as a Word document and pdf. Below the text, at the bottom of this page, we provide a short commentary.

HOMELESS BILL OF RIGHTS

In accordance with international human rights treaties and in line with domestic law and the democratic and humanist values that underpin it, we, Brighton and Hove City Council ("the Council") declare:

It is the constant concern of the Council to respect and uphold the rights of people who are experiencing homelessness, in particular their right to housing. While working towards that goal we are determined not to contribute in any way to the harsh and inhuman conditions too often experienced by people who do not have a place to live.

We believe that it is the responsibility of all individuals, businesses and organisations, and of all local authorities, including ourselves, to commit themselves to improving the living conditions of people who are homeless and to lessen the negative effects of homelessness.

To help achieve this, and in common with other cities throughout Europe, we believe that it is important to re-state that every person who is experiencing homelessness is entitled to the same treatment as any other resident in the city area. No one should be denied rights because they are homeless.

In particular we commit ourselves to making effective the following rights:

1. THE RIGHT TO HOUSING

The most important right a homeless person has is to exit homelessness. Services supporting access to appropriate housing must be accessible to all homeless people. In partnership with other competent public authorities, the Council shall work to ensure that there are sufficient routes into housing to meet need.

2. THE RIGHT TO SHELTER

Where housing cannot be immediately provided, there must be access to decent emergency accommodation for all homeless people. The Council is committed to ensuring that there is sufficient emergency accommodation available to all, so that no one is forced to sleep rough for want of a bed.

3. THE RIGHT TO USE PUBLIC SPACE

People who are homeless should have the same right to use public space and to move freely within it, and to rest in it, as anyone else. This includes, but is not limited to, access to pavements, parks, public transport and public buildings on the same terms as any other member of the public.

4. THE RIGHT TO EQUAL TREATMENT

The Council is committed to ensuring that their staff and services uphold the right to equal treatment for all, without discriminating against the homeless.

5. THE RIGHT TO A POSTAL ADDRESS

The Council shall secure that homeless people who need one have an effective postal address of last resort.

6. THE RIGHT TO SANITARY FACILITIES

The Council commits to providing access for all homeless people to basic sanitary facilities – running water (drinking fountains), showers and toilets sufficient to allow for the level of hygiene appropriate to maintaining human dignity.

7. THE RIGHT TO EMERGENCY SERVICES

The right to emergency services – social services, health services, the police and the fire service – on equal terms with any other member of the public, without being discriminated against because of their housing situation or their physical appearance.

8. THE RIGHT TO VOTE

The right to vote, to be included on the electoral register and to be given the necessary documents to prove their identity when voting in elections, without being discriminated against because of their housing situation.

9. THE RIGHT TO DATA PROTECTION

People who are homeless have the right to data protection, with their data only being shared by public and other services with their consent and only for the purposes of providing services and solutions to them. Homeless people have the same right as everyone else to exercise control over their personal details, particularly their health information, their criminal record if they have one, their housing and their private life and family history.

10. THE RIGHT TO PRIVACY

The right to privacy must be respected and protected to the fullest extent possible in all types of accommodation, including communal accommodation structures and informal accommodation lived in by homeless people. The Council is committed to working to ensure that all emergency accommodation provided can deliver on this right.

11. THE RIGHT TO SURVIVAL PRACTICES

The right to carry out practices necessary to survival within the law. While the Council strives for a city in which such practices are not necessary, we recognize that where people have no other option they will seek support from other people through begging or foraging for discarded food to survive. Such survival practices should not be criminalized as such, or banned, or arbitrarily confined to specific areas.

12. THE RIGHT TO RESPECT FOR PERSONAL PROPERTY

People who are homeless should have their belongings, including tents and sleeping bags, respected by everyone including public servants. They should never be damaged or thrown away or be removed without compelling need, and if they are removed they should be made available for collection without charge.

13. THE RIGHT TO LIFE

The right to life requires public authorities to take measures to preserve life. When people who are homeless (including people in emergency accommodation) die, the Council is committed to ensuring that their deaths are recorded as such, and that in each case there is a reasonably public investigation in order to understand the causes of death and what might have prevented it.

Commentary

We have closely followed the text of the European document, with two additions. I'll briefly discuss the different rights, and why they are needed; I will be more thorough over Articles 12 and 13, which are our own additions to the document (although we hope other European cities may follow our lead). I will often reference the European Convention on Human Rights (hereafter "the Convention"), which is part of our law by virtue of the Human Rights Act 1998.

THE RIGHT TO HOUSING

This is the fundamental right for the homeless: not to be homeless. It must underlie all the others. It is not contained in English law, but it is in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (Article 25) and in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Article 11(1)), international treaties which the UK has signed. At present it is an aspiration rather than a reality; but it cannot be forgotten.

THE RIGHT TO SHELTER

While we work towards making the first article a reality, the entirely achievable goal for the moment is that enough emergency provision must be available to make sure that nobody is forced to sleep rough. I would argue that this is already an obligation in English law. Article 3 of the European Convention requires that public authorities take steps to prevent torture and ill-treatment; there is a breach of Article 3 when someone faces an imminent prospect of serious suffering caused or materially aggravated by a denial of shelter, food or the most basic necessities of life (*R(Limbuella) v SSHD*, [2005] UKHL 66). That applies to nearly all rough sleepers and places an obligation on public authorities to remedy the breach. There is good evidence from France that the mere provision of shelter dramatically reduces death rates.

We are familiar with the law that places limits on the Council's ability to provide for persons with no recourse to public funds. Like all human rights, this right applies to everyone regardless of nationality, immigration status or "local connection". There is no law preventing the provision of simple shelters to preserve life, as in *SWEP*.

THE RIGHT TO USE PUBLIC SPACE

Homeless people should have the same rights to use public space as anyone else. Otherwise you are treating their desperate situation as a reason to treat them differently, to clear them away, to make them invisible. This, like the next provision, is about anti-discrimination. The legal argument for both is that it gives effect to Article 14 (the prohibition against discrimination) of the Convention, taken

with Article 11 (freedom of assembly and association) and Article 8 (the right to respect for private and family life and the home).

THE RIGHT TO EQUAL TREATMENT

Underlying all human rights is the right to dignity. You rob those who are homeless of their dignity when you treat them as in some way different from or inferior to their fellow citizens.

THE RIGHT TO A POSTAL ADDRESS

This is very important for prospects of gaining employment or housing. We have some provision already in Brighton and Hove; this right says that all homeless people are entitled to such assistance. It clearly falls within Article 8.

THE RIGHT TO SANITARY FACILITIES

It should be clear to everyone how important this is. Again, this is Article 8 of the Convention.

THE RIGHT TO EMERGENCY SERVICES

It is very difficult for homeless people to access the medical care they are entitled to, and many homeless people say that the police do not respond adequately to their complaints or protect them from crime. This is an anti-discrimination provision, see the commentary on Article 3 above.

THE RIGHT TO A VOTE

All citizens should be able to vote, whatever their housing situation. The proposed identity checks on voting will make it even harder for homeless people to exercise their democratic rights and it is important that there be a commitment to making it possible. This is Article 3 of Protocol 1 of the Convention.

THE RIGHT TO DATA PROTECTION

There have been deeply regrettable occasions when publicly funded outreach workers have passed on the private information of homeless people without their consent. These rights are protected by the Data Protection Act and by Article 8.

THE RIGHT TO PRIVACY

This is self-evidently important, and is protected by Article 8 of the European Convention; it is a right very hard for homeless people to access.

THE RIGHT TO SURVIVAL PRACTICES

While people remain actually homeless, they must survive as best as they can, and they should not be criminalized for doing so. People should not be arrested for asking for help.

It is argued that as begging is currently a crime under the Vagrancy Act we cannot adopt this article. However, this document is an aspirational document, not a legal one, as Article 1 shows. See the front page of the site for arguments as to why we should adopt it anyway.

THE RIGHT TO RESPECT FOR PERSONAL PROPERTY

This is one of the two Articles added to the Brighton document following consultation with homeless people, and addresses what they felt to be a major issue. It follows similar provisions in US homeless bills of rights and has the support of FEANTSA.

The belongings of a homeless person are entitled to the same respect and protection as everyone else's. Our property is protected by the English common law. Article 1 of Protocol 1 of the Convention also protects us against unjustified interference with our possessions by public authorities and requires them to take steps to ensure that they are protected. In practice, as with so many rights, this protection has seemed worthless to homeless people, who see their property confiscated or destroyed all the time.

THE RIGHT TO LIFE

This is the second Article added as a result of input from our members, frustrated at the lack of information and apparent investigation of the deaths of homeless people. It has the support of FEANTSA.

There is no official system in the UK for recording the deaths of homeless people, let alone for investigating them, although since we began this campaign the Office of National Statistics (ONS) has begun to collect statistics of its own accord. The ONS records that 726 people died in England and Wales in 2018 who were rough sleepers or in emergency accommodation. We see this failure to account for these deaths as a fundamental failure of our responsibilities to the homeless. It is so dangerous to life and health to be homeless that the average age at death was 45 for men, 43 for women.

Article 2 of the European Convention for Human Rights is the Right to Life, the first and most fundamental right. Under it, the UK is required to have a legal and administrative framework in place to prevent threats to the right to life; SWEP, the emergency protocol for providing shelter in extreme weather, may be taken as an expression of this. In addition, where there is a specific and urgent threat to life, the state must act. Where the right is engaged but people die, Article 2 obliges us to investigate. This article commits the Council to keeping a record of the deaths of homeless people (including those in temporary and emergency accommodation) and to ensuring those deaths are adequately investigated.

Conclusion

Any one of us could be made homeless, or any of our friends or family. No-one is immune; for most of us it would take only one or two pieces of bad luck to put us on the street. How would we be treated then? We know only too well. It is likely that we would be abused, assaulted, spat upon; we might even be killed. We would be endlessly moved along by security or the police, or arrested for begging, or spray-painted or urinated upon as we tried to sleep by people who think it is a laugh to be cruel.

Human rights are for everyone, without exception; but it can be hard to believe that if you are homeless. What value does your fundamental right to human dignity have if you are treated as a second class citizen, or as despicable or blameworthy, through no fault of your own? So we are putting forward this Bill of Rights for the Homeless, to declare out loud what is already the law, to proclaim that we all have human rights, we all have dignity, whatever our housing situation, whatever our misfortunes.

Appendix – Organisations involved

BRIGHTON AND HOVE HOUSING COALITION

The Brighton and Hove Housing Coalition brings together groups of activists in the City and the surrounding area to coordinate action and spread information and news about all housing issues. We are independent of local and national government and self funding. Our aims and objectives are to provide an independent voice that supports tenants, leaseholders, homeless and people in temporary or emergency accommodation.

FEANTSA

FEANTSA is the European Federation of National Organisations Working with the Homeless.

Maria José Aldanas, who spoke at the launch, is the policy officer at FEANTSA with special responsibility for the Homeless Bill of Rights campaign, and the co-ordinator of Housing Rights Watch.

HOUSING RIGHTS WATCH

Housing Rights Watch is an interdisciplinary European network of associations, lawyers and academics from different countries, who are committed to promoting the right to housing. The right to housing has been recognised as one of the most important fundamental human rights and what we seek is the realisation of every person's right to live in dignity and to have a secure, adequate and affordable place to live.

The network was set-up in Cardiff in November 2008 in order to facilitate exchange and mutual learning among housing rights experts and advocates.

JUST FAIR

Just Fair brings social justice and human rights together. They work to ensure that UK law, policy and practice complies with our international human rights obligations.

Jamie Burton, who spoke at the launch, is co-founder and Chair of Just Fair. He is a barrister specializing in judicial review, human rights, social and clinical care, housing, social security, criminal justice and environmental law.

BREAKING NEWS!

The Homeless Bill of Rights has caught the popular imagination in Greece and 35 cities have signed it so far!

10% of Greek cities have just signed the Homeless Bill of Rights

Next steps - Rough Sleeping and Accommodation during Covid 19 Pandemic and Recovery

OFFICER CORRECTIONS

1. In paragraph 2.6 of the recommendations, below, the recommendation will be replaced:
 - 2.6 That Housing Committee note the low number of verified rough sleepers (para 3.23) and that the Council will continue to seek to offer accommodation to all verified rough sleepers to whom a duty is owed to consolidate this achievement.

The recommendation will now read:

- 2.6 ***That Housing Committee note the low number of verified rough sleepers (para 3.23) and that the Council will continue to seek to offer accommodation to all verified rough sleepers where this is permissible within the Council's powers to consolidate this achievement.***

Revised recommendations to read:

- 2.1 That Housing Committee note the progress to date.
- 2.2 That Housing Committee note the continued role of the Homeless Reduction Board in monitoring progress on meeting the conditions of NSAP funding and next steps.
- 2.3 That Housing Committee note the move on projections outlined in the report for those clients covered by Next Steps Accommodation Funding (Covid-1 in the report) and the continued emergency accommodation requirements for this cohort beyond 31st March 2021.
- 2.4 That Housing Committee note the move on projections for those assessed as at risk of rough sleeping who we have continued to accommodate (Covid-2 in the report) and the ongoing emergency accommodation requirements of those we have housed during the on-going pandemic into the new (2021-22) financial year.
- 2.5 That Housing Committee agree that by 21st June 2021, the accommodation offer to those assessed as at risk of rough sleeping made for the duration of the pandemic (Covid-2 in the report) is ended where no accommodation duty is owed by the council as outlined in paragraphs 3.11 – 3.13. This to be reviewed if there is a further increase in the pandemic.

- 2.6 That That Housing Committee note the low number of verified rough sleepers (para 3.23) and that the Council will continue to seek to offer accommodation to all verified rough sleepers where this is permissible within the Council's powers to consolidate this achievement.
- 2.7 That Housing Committee agree Homeless Reduction Board oversee progress with the recovery of homelessness services, including face to face services, income recovery, move on and reconnections with a report on progress to the next Housing Committee.
- 2.8 That Housing Committee recommend referral to Full Council the use of the Homeless Bill of Rights, as outlined in paragraph 3.24, as a standard against which the Council and its partners judge our policies and practices. Appendix 2.

That Housing Committee recommend to Policy & Resources committee:

- 2.9 That the Executive Director of Housing, Neighbourhoods & Communities be granted delegated authority to secure accommodation up to the 31st October 2021, by entering into contracts to extend existing arrangements or alternative arrangements where necessary to extend the provision of shorter-term/interim accommodation acquired in response to the Covid 19 pandemic, including a building to deliver the No Second Night Out service up to the beginning of October 2021
- 2.10 Agree to continue to support people in the accommodation secured as para 2.9 which includes security, support and food where necessary estimated to cost £2.900m to 1st October 2021.
- 2.11 Note that if Contain Outbreak Management Fund (COMF) funding is not available, this could create a service pressure of £2.043m.

That full Council be recommended to:

- 2.12 Agree to the use of the Homeless Bill of Rights, as outlined in paragraph 3.24, as a standard against which the Council and its partners judge our policies and practices. Appendix 2.

Subject:	Review of the Council's Constitution
Date of Meeting:	25 March 2021 18 March 2021 - Policy and Resources
Report of:	Executive Lead Officer for Strategy, Governance & Law (Monitoring Officer)
Contact Officer: Name:	Abraham Ghebre-Ghiorghis
Email:	abraham.ghrebre-ghiorghis@brighton-hove.gov.uk
Ward(s) affected:	All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND POLICY CONTEXT:**

- 1.1 This report proposes changes to the Council's Constitution for approval by Policy & Resources Committee and (where relevant) Council. The proposals set out in the report have been considered by the cross-party Constitutional Working Group (CWG) and by Leaders Group.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:**That the Policy & Resources Committee:**

- 2.1 Recommends to Full Council the proposal to make changes to the Council's Procedure Rules in Part 3.2 of the Council's Constitution indicated in paragraphs 4.1 - 4.7 inclusive and Appendix 1.
- 2.2 Agrees the proposals to make changes to the Council's Member Working Groups and Advisory Bodies in Part 4 of the Council's Constitution as set out in paragraphs 4.8 to 4.11 inclusive and Appendices 2 & 3.
- 2.3 Recommends that full Council approve the appointment of a co-optee to represent the perspective of disabled people to Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee and a representative from Parent Carers' Council (PaCC) to be co-opted onto the Children, Young People & Skills Committee, as outlined in paragraph 4.12 of the report.
- 2.4 Recommends to full Council the payment of an allowance of £500 to those co-optees and standing invitees described in paragraph 4.13, subject to receipt of confirmation from the Independent Remuneration Panel that they support this approach.
- 2.5 Notes the proposal in paragraph 4.13 to invite co-optees and standing invitees to pre-meetings and for them to receive pre-meeting agenda papers so as to give them greater opportunity to input into the decision-making process.

- 2.6 Agrees the proposal to make changes to the Scheme of Delegations to Officers in Part 6 of the Council's Constitution (paragraphs 4.14 to 4.15 inclusive and Appendix 4).
- 2.7 Recommends to full Council the proposal to make changes to the rules on Petitions in Part 8.10 of the Council's Constitution (paragraphs 4.16 to 4.18 inclusive and Appendix 5).
- 2.8 Notes the new start time for full Council meetings indicated in para 4.19.

That Full Council:

- 2.9 Approves the proposed changes referred to in paras 2.1, 2.3, 2.4 and 2.7 above and as set out in Appendices 1 and 5.

That both Policy & Resources Committee and Full Council:

- 2.10 Authorise the Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer to take all steps necessary or incidental to the implementation of the changes agreed by the Policy & Resources Committee and by Full Council, and that the Monitoring Officer be authorised to amend all Parts of the Council's constitutional documents necessary to incorporate the changes, and to republish the Constitution.
- 2.11 That the proposed changes come into force immediately following their approval by Policy & Resources Committee or adoption by Full Council, as appropriate.

3. CONTEXT/ BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 The Council is required to keep its Constitution under review with a view to achieving efficiency, economy and effectiveness. The cross-party Constitutional Working Group (CWG) was set up to assist with this by considering proposals and advising the Council on proposed changes to the Constitution. The current members of the CWG are Councillors Clare (Chair), O'Quinn and Nemeth. The proposals set out in the report were discussed by the CWG and also by Leaders' Group.

4. PROPOSALS

Changes to the Council's Procedure Rules – Part 3.2

- 4.1 A series of proposals to the rules governing the conduct of the council's meetings are proposed as described below and the relevant updated sections of Part 3.2 of the Constitution are attached as Appendix 1.
- 4.2 Notices of motion

Currently the total number of Notices of Motion which may be submitted to each meeting of Full Council is six: two per Group. Joint Notices of Motion are not normally counted which has led to some uncertainty and inconsistency. It is proposed that the rules be clarified by providing that – as well as each Group

being able to submit two Notices of Motion – each Group is also entitled to co-submit a maximum of two additional Notices of Motion with another Group.

4.3 Voting on Recommendations

Currently there is inconsistency as to whether recommendations are required to be put to the meeting as one vote or whether they are voted on individually. It is proposed that the Rules be amended to include explicit reference to the discretion of the Chair to decide how recommendations are put, the Chair being best placed to judge which approach to adopt on a case by case basis.

4.4 Amendments to written reports

As currently worded, the rules on amendments appear to conflict, with Rule 14 appearing to allow verbal amendments contrary to the notice requirements in Rule 15. It is proposed that Rule 14.2 be amended to ensure clarity.

4.5 Amendments negating the motion

Rule 13.4 currently provides that an amendment 'shall not have the effect of simply negating the motion before the meeting'. It is suggested that the concept of a 'negating amendment' might usefully be clarified by providing the definition as set out in Appendix 1.

4.6 Points of Order

The high number of interjections presented as Points of Order at some Full Council meetings has been observed. It has been noted that many do not meet the definition provided in Rule 15.10, and that dealing with them takes up time in the meeting. To ensure the effective running of the council's business, it is therefore proposed that the Rules be amended to provide that a member who has had two Points of Order ruled as inadmissible will not be permitted to raise a third Point of Order at the same Full Council meeting.

4.7 Smoking

It is considered that the current prohibition on smoking in council meetings is no longer required due to the legal prohibition in place. As a result, it is proposed that it be deleted.

Changes to the Council's Member Working Groups and Advisory Bodies - Part 4

4.8 Following a review of the Council's Member Working Groups and Advisory Bodies, the following bodies are proposed to be deleted, for the reasons indicated:

Cross Party Members and Stakeholder Steering Group for the Disability and Special Educational Needs review	This member working group is no longer necessary now that the Special Education Needs Review has been completed.
Health & Social Care Integration X-Party Members Working Group	This member working group has not met for some months and is not considered to be needed.
Modernisation Member Over-Sight Group	This member working group has recently been paused as the work of the Council's modernisation programmes are reported to the relevant service Committees as necessary.
Adoption Panel	This body is no longer required due to a change in the law which established a joint body – Adoption South East –from April 2020 to carry out relevant functions.

4.9 The following changes are proposed to the Terms of Reference of existing Member Working Groups as set out fully in Appendix 2:

- (i) The Terms of Reference of the Homelessness Reduction Board be amended to future proof it, in case of future changes in administration.
- (ii) The remit of the 2030 Carbon Neutral Group be expanded to incorporate the allocation of funding required to deliver the plan (an action previously overseen by a task & finish group which has now been disbanded: the Sustainability & Carbon Reduction Investment Fund Member Oversight Group).

4.10 The following additional Member Working Groups are proposed to be established with the Terms of Reference which are set out in Appendix 3 alongside some additional explanatory text which it is proposed be inserted in the Introduction to Part 4 of the Constitution in order to provide additional clarity re the role of Member Working Groups and the principles on which they are established:

- (i) A City Downland Estate Advisory Panel to exist alongside the Asset Management Board (AMB), to provide a dedicated forum for considering relevant issues.
- (ii) Cross-Party Working Group for Planning Policy to provide Planning Committee with input on planning policy and guidance (NB this was proposed by [Planning Committee](#) but has yet to receive formal approval from Policy & Resources Committee).
- (iii) Youthwise: an advisory body which aims to demonstrate the council's commitment to listening to the voice of young people and involving them in decisions that may impact on them (NB this was proposed by [Children, Young](#)

[Persons & Skills Committee](#) but has yet to receive formal approval from Policy & Resources Committee).

- 4.11 In relation to the chairing of Member Working Groups, the current expectation is that the Chair of each MWG shall normally be appointed from the council's largest political group unless Policy & Resources Committee has made other express provision. It is proposed that the word 'normally' be deleted so as to make that provision unequivocal and thereby ensure clarity and consistency.

Co-optees and standing invitees

- 4.12 It is proposed that the Council's existing arrangements for encouraging input from relevant groups in the area be enhanced by appointing the following additional non-voting co-optees to those of the Council's Committees specified below. It should be noted that options for future representation on other Committees will be kept under review, while the project to explore all available means of supporting co-optees and standing invitees to participate effectively in the Council's decision-making remains ongoing:

- An additional co-optee to Environment, Transport and Sustainability Committee to represent the perspective of disabled people
- A representative from Parent Carers' Council (PaCC) to be co-opted onto Children, Young Persons and Skills Committee.

- 4.13 It is further proposed that all of those co-optees and standing invitees who are appointed and attend Council Committee meetings in a personal and voluntary capacity receive an allowance of £500 per annum to acknowledge the value they bring to the Council's decision-making. It is suggested that the principle of an allowance be approved subject to consideration by the Independent Remuneration Panel. It is not proposed that those individuals who attend in their capacity as a representative of a body or organisation receive this allowance. In order to support co-optees and standing invitees to be able to contribute effectively at Committees, it is also proposed to invite them to pre-meetings and share pre-meeting papers.

Changes to the Scheme of Delegations to Officers – Part 6

- 4.14 It is proposed that the delegations to the Executive Director – Economy, Environment & Culture be amended to make specific reference to the power to enforce the environmental offences included in the updated Environmental Enforcement Framework, which was approved by Environment, Transport & Sustainability in September 2020. The proposed amended wording is set out in Appendix 4.
- 4.15 It is further proposed that the Executive Director – Neighbourhoods, Communities and Housing is delegated sole responsibility for services to rough sleepers. This proposal is considered to provide greater clarity than the current arrangements where the function is delegated concurrently to two Executive Directors. The proposed amended wording is set out in Appendix 4.

Changes to the Council's Petitions Scheme – Part 8.2

- 4.16 It is proposed that the council's current Petitions Scheme be amended to embed in it the expectation that all supporters of a petition submitted via the Council website demonstrate that they live, work and/or study in the area of B&H by providing a relevant postcode.
- 4.17 The proposed amendments also embed into the Scheme an expectation that petitions received from petition portals outside of the Council will comply with the same expectations, with the aim of ensuring consistency.
- 4.18 The proposed amended wording is set out in full at Appendix 5 to this report.

Timing of the Council's meetings

- 4.19 Elected members of the Council were surveyed and those responding indicated that an earlier start time for meetings was on the whole preferred. This Committee is asked to note that a 4pm start for future Full Council meetings will replace the current normal start time of 4.30pm, subject to the decision of the Mayor to determine otherwise.

5. ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 5.1 The Committee or Council could, if it wished, decide not to implement the changes set out in this report.

6. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & CONSULTATION

- 6.1 The proposals in this Report have been reviewed in detail by elected Members in the Constitution Working Group and Leaders Group. The proposals do not represent changes to the decision-making structure or framework and due to the procedural nature of the changes that are proposed it is not considered that community engagement would be appropriate.

7. CONCLUSION

- 7.1 The proposals reflect the Council's ongoing efforts to review its Constitution to ensure that it is reflective of current practice and priorities and to achieve clarity and increased efficiency. As a result, it is recommended that the proposals in this Report be approved.

8. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 8.1 There are small cost implications arising from the proposed allowances for co-optees, which are subject to approval by the Independent Remuneration Panel. There is sufficient flexibility within the current Democratic Services budget, including Members' Allowances, to accommodate the additional allowances if approved.

Finance Officer Consulted: Nigel Manvell

Date: 09/03/21

Legal Implications:

- 8.2 Policy & Resources Committee and, where specified in this report, full Council have the authority to make the changes to the Council's Constitution which are set out in the report. The intention is for the proposals to be implemented with immediate effect following the decision of the relevant decision-making body, unless expressly stated to the contrary.

Lawyer Consulted: Victoria Simpson

Date: 22.2.21

Equalities Implications:

- 8.4 The Council has a public sector equality duty under s149 of the Equality Act 2010. In the exercise of its functions the Council must have due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation; advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and those that do not.
- 8.5 The Council's public sector equality duty has been considered by officers and the proposals of this report have been assessed for their equalities impact. There are anticipated benefits to disabled people in respect of the proposal to introduce an additional co-optee to ETS and CYPS Committee and to younger people in relation to the establishment of Youthwise. In relation to the timing of full Council meetings, the proposal to bring forward the meeting by half an hour had the support of the majority of members and has been limited to a 30 minute change, with the aim of mitigating any concern of any adverse impact on those with caring or other responsibilities.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

- Appendix 1 – Part 3.2 (tracked changes version)
- Appendix 2 – Part 4 – extracts (tracked changes version)
- Appendix 3 – Part 4 – extracts (tracked changes version)
- Appendix 4 – Part 6 (tracked changes version)
- Appendix 5 – Part 8.10 (tracked changes version)

Background Documents

None

Appendix 1: Extracts from the Council Procedure Rules – Part 3.2

Rule 8: Notices of Motion

Procedural Requirements

- 8.1 Notice of every motion, other than a motion which under Procedure Rule 13 may be moved without notice, shall be given in writing. It shall be signed by not fewer than two Members of the Council and delivered to the Chief Executive (see Procedure Rule **Error! Reference source not found.**) by not later than 10.00 am on the ninth working day before the relevant Council meeting.

Number of Notices of Motion

- 8.2 The maximum number of notices of motion to be presented at a Council meeting shall be as follows:

the three largest Political Groups:

- 2 each plus also 2 additional notices of motion per Group jointly with another Group.
- any other Group: 1

- 8.3 Any Member not belonging to a Political Group may present not more than 1 notice of motion, at the discretion of the Mayor.

- 8.4 Where Members of a Political Group submit more than the permitted maximum number of notices of motion, the Group shall decide which of these it wishes to table. In the absence of such a decision, notices of motion from members of a Political Group shall be taken in the order in which they are received, up to the permitted maximum number.

Substantive and Declaratory Motions

- 8.5 A notice of motion shall be placed on the agenda for the Council meeting unless the Members submitting the motion ask that it be first considered by a Committee or Sub-Committee. However, if the motion includes a proposal for the Council to take any substantive action or incur any expenditure (substantive motion) it shall only be considered to the extent that either the matter is noted by the Council or is referred to the relevant Committee or Sub-Committee for consideration.
- 8.6 The Policy & Resources Committee or the Monitoring Officer may issue guidance on the application of Procedure Rule 8.5 above.

Members' Right to Speak

- 8.7 When a notice of motion is taken at a meeting of a Committee or a Sub-Committee, a Member who has signed the motion shall have the right to attend and address the meeting.

Reporting of Outcome of Notice of Motion

- 8.8 A notice of motion referred to a Sub-Committee will be reported to the next meeting of the parent Committee and to the next meeting of the Council under Procedure Rule 24. A notice of motion referred to a Committee will be reported to the next meeting of the Council for information.

Moving a Motion

- 8.9 A motion of which notice has been given must be moved at Council either by a Member who gave the notice or by some other authorised Member (authorised by the Mayor). If no such Member moves the motion it shall be postponed by consent of the Council, or treated as withdrawn.

Relevance

- 8.10 Every motion shall be relevant to some matter in relation to which the Council has powers or duties or which affects the Authority, the area of Brighton & Hove and/or its inhabitants.

Consultation

- 8.11 Where the Council is in the process of consulting with the public on a proposal, no notice of motion expressing support or objecting to the proposals shall be accepted.

[..]

Rule 13: : Motions and Amendments

Motions where Notice is Not Required

- 13.1 The following motions may be moved without notice at any meeting:
- (a) to elect in the event of a vacancy a Mayor, or Deputy Mayor, or Chair, or Deputy Chair or to appoint a person to preside at the meeting at which the motion is made;
 - (b) motions relating to the accuracy of the minutes;
 - (c) motions relating to a change in the order of business;
 - (d) motions extending the time limit for speeches;
 - (e) “that the Council (or Committee or Sub-Committee) proceed to the next business”;
 - (f) “that the question be now put”;
 - (g) “that the debate be now adjourned”;
 - (h) “that the Council (or Committee or Sub-Committee) do now adjourn”;

- (i) motions as to the termination of meetings;
- (j) motions relating to the suspension of these Procedure Rules without notice;
- (k) motions to exclude the public from a meeting where there is likely to be otherwise disclosure of exempt or confidential information, in accordance with the Access to Information Procedure Rules set out in Part 7.1 of the Constitution;
- (l) motions giving consent of the Council, Committee or Sub-Committee where it is required under these Procedure Rules;
- (m) motions to appoint a Committee or Member arising from an item on the summons for the meeting;
- (n) motions to refer a petition which has been presented to the Council or any other matter to a Committee or Sub-Committee or other appropriate body or individual for consideration;
- (o) motions relating to deputations under Procedure Rule **Error! Reference source not found.**

Moving Recommendations

- 13.2 On consideration of a report or a recommendation from a Committee, Sub-Committee or officer, the adoption of the report or recommendation and any resolutions consequential upon that adoption may be moved without notice. **Where more than one recommendation is being proposed, then it will be at the discretion of the Mayor or Chair to decide whether they are voted on individually or one at a time.**

Amendment to Motions

- 13.3 Subject to the requirements of Procedure Rule 15.4 as to notice, an amendment to a motion may be moved, but shall be relevant to the motion. No amendment shall be moved to an amendment.
- 13.4 An amendment shall be either to refer the matter to a Committee, Sub-Committee or an officer for consideration, to leave out some or all words, or to insert or to add other words, but such omission, insertion or addition of words shall not have the effect of simply negating the motion before the meeting. **A negating amendment is one which – while on the same subject as the original motion - would if passed generate the same outcome as a simple vote against the proposal. A negating amendment is one which would nullify the proposal in its entirety, thereby resulting in no change to the status quo.**

Alteration/Withdrawal of Motions/ Amendments

- 13.5 With the consent of the meeting, signified without discussion, a Member may:
- (a) alter a motion of which they have given notice;

- (b) with the further consent of the seconder, alter a motion which has been moved and seconded; if the alteration is one which could be made as an amendment.

13.6 With the consent of the seconder and the meeting, signified without discussion, the mover of a motion or an amendment may withdraw it. No Member shall speak to such a motion or amendment after the mover has asked consent for its withdrawal, unless such consent has been refused.

The 6 Month Rule

13.7 At a meeting of the Council, no motion or amendment shall be moved to rescind any resolution of the Council which was passed within the preceding six months or which is to the same effect as one which has been rejected within that period. Such a motion may be moved if it is recommended by a Committee or Sub-Committee or notice of such motion has been given by as many Members as will constitute a quorum of the Council (fourteen) on the summons to the meeting.

Consent

13.8 Where the consent of the Council, Committee or Sub-Committee is required for anything, that consent may be given either by the Mayor or Chair asking the meeting whether there are any objections to the consent being given, and if no objection is raised, giving that consent, or if objection is raised or if the Mayor or Chair so chooses, by a motion moved, seconded and put to the meeting.

Rule 14: Written Reports

14.1 No report upon which decisions are proposed to be made shall be taken at any meeting of the Council, a Committee or Sub-Committee, unless it is in writing.

~~14.2 Verbal amendments and additions to written reports may normally be made unless the effect of them is to nullify the recommendations in the report and replace them with others. Where exceptionally amendments and additions are not allowed for special reasons, then those must be recorded in the minutes.~~
Verbal amendments and additions to written reports may only be made by Members in accordance with Rule 15.4 (notice of amendments) and Rule 13.4 (amendments not to have effect of negating the motion)

14.3 With the agreement of the Mayor or Chair, then unless any Member objects, officers may revise or modify recommendations to reports where it is considered necessary to do so to ensure technical accuracy or to facilitate an agreed outcome.

14.4 Where petitions under Procedure Rule 10, Members' letters under Procedure Rule **Error! Reference source not found.**, motions under Procedure Rule 8

or deputations under Procedure Rule 11, are referred to a Committee unaccompanied by a written report, the Committee may discuss the petition, letter, motion or deputation, as the case may be, in general terms and note the same, or ask for an officer report on the matter. No decision which requires the Council to take substantive action or incur expenditure may be taken in response to a request in a petition, notice of motion or otherwise in the absence of an officer report.

Rule 15: Rules of Debate (All Meetings)

General

- 15.1 The rules of debate in this Procedure Rule shall apply to all meetings of the Council, Committees and Sub-Committees. In the case of Committees and Sub-Committees, however, the Council recognises that a greater informality may be exercised by the Chair in order to efficiently transact the business before the meeting. Such informality shall be at the discretion of the Chair.

Seconding Motions and Amendments

- 15.2 A motion or amendment shall not be discussed unless it has been proposed and seconded.

Reserving Speech

- 15.3 When seconding a motion or amendment, a Member may reserve their speech until a later period of the debate by declaring their intention to do so.

Notice of Amendments

- 15.4 Copies of amendments will be prepared and circulated prior to the start of a Council meeting only if such amendments are presented to the Chief Executive by 10.00am on the day of the Council meeting (or, in the case of any meeting scheduled for 12 noon or earlier on any day, by 4.00pm on the preceding working day). Amendments for which notice has not been given may be permitted at any time at the discretion of the Mayor or Chair if they consider it appropriate with regard to the complexity of the matter, the question of whether notice has been given as soon as is reasonably practicable and any other circumstances that appear to be relevant. Such amendments shall be put in writing unless the Mayor or Chair exercises their discretion to allow an amendment to be put orally.

Taking of More Than One Amendment at a Time

- 15.5 More than one amendment may be moved and discussed at any one time. and will be dealt with at the discretion of the Mayor or Chair.

- 15.6 If an amendment is not carried, other amendments may be moved to the original motion. If an amendment is carried, the motion as amended shall take the place of the original motion and shall become the motion to which any further amendment may be moved.

Speeches

- 15.7 If two or more Members offer to speak, the Mayor or Chair shall call on one to speak.
- 15.8 When speaking, a Member shall address the Mayor or Chair.
- 15.9 A Member shall direct their speech to the question under discussion, or to a personal explanation or to a point of order under the provisions of Procedure Rule 15.10.

Points of Order

- 15.10 A Member claiming to speak on a point of order or in personal explanation shall be entitled to be heard forthwith. The point of order shall relate only to an alleged breach of a specified statutory provision or a specified Procedure Rule, and the way in which the Member raising it considers that it has been broken. Personal explanation shall be confined to some material part of the speech by the Member which may appear from the current debate to have been misunderstood. **A Member who has already had two points of order ruled as inadmissible by the Chair shall not normally be permitted to raise a third point of order at the same meeting.**
- 15.11 The ruling of the person presiding on a point of order or on the admissibility of a personal explanation shall not be open to discussion except on a motion of which due notice has been given.

Procedural Motions

- 15.12 When a motion is under debate, no other motion shall be moved except the following:
- (a) to withdraw or amend the motion;
 - (b) a closure motion under the next paragraph;
 - (c) a motion dealing with the prevention of disorder;
 - (d) a motion to exclude the press and public.

Closure Motions

- 15.13 The following closure motions shall be permitted during discussion of another motion. They shall be moved, seconded and put without discussion. If the motion is moved and seconded, then the person presiding shall proceed as follows:
- (a) **“that the meeting proceed to the next business”**. The person presiding shall permit the mover of the original motion to reply, and then put to the vote the motion to proceed to the next business; if that motion is carried the original motion shall lapse;
 - (b) **“that the question be now put”**. If the person presiding is of the opinion that the matter before the meeting has been insufficiently discussed they may refuse to accept the motion; if they accept the motion, they shall put to the vote forthwith the motion that the question be now put; if this is carried, they shall permit the mover of the original

motion (at meetings of the Council) any right of reply to which they are entitled and then put that motion to the vote;

- (c) **“that the debate be now adjourned”** or **“that the meeting do now adjourn”**. If the person presiding is of the opinion that the matter before the meeting has been sufficiently discussed, they may refuse to accept either of these motions, and instead put the motion that the question be now put; if they are of the opinion that the matter has not been sufficiently discussed and cannot reasonably be sufficiently discussed on that occasion, they shall put the adjournment motion to the vote without giving the mover of the original motion a right of reply on that occasion; the original motion or remaining business shall then stand over as uncompleted business until the next meeting of the Council, Committee or Sub-Committee, as the case may be.

[..]

Rule 30: Smoking at Meetings

~~30.1 Any person at or attending a meeting of the Council or of a Committee or a Sub-Committee shall observe the Council's rule that no smoking be permitted in such meetings.~~

Appendix 2 – proposed amendments to the Terms of Reference of existing member working groups in Part 4

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE HOMELESSNESS REDUCTION BOARD

1. Name

1.1 Homelessness Reduction Board (HRB).

2. Purpose

2.1 The purpose of the HRB is to promote homelessness reduction and prevention through the development of improved and integrated homelessness services as set out in the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy.

2.2 Brighton & Hove City Council's Housing Committee has the overall responsibility for the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy. The role of the HRB is to ensure that structures are in place to deliver on strategic priorities contained in the strategy.

2.3 The HRB will also monitor relevant actions agreed in the Council's Corporate Plan and the Housing Committee Work Plan.

2.4 Each strategic priority will be included in an action plan. This will consist of the work of the council and its commissioned services. Housing and Health & Adult Social Care will work in partnership with Health, Children's Services, the Probation Service, Sussex Police, and our voluntary and third sector partners to develop collective commitments to tackle homelessness and rough sleeping. Once these commitments are made, they will be included in the action plan and monitored.

3. Status

3.1 The HRB shall be an advisory board to Housing Committee and the Health & Wellbeing Board. The HRB will not have subcommittee status and the political balance rules in section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 will not apply.

3.2 However, it is expected that the Board will be established on a cross party basis.

4. Areas of focus

1. To promote integration and joint working in Homelessness & Rough Sleeping services across the City in order to improve the homelessness outcomes of the people of Brighton and Hove;

2. To develop the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA), relating to homelessness & rough sleeping, for the City;

3. To cooperate in the development of other strategies for the City. To ensure that homelessness is accurately reflected in these strategies and integrated across the City;

4. To receive the Clinical Commissioning Group's draft annual commissioning plan and to respond with its opinion as to whether the draft commissioning plan takes account of the Homelessness Reduction Strategy.
5. To establish and maintain a dialogue with the Council's Local Strategic Partnership Board, including consulting on its proposed strategies and reporting on outcomes in line with the City's Performance and Risk Management Framework;
6. In line with government guidance to promote transparency and accountability the HRB will involve stakeholders
7. To review annual progress against city priorities and the approved annual action plan
8. To consider reports, where appropriate, from relevant programme boards and related multi-sector committees with a remit for public health in order to inform the Homelessness Reduction Strategy including: Alcohol Programme Board, the Substance Misuse Programme Board and the Sexual Health Programme Board.
9. Leadership and Agenda Setting and Accountability • Promote creative and innovative approach to homelessness reduction. • Promote the agenda on integration - both in terms of sharing commissioning resource but also in terms of delivering a joined up service for homeless people. • Provide collective leadership to a whole range of City-wide collaborative working and whole system issues - including emergency planning, resilience and preparedness, urgent care etc.

5. Reporting

5.1 The HRB will report to Housing Committee & Health & Wellbeing Board (as appropriate) with recommendations as necessary.

6. Membership

6.1 Membership of the Board shall consist of three voting elected Members, appointed on a cross party basis.

6.2 It will also have a panel of non-voting members formed of the Chair of Health and Wellbeing Board and representatives of other public bodies and organisations working to alleviate and address issues associated with homelessness and rough sleeping.

At each meeting, the quorum requirement is at least two voting members. The Board will be chaired by the Chair of the Housing Committee. Member appointments may be made, in accordance the wishes of the political groups, at the meeting of Policy & Resources Committee when the terms of reference are agreed or notified to the Chief Executive by the Group following the meeting.

7. Meetings and ways of working

7.1 The timing and number of meetings will be dictated by the volume of business for the HRB. The group will meet at least quarterly.

7.2 Board papers will be circulated at least 5 working days in advance of the board meetings.

7.3 Board papers will be published on the council's website after the meeting, except where the Board determine that the information contained therein would be exempt from disclosure.

7.4 It is expected that the Member Working Groups will reach decisions by consensus where possible. Where there is no agreement, the voting Members will cast a vote and if there is an equality of votes Chair shall have the right to exercise a casting vote.

7.5 The Group will agree ways of working appropriate to the role and remit of the Group.

8. Review

8.1 These terms of reference may be reviewed and amended by Policy & Resources Committee.

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR 2030 CARBON NEUTRAL PROGRAMME CROSS PARTY MEMBER WORKING GROUP

1. Name 2030 Carbon Neutral Programme Cross-Party Member Working Group (MWG).

2. Purpose A 2030 Carbon Neutral Programme has been established to help achieve a key policy objective of Brighton & Hove City Council in becoming carbon neutral by 2030. The Cross-Party MWG will oversee the programme development and implementation, including the development of an engagement programme and City Assembly.

2. Status The 2030 Carbon Neutral Programme MWG shall be an advisory board to the Policy & Resources Committee. The Board will not have subcommittee status and the political balance rules in section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 will not apply. However, it is expected that the Board will be established on a cross-party basis.

3. Areas of focus

The focus of the Cross-Party MWG is to have oversight of the development and delivery of the 2030 Carbon Neutral Programme to help ensure the core programme objectives are met. These objectives are set out in the PID and are to:

- Agree a methodology for recording emissions that allows the Council and the City to readily compare our progress with other UK and international cities working to achieve similar targets (e.g. the SCATTER model developed by Manchester University).
- Develop and deliver an engagement plan / City Assembly process to harness the knowledge and enthusiasm of partners and local residents.
- Develop a high-level plan to meet the 2030 target – delivered through a coordinated programme of projects.
- Develop a communications plan to support activities and engagement.
- Continue to collate information on our current carbon reduction initiatives and assess the contribution these will make to the 2030 target.

The MWG also oversees the allocation of funding from the Sustainability & Carbon Reduction Investment Fund, and all tasks incidental to that.

4. Reporting

The Board will report to Policy & Resources Committee, with recommendations as necessary.

6. Membership

Membership of the Board shall consist of 5 elected Members, following nominations by their Group Leaders to reflect the political composition of the Council.

7. Meetings and Ways of Working

The timing and number of meetings will be dictated by the volume of business for the MWG. The Group will agree ways of working appropriate to the role and remit of the Group.

8. Review

These terms of reference may be reviewed and amended by the Policy & Resources Committee from time to time.

Appendix 3 – new member working groups and advisory bodies – Part 4

(i)&(ii): new member working groups:

CITY DOWNLAND ESTATE ADVISORY PANEL- TERMS OF REFERENCE

Introduction

Brighton and Hove City Council holds, in public ownership, 12,500 acres of Downland Estate surrounding and within the City of Brighton and Hove. The City Downland Estate covers the council's tenanted farmland and grazing land managed by the Estates Team and "conservation land" managed by Cityparks. The city is one of the largest landowners in the South Downs and its estate is the largest publicly owned estate in the Park.

Some years ago, the council adopted a City Downland Estate policy whose overarching aim and vision is to: *reconnect the people of Brighton & Hove to a more biodiverse Downland with better education, improved access and a better sense of connection to the land*

ETS Committee in July 2013 adopted the policy statement to:

'Sustain natural resources provided by the council's downland estate by working in partnership with relevant stakeholders and potential beneficiaries and pursuing an economically sustainable approach for the council and its tenant farmers.'

The City Downland Estate is mainly within the South Downs National Park which itself has two statutory purposes and a Special Duty:

- *To conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the area;*
- *To promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the National Park by the public.*
- *Duty: To seek to foster the social and economic wellbeing of the local communities within the National Park in pursuit of our purposes.*

Brighton & Hove is part of the Living Coast UNESCO World Biosphere Region which extends from the Adur to the Ouse and covers the City Downland Estate. The core of the biosphere is BHCC land. The Biosphere has three key objectives:

- *To conserve and enhance nature*
- *To support sustainable human development*
- *To promote environmental awareness, knowledge, learning and engagement*

and six themes:

- *Urban Greening*
- *Strengthening our Natural Capital*
- *Thriving Communities – health, wellbeing & economy*
- *Climate Change & Carbon*
- *Awareness, Understanding & Engagement*
- *The Living Coast as a site for Research & Knowledge Sharing.*

There are other legislative drivers such as the Water Framework Directive which will shape future policy development for the City Downland Estate.

Two years ago, Brighton & Hove City Council passed a notice of motion committing it to net zero carbon emissions by 2030. Since then, the Corporate Plan passed under the Labour administration reiterates the commitment to net zero carbon emissions by 2030 and promises to promote and protect biodiversity. It undertakes to develop a new City Downland Estate plan to promote biodiversity, mitigate climate change and deliver health and social benefits for communities.

Asset Management Board

Within the council, the purpose of the Asset Management Board ('the Board') is to advise the Policy & Resources Committee and other relevant Policy Committees on policy, governance and strategies relating to the management of the Council's urban and rural estates, and how this relates to the Corporate Strategic Plan.

It currently has oversight of the city council's operational and non-operational portfolios. It reviews and monitors the management of the city council's urban and agricultural asset management policies. Among other things, it advises P&R Committee on maximising the use of the council's commercial assets in the context of the council's budget and the development of an asset investment strategy for the council's urban portfolio to reduce its latent risk and consolidate its performance. It continues to promote regeneration in the City, with a focus on low-cost housing, community wealth building and moving to a low-carbon economy. It advises on the implications of Brexit in relation to the council's urban and rural estates; agree an approach to define and measure social value in relation to the council's rural and urban estates and reviews the circumstances under which agricultural land can be identified for release or acquisition, alongside a wider review of the agricultural strategy in the council's Asset Management Plan (AMP) and considers the definitions of agricultural core and non-core property. It is currently (December 2020) advising on the development of a Whole Estate Plan for the City Downland Estate in partnership with South Downs National Park.

Property & Design are currently conducting a consultation on a Whole Estate Plan facilitated by community consultation experts Planning for Real around how we best protect the city's water, enhance biodiversity, improve access to the downland, regenerate the soil, encourage sustainable agriculture and mitigate and adapt to the

climate emergency, all within the context of the council's commitment achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2030.

The council is committed to making the consultation as inclusive and thorough as it can be, given the current Covid-related restrictions. To this end, it has sent postcards to around 140,000 households with Brighton & Hove addresses; is conducting a number of online Planning for Real Zoom sessions and is inviting input via the website and the Bang the Table platform.

Purpose of the Downland Advisory Panel

The council recognises that, in addition to engaging local residents, it particularly needs input from key stakeholders such as the SDNPA, the Downland Alliance, the Sussex Wildlife Trust, the Permaculture Trust, the Brighton & Hove Food Partnership, Southern Water, the Local Access Forum, the Brighton & Hove Estate Conservation Trust, BMECP/the Trust for Developing Communities and tenant farmers.

Following the initial round of Planning for Real consultations, it is proposed that these organisations be approached for specific input into the discussion and to gauge their interest in serving on the Advisory Panel.

Once the WEP is completed, the purpose of the Downland Advisory Panel will be to provide advice on its implementation within the SDNPA purposes and duty, the Biosphere objectives and the incorporation of BHCC Corporate Plan objectives around carbon neutral 2030 and community wealth-building. This means advice on policy development, plans and delivery. The Advisory Panel will report annually to the P&R Committee on implementation of the Whole Estate Plan and to the Asset Management Board on an ad hoc basis but at least twice a year.

The advice will be used to inform decisions made by the council to further its policy aims.

Day to day management of the estate will be undertaken by the council within policies agreed by the Council.

Membership

Membership of the Panel needs to reflect the main and varied interests in the Downland Estate, specifically, the interests of future generations and the city's BME communities, as well as bringing in different expertise from different organisations able to advise on aspects of Downland policy which will allow the purpose of the Panel to be met. Membership will be by invitation from the Council and the Panel and will be kept under review as the Advisory Panel develops.

- Farming representatives x 2
- Council officer representatives and Land Managing Agents
- 5 members, to reflect the constitution political party representations on the council
- SDNPA x 1
- Downland Alliance representative x1
- Sussex Wildlife Trust x 1 who should also represent the SWT's youth rangers
- BMECP/the Trust for Developing Communities x 1

- Permaculture Trust x 1
- Brighton & Hove Food Partnership x 1
- Moulsecoomb Forest Garden and Wildlife Project x 1
- Aquifer Partnership x 1
- Local Access Forum x 1
- Brighton & Hove Estate Conservation Trust x 1
- Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust x 1
- The Living Coast x 1

Expert advice will need to be drawn on as required and decided by the Advisory Panel from, for example, investment and business experts, tourism professionals, the National Trust and ecologists.

Governance

The Advisory Panel will be chaired by the member from the party that currently holds the administration. The secretariat will be provided by Brighton and Hove City Council. While the Council's political make-up is represented on the Panel, members also have the opportunity to influence Downland policy through the Asset Management Board. The focus of the panel is on hearing from key stakeholders.

The schedule of meetings will need to be agreed by the Advisory Panel with regard to the level of advice requested. Each year the Council should set out its work programme with the Advisory Panel. This will provide an indication of the type and level of advice that is likely to be needed and a schedule of meetings can be established as required which also allows for flexibility.

Review

The work of the Advisory Panel is subject to review by the Asset Management Board. However, the Panel will report directly to the Policy & Resources Committee and shall do so at least once a year.

CROSS-PARTY WORKING GROUP FOR PLANNING POLICY – TERMS OF REFERENCE

Purpose

The purpose of the Cross-Party Working Group for Planning Policy (“the CPWGP”) is to help the City Council develop and implement its Development Plans and Planning Policy Guidance as part of its activities, including partnership work with other agencies and bodies.

Status

The CPWGP shall be an advisory board to the Tourism, Equalities, Communities & Culture Committee. The CPWGP will not have subcommittee status and the political balance rules in section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 will not apply. However, it is expected that the CPWGP will be established on a cross party basis.

Areas of focus

The CPWGP will oversee the progress of the development and reviews of the Council’s Development Plans and other Planning Policy Guidance, and review their content having regard to evidence, national planning policy and guidance, best practice and corporate priorities.

Reporting

The CPWGP will report to the Tourism, Equalities, Communities & Culture Committee, making recommendations as necessary.

Membership

Membership of the CPWG will consist of 3 elected Members, following nominations by the Group Leaders to reflect the political composition of the Council.

Meetings and ways of working

The timing and number of meetings will be dictated by the volume of business for the CPWGP. The Group will agree ways of working appropriate to the role and remit of the Group.

Review

These terms of reference may be reviewed and amended (subject to formal Policy & Resources Committee) by the Tourism, Equalities, Communities & Culture Committee from time to time.

(iii) Advisory bodies:

YOUTHWISE – TERMS OF REFERENCE

Purpose

Views and recommendations from this group will be taken into account and will be represented at the Children, Young People and Skills Committee by the Councillors and Youth Council representative.

Membership

- Councillors – usually one Member from each of the three political groups in the council who attend the Children, Young People and Skills Committee
- Young people from different areas, groups and youth services in the city including representatives from the Youth Council, Children in Care Council, commissioned youth projects and other youth organisations.
- Executive Director or Assistant Director for Families Children & Learning.
- Youth workers to support young people if deemed necessary
- Council Officer to oversee organisation and administration

Frequency – Every 3 months, with task and finish groups as agreed and additional meetings set up when deemed necessary. Young people to meet before the more formal meeting with councillors and senior officers.

Venue – The young people were keen to hold the meeting in various venues because it would be good to get to know other youth venues. Agreed to rotate venues across the city and include more formal meeting places to give young people that experience.

Agenda The young people would like the agenda going out well in advance (month before the meeting) so they have time to garner the views from the young people in their group so their voices can also be brought to the meeting. Agenda items can be proposed by young people, councillors or senior council officers.

Chairing The Chair of Children, Young People and Skills Committee Lead to chair the meeting with, if there is a volunteer, a young person.

Organisation/Administration Council Officer to organise the meeting, consult and agree an agenda, circulate papers a month in advance and type up notes from meeting and circulate. Communication We need to reach out to other young people; past members have been involved, mainly due to knowing and having a good relationship with a youth worker. It was agreed that we need a robust communication plan with the meeting dates, agenda items and how they can feed into the group published widely via various routes such as Facebook. It was agreed that further discussion is required on this.

Additional proposed text for the Introduction to Part 4, to clarify the role of Member Working Groups:

D. Member Working Groups – ad hoc and permanent

Member Working Groups may be set up to support the Council's decision-making in a particular area. They may be tasked with making recommendations and/ or comments to their parent Committee as a way of reducing Committee workloads.

Member Working Groups do not have decision-making powers. They are established on a cross party basis and substitutions are permitted. The Chair of each permanent Member Working group will be appointed from the council's largest political group unless Policy & Resources Committee has made alternative express provision. While all Member Working Groups are expected to achieve consensus where possible, the Chair shall have the right to exercise a casting vote.

The principles for setting up a Member Working Group are as follows:

1. Member Working Groups may either be 'task and finish' member groups (time-limited for six months with the option of being extended once, for a further six months) or permanent groups (likely to be required for at least a year).
2. Permanent groups may only be established by the Council's Policy & Resources Committee or by full Council, normally at the recommendation of the parent Committee. Their Terms of Reference are published in the Council's Constitution. They are reviewed annually and will only be retained where clear evidence of their effectiveness has been identified.
3. Ad hoc groups may be set up by any of the Council's Committees. The parent Committee must agree their Terms of Reference and will receive reports back on a regular basis (at least annually). Where there is a need to continue an ad hoc group for twelve months or more, then it must be established as a permanent Member Working Group. These Groups were previously sometimes referred to as 'Policy Panels', a term no longer in use.
4. All Member Working Groups will use a standard Terms of Reference template to ensure consistency and good governance and will normally include in their membership the Chair or Deputy Chair of the parent Committee.

Appendix 4 –the Scheme of Delegation to Officers – Part 6

Extract from the delegations to the Executive Director – Neighbourhoods, Communities and Housing

3. Housing Related Support Services

Subject to any instructions of the Chief Executive given from time to time, to exercise the Council's functions in relation to housing related support services for adults generally.

~~Note: this power is delegated concurrently to the Executive Director of Health and Adult Social Care.~~

∴

Extract from the delegations to the Executive Director – Adult Social Care

[..]

(3) Section 75 Arrangements

To exercise the Council's functions under or in connection with the adult social care and health partnership arrangements with health bodies made pursuant to Section 75 of the National Health Service Act 2006, to the extent that the arrangements permit an officer to exercise the functions.

~~(4) Housing Related Support~~

~~Subject to any instructions of the Chief Executive given from time to time,~~

~~(i) to be the lead director responsible for the co-ordinated commissioning and management of associated funds in relation to housing related support services;~~

~~(ii) to exercise the council's function in relation to housing related support services for adults generally.~~

~~[Note: the power referred to in paragraph (5)(ii) above is delegated concurrently to the Executive Director of Housing, Neighbourhoods and Communities.]~~

[..]

Extract from the delegations to the Executive Director – Economy, Environment & Culture

[..]

23. Environmental Awareness and Enforcement

To exercise all the functions of the Council regarding the promotion of environmental awareness, and to take all steps necessary to enforce the environmental powers available to the Council, including (but not limited to) all steps necessary or incidental to the enforcement of the offences described in the Council's Environmental Enforcement Framework or other relevant policy, concordant or strategic document in place at the relevant time.

Appendix 5: amends to the Council’s Petition Scheme– Part 8.1

How to petition the Council – Petitions Scheme Petitions

The Council welcomes petitions and recognises that petitions are one way in which people can let us know their concerns. You can send us a paper petition and/or set up an e-petition online.

How to submit a petition

Petitions submitted to the Council must include –

- a clear and concise statement covering the subject of the petition;
- what action the petitioners wish the Council to take;
- the name, ~~address~~ and contact details of the petition organiser so that we can contact them to explain how we will respond to the petition;
- the name, ~~address~~ and signature of any person supporting the petition, **as well as the full postcode of the place in which they live, work, or study.**

~~Petitions can be signed by any person of any age who lives, works or studies in Brighton & Hove or who uses services provided by Brighton & Hove City Council.~~

We expect all petitioners and signatories – who may be of any age – to live, work or study in the area of Brighton & Hove. For this reason, we ask all petitioners and signatories to provide the full postcode of either their home address or the address of the organisation they work or study at when submitting a petition or signing it via the Council’s website. The expectation that supporters of a petition live, work and/or study in Brighton & Hove also extends to petitions presented via websites external to the Council.

Petitions must relate to what the Council does or relate to an improvement in the economic, social or environmental well-being of the area covered by Brighton & Hove City Council to which any of our partner authorities¹ could contribute.

[..]



Although a formal committee of Brighton & Hove City Council, the Health & Wellbeing Board has a remit which includes matters relating to the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), the Local Safeguarding Board for Children and Adults and Healthwatch.

Title: Health & Wellbeing
Board Review: Proposals
for Agreement

Date of Meeting: 23 March 2021

Report of: Executive
Director, Health & Adult
Social Care

Contact: Giles
Rossington/Michelle
Jenkins

Tel: 01273 295514

Email:
giles.rossington@brighton-hove.gov.uk /
michelle.jenkins@brighton-hove.gov.uk

Wards Affected: All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

Executive Summary

This report presents proposals to improve the effectiveness of the Health & Wellbeing Board (HWB). These proposals have been developed by BHCC officers in partnership with HWB member organisations and stakeholders across the city. The review process has been supported by the Local Government Association (LGA). The review proposals have also been influenced by an online public consultation which ran in November/December 2020.

If approved by the Board, the proposed changes to the HWB membership and



Terms of Reference will require amendment of the Council's Constitution, so will need to be considered by Full Council.

Insofar as the proposed changes impact on partner organisations, they may also need to go through those organisations' governance processes.

1. Decisions, recommendations and any options

That the Board agrees to recommend to full Council:

- 1.1 The revised Terms of Reference for the Health & Wellbeing Board (**Appendix 1**)
- 1.2 The creation of an Adult Social Care and Public Health Sub-Committee of the Health & Wellbeing Board (**Appendix 2**);

That the Board agrees

- 1.3 To establish an officer task & finish group (to include NHS and CVS representatives) to report back to the Board with proposals to address the matters that were identified in the public consultation as set out at paragraph 2.18 of the report, in particular to improve public engagement with the Board.

That Full Council:

- 1.4 Agrees the revised Terms of Reference for the Health & Wellbeing Board (**Appendix 1**)
- 1.5 Agrees the creation of an Adult Social Care and Public Health Sub-Committee of the Health & Wellbeing Board (**Appendix 2**)
- 1.6 Authorises the Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer to take all steps necessary or incidental to the implementation of the changes agreed, and that the Monitoring Officer be authorised to amend and re-publish the Council's constitutional documents to incorporate the changes.
- 1.7 That the proposed changes come into force immediately following their approval by Full Council.

2. Relevant information

Background



- 2.1 The Health & Social Care Act (2012) required all local authorities with social care responsibilities to establish Health & Wellbeing Boards (HWB). The 2012 Act (and subsequent Regulations) set out a legal framework for HWBs, including a minimum membership and statutory duties. However, local authorities were given considerable freedom to develop locally appropriate HWB models with additional membership and duties. In consequence, a number of different HWB models evolved. Over time it has become apparent that some HWB models have been more effective than others; since 2019 the Brighton & Hove HWB has been working with the Local Government Association (LGA) to better understand good practice with regard to HWBs. It is clear from this work that aspects of the Brighton & Hove HWB model need to be changed.
- 2.2 The context in which HWBs operate has also changed over time, particularly in terms of the NHS moving from an internal market model with a clear commissioner/provider split to the current model of increasingly strong partnership working between NHS commissioners, NHS providers, local authorities and the Community & Voluntary sector (CVS). This significant shift in focus provides another reason to review the Brighton & Hove HWB.
- 2.3 In 2019, the Local Government Association (LGA) agreed to facilitate a review of the Brighton & Hove HWB. Initial work on this, involving all HWB partners and a wide range of stakeholders, took place in autumn 2019. Building on this work, and on subsequent dialogue with elected members and with the CCG, review proposals were developed by council officers and presented to the HWB at its September 2020 meeting. The HWB agreed to put these proposals out to online public consultation, which took place over November/December 2020. More details on the consultation are provided below.

Role and Responsibilities of the HWB

- 2.4 The role of the HWB is currently defined in the BHCC Constitution:

The purpose of the Board is to provide system leadership to the health and local authority functions relating to health & wellbeing in Brighton & Hove. It promotes the health and wellbeing of the people in its area through the development of improved and integrated health and social care services. The Health and Wellbeing Board is responsible for the co-ordinated delivery of services across adult social care, children's services and public health. This includes decision making in relation to Adult Services, Children's Services, and decisions relating to the joint commissioning of children's and adult social care and health services.

HWBs have a set of statutory responsibilities. These are detailed in the BHCC Constitution, but in brief they include:



- Agreeing and overseeing the implementation of a local Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy (JHWS) – and ensuring that CCG commissioning plans support the JHWS goals.
- Agreeing the local Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) – and ensuring that organisational commissioning decisions reflect the JSNA evidence base.
- Agreeing the local Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment.
- Receiving annual Safeguarding Adult and Children Board reports.
- Agreeing the local Better Care Fund (BCF) plan.

2.5 The current HWB Terms of Reference need to be updated to reflect recent major recent developments in health and care. It is proposed that Board's scope is expanded to include:

- **Developing a shared understanding of the health and wellbeing needs of its communities from pre-birth to end of life including the health inequalities within and between communities;**
- **Developing a shared focus on the most vulnerable local residents, including Black and Minority Ethnic communities, people with disabilities, LBGQT communities and older people;**
- **Providing system leadership to secure collaboration to meet these needs more effectively;**
- **Having strategic influence over commissioning decisions across health, public health and social care encouraging integration where appropriate;**
- **Recognising the impact of the wider determinants of health on health and wellbeing;**
- **Involving patient and service user representatives and Councillors in commissioning decisions.**

2.6 To make the Board more effective, and to better align it with best practice across England, two other proposed changes to the Terms of Reference have been identified:

- (i) to broaden the currently rather narrow (and commissioner-heavy) membership; and
- (ii) to address the issue of much of the Board's time being taken up with relatively operational commissioning decisions. Most high-functioning HWBs have a broad membership, including health providers and the community and voluntary sector; and few HWBs undertake routine commissioning decisions.

The issues of membership and commissioning are addressed in more detail below.

Membership

2.7 The current membership of the HWB is:



- BHCC elected members (including HWB Chair): 5 (voting, with the Chair having a casting vote in the event of a tied vote)
- CCG representatives: 5 (voting)
- BHCC Executive Director of Children’s Services (non-voting)
- BHCC Executive Director of Health & Adult Social Care (non-voting)
- Brighton & Hove Director of Public Health (non-voting)
- NHS England representative (non-voting)
- Healthwatch Brighton & Hove representative (non-voting)

(The above are all required by statute, although the minimum legal requirement is for at least one elected member and at least one member of any CCG operating within the local authority area.)

- Chair of the local Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) (non-voting)
- Representative of the Brighton & Hove Safeguarding Children’s Partnership (non-voting)

(These are not required in statute.)

2.8 The proposed new HWB membership is (changes in bold):

- BHCC elected members (including HWB Chair): 5 (voting, with the Chair having a casting vote in the event of a tied vote)
- CCG representatives: **2** (voting)
- **Chief Executive of Brighton & Sussex University Hospitals Trust (BSUH), or its successor organisation (voting)**
- **Chief Executive of Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (SPFT) (voting)**
- **Chief Executive of Sussex Community NHS Foundation Trust (SCFT) (voting)**
- **Two Community Voluntary Sector (CVS) representatives (non-voting)**
- BHCC Executive Director of Children’s Services (non-voting)
- BHCC Executive Director of Health & Adult Social Care (non-voting)
- Brighton & Hove Director of Public Health (non-voting)
- NHS England representative (non-voting)
- Healthwatch Brighton & Hove representative (non-voting)
- Chair of the local Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) (non-voting)
- Representative of the Brighton & Hove Safeguarding Children’s Partnership (non-voting)

2.9 The proposal to offer seats to NHS Trusts operating in the city will ensure that the HWB represents the whole of the local health & care system rather than solely commissioners. This will better reflect the increasing trend for partnership working between health and care commissioners and providers across the local system. The CCG has offered to pass three of its voting seats on the Board to local NHS Trusts. This means that the membership and voting



balance between the city council and the NHS on the Board is maintained despite the addition of NHS providers. It is recognised that even with this widening of membership, the whole health & care system is not directly presented: e.g. social care providers, pharmacists, dentists, opticians etc. The HWB will engage with these and other sectors when undertaking specific pieces of work.

- 2.10 The proposal to offer two seats to CVS reflects the importance of the sector locally, both as providers of health and care services and as champions for particular groups, including disadvantaged communities. Community Works will be asked to nominate the CVS representatives. These will be non-voting seat as having it as voting would impact the voting balance of the Board. However, it is anticipated that the Board will make all or the great majority of decisions by consensus, with the full participation of all members, rather than by voting.
- 2.11 The above proposals will considerably widen the membership of the Board, but with only a minimal increase in members (two). Consideration was given to further widening Board membership (e.g. to include invites to Fire & Rescue and/or the Police/Police & Crime Commissioner). However, the benefits of having different perspectives reflected on the Board need to be balanced against the risks of having too large a membership for effective meetings. The Board will seek to engage with a wider range of stakeholders on specific work-streams.

Sub-Committee

- 2.12 The HWB currently discharges its statutory functions, but also takes decisions on jointly commissioned (BHCC/CCG) services and on BHCC social care and public health matters. This inevitably means that much of the HWB's activity is focused on relatively operational commissioning matters rather than strategic issues. There is also an argument that this arrangement means that BHCC elected member oversight of council social care services is weaker than oversight of other council services undertaken by BHCC Policy Committees.
- 2.13 **It is consequently proposed to establish a BHCC-only adult social care and public health sub-committee that will take all Council decisions relating to adult social care and public health that were previously taken by the HWB** (some decisions are reserved for Policy & Resources committee due to corporate policy or budgetary considerations). Although the HWB is legally constituted as a Council committee, it, and any sub-committees it has, are not subject to proportionality rules. It is nonetheless proposed that seats on the sub-committee do reflect the composition of the Council. It is proposed that membership of the sub-committee should consist of the elected members who sit on the HWB, with the Lead Member for Adult Social Care chairing.
- 2.14 It is proposed that decisions relating to services jointly commissioned by the city council and the CCG should in future also be taken by the Adult Social Care and Public Health Sub-Committee (for BHCC elements of a decision);

and by the relevant CCG governance bodies for the CCG element (as is currently the case). Although the HWB will not itself make commissioning decisions, it will be expected to discuss and agree commissioning priorities at a strategic level, reflecting Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy priorities.

Children's Services and Corporate Parenting Board

2.15 The HWB currently has concurrent responsibility for BHCC children's care decisions with the Children, Young People & Skills Committee (CYPS). The HWB also currently has the function of discharging the Council's responsibilities as Corporate Parent. It is proposed to clarify that these decisions will be taken by CYPS Committee by amending the HWB Terms of Reference accordingly. However, the HWB and its sub-committees will retain responsibility for all public health decision-making, including for children & young people public health services.

Frequency of Meetings

2.16 There are currently six HWB meetings per annum. It is proposed that we move to three HWB meetings plus three meetings of the Adult Social Care & Public Health Sub-Committee. Thus, there will be no increase in terms of the burden of meetings, but also no reduction in the number of opportunities for public or member involvement. In addition, we will schedule informal development HWB sessions as required – e.g. to develop strategies.

HWB Development Workshop

2.17 The LGA facilitated a HWB Development Workshop on 29 January 2021, with attendees from the Board and from partner and stakeholder organisations. Developmental priorities identified at the workshop included:

- The need to clarify the purpose of a refreshed HWB
- The need to develop a Communications/Engagement plan for the HWB
- The need to plan further developmental sessions
- Greater clarity regarding the respective roles of the HWB and the Council's Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee (HOSC), including closer alignment on work planning
- Moving to a co-production model for developing the HWB work plan, with greater input from the CCG and other organisations on the Board.

Public Consultation

2.18 The council ran an online public consultation on HWB review proposals in November/December. Just under 50 responses were received.

71% of people agreed with plans to broaden the remit of the HWB (16% disagreed). A number of respondents suggested particular areas of focus, including mental health, disease prevention, wellbeing, housing, end of life

care, primary care, exercise, challenging the privatisation of health services, making NHS bodies more democratically accountable, better integration of services, and support for the community & voluntary sector.

78% of people agreed with plans to broaden the HWB membership (18% disagreed). Respondents suggested including CVS representatives (reflecting expertise in autism, domestic violence, environmental issues, poverty, sports). There were also suggestions that service-users should be directly represented.

69% of people agreed with plans to introduce commissioning sub-committees (18% disagreed).

A number of people suggested ideas for improving public engagement. These included:

- More reliance on service-user feedback
- More public engagement at meetings
- Using direct mail
- Live-streaming meetings
- Using the citizen assembly model to explore issues
- Inviting CVS groups to meetings
- More use of social media
- Developing a dedicated HWB website/making HWB pages more prominent on the council website
- Outreach into schools and colleges
- Linking with patient groups
- Newsletters
- An annual consultation day
- Using a range of non-digital engagement methods
- Making the HWB a more visible presence in the city

While the number of responses was relatively small, the consultation produced some valuable feedback:

- There was broad support for the HWB review proposals.
- It is clear that the HWB needs to do more to communicate to and engage with residents.
- There is wide support for developing closer links with CVS groups
- There is wide support for the HWB focusing on public health in its broadest sense.

2.19 It is proposed that the HWB establishes a task & finish officer group, including NHS and CVS representation, to report back to the Board. The group should develop proposals around:

- A Communication/Engagement plan for the HWB

- Developing greater clarity on the respective roles of the HWB and the HOSC, including a more aligned work programme
- How to position the HWB as a key city Strategic Partnership for health and care
- How to make the most of the input of all HWB member organisations, particularly in terms of developing shared work plans.

2.20 These proposals have been presented to the Council's Constitution Working Group.

3. Important considerations and implications

Legal:

- 3.1 The Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013 (the Regulations) set out the ability of the Health and Wellbeing Board to discharge any of its functions by a sub-committee of the Board. The Regulations (Regulation 7) also disapply the political proportionality rules set out in Section 15 and 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 to the Board and any of its sub-committees.

Lawyer consulted: Elizabeth Culbert

Date:150221

Finance:

- 3.2 There are no direct implications arising from this report. Any costs such as officer time required to implement the operational changes will be met within existing resources.

Finance Officer consulted: Sophie Warburton

Date: 11/02/2021

Equalities:

- 3.3 Proposals to broaden HWB membership to include Community & Voluntary Sector representatives (in addition to continuing input from Healthwatch Brighton & Hove) will offer more opportunities for the HWB to understand the needs and views of a range of local communities, including communities with protected characteristics.

Sustainability:

- 3.4 There are no direct sustainability implications with regard to the recommendations to amend the HWB ToR and to introduce an adult social care & public health sub-committee. However, the proposed changes are intended to make the Board more effective, and in particular to allow more



focus on the core strategic aim of implementing the city Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy (JHWS). Environmental and Sustainability issues, including air quality and the promotion of active travel, are key to the delivery of the JHWS.

Health, social care, children's services and public health:

3.5 These are detailed in the body of the report.

Supporting documents and information

Appendix 1: Proposed new Terms of Reference for the HWB

Appendix 2: Proposed Terms of Reference for the Adult Social Care & Public Health Sub-Committee

HEALTH & WELLBEING BOARD TERMS OF REFERENCE

Explanatory Note

The Health & Wellbeing Board (HWB) is established as a Committee of the Council pursuant to Section 194 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012 and the Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Board and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013.

Purpose:

The Brighton & Hove Health and Wellbeing Board brings together key local leaders to improve the health and wellbeing of the population of Brighton & Hove and reduce health inequalities through:

- Developing a shared understanding of the health and wellbeing needs of its communities from pre-birth to end of life including the health inequalities within and between communities;
- Developing a shared focus on the most vulnerable local residents, including Black and minority ethnic communities, people with disabilities, LGBTQ communities and older people;
- Providing system leadership to secure collaboration to meet these needs more effectively;
- Having strategic influence over commissioning decisions across health, public health and social care encouraging integration where appropriate;
- Recognising the impact of the wider determinants of health on health and wellbeing;
- Involving patient and service user representatives and councillors in commissioning decisions.

The HWB is responsible for the co-ordinated delivery of services across adult social care and public health. This includes decision making in relation to adult social care and health services.

Composition

Voting members

5 elected Members

2 CCG representatives

One representative of Brighton & Sussex University Hospitals NHS Trust (or its successor organisation)

One representative of Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

One representative of Sussex Community NHS Foundation Trust

Non-voting members

Representative from HealthWatch Brighton & Hove

Representative from NHS England

Executive Director Families, Children and Learning
Executive Director Health and Adult Social Care
Director of Public Health
Chief Executive, Brighton & Hove City Council
One representative from Children's Local Safeguarding Partnership
Two representatives from the Community & Voluntary Sector
Chair of Safeguarding Adults Board

Quorum

At each meeting, the quorum requirement is at least two voting members from the NHS and two voting members from the Council.

Chair and Deputy Chairs and Substitutes

The Board will be chaired by a member of the Council. One Deputy Chair will be appointed by the CCG and one by the Council.

Council Procedure Rule 18 in relation to the appointment of substitutes will apply to the voting Council members of the Board. For non Council members of the Board, each Board member can nominate up to 3 substitutes and any one of those named substitutes can attend a Board meeting in their place. Substitutes must be from the same organisation/ sector as the Board member and be of sufficient seniority and empowered by the relevant organisation/sector to represent its views; to contribute to decision making in line with the Board's Terms of Reference and to commit resources to the Board's business.

Voting arrangements

It is expected that most decisions will be agreed by consensus but, where this is not the case, then only those members listed as voting members may vote.

The Chair of the Board shall have a second or casting vote.

Delegated Functions

General

1. To provide system leadership relating to the health and wellbeing of the people who live, work and visit Brighton & Hove;
2. To promote integration and joint working in health and social care services across the City in order to improve the health and wellbeing of the people of Brighton & Hove;
3. To lead the health & care recovery responses to the Covid 19 emergency.

4. To oversee local Covid Outbreak Control Planning, including acting as the Local Engagement Group for local outbreak communications.
5. To work in partnership with the Sussex Integrated Care System and the Brighton & Hove Integrated Care Partnership to deliver the NHS Long Term Plan via the Sussex and Brighton & Hove Health & Care Plans.
6. To approve and publish the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) and the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment for the City;
7. To approve and publish a Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy (JHWS) for the City, monitoring the outcomes goals set out in the JHWS and using its authority to develop Health and Wellbeing Board joint commissioning priorities which support the delivery of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy.
8. To consider the Clinical Commissioning Group's draft annual commissioning plan and to respond with its opinion as to whether the draft commissioning plan takes proper account of the relevant Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy;
9. Where considered appropriate by the HWB, to refer its opinion on the CCG annual commissioning plan to the National Health Service Commissioning Board and to provide the CCG with a copy of this referral;
10. To monitor the CCG's Commissioning Plan and any HWB joint commissioning priorities;
11. To oversee and performance manage the planning and delivery of the Better Care Fund.
12. To receive the Local Safeguarding Children's Board's Annual Report for comment; and also the Adults Annual Safeguarding Report;
13. To involve stakeholders, users and the public in quality of life issues and health and wellbeing choices, by
 - communicating and explaining the JHW Strategy;
 - developing and implementing a Communications and Engagement Strategy;
14. To represent Brighton & Hove on health and wellbeing issues at all levels, influencing and negotiating on behalf of the members of the Board and working closely with the local HealthWatch;
15. To appoint members to the Board in compliance with relevant legislation and guidance;

16. To operate in accordance with the Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Board and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013;
17. To receive and approve any other plans or strategies that are required either as a matter of law or policy to be approved by the Health and Wellbeing Board.
18. To establish one or more sub-committees to carry out any functions delegated to it by the Board
19. To Establish one or more time limited task and finish groups to carry out work on behalf of the Board.

20. Better Care Fund

To discharge all functions relating to the better care fund that are required or permitted by law to be exercised by the Health and Wellbeing Board, including

- (a) to agree the strategic planning;
- (b) manage the pooled budget;
- (c) oversee and performance manage the planning as well as the practical and financial implementation of the fund.

21. Adult Social Services

- (a) To exercise the social services and health functions of the Council in respect of adults;
- (b) To exercise all of the powers of the Council in relation to the issue of certificates to blind people and the grant of assistance to voluntary organisations exercising functions within its area of delegation;
- (c) To exercise the functions of the Council in relation to the removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

22. Public Health

To exercise the Council's functions in respect of public health, including but not limited to:

- sexual health;
- physical activity, obesity, and tobacco control programmes;
- prevention and early detection;
- immunisation;
- mental health;
- NHS Healthcheck and workplace health programmes;
- dental public health;

- social exclusion;
- seasonal mortality.

To exercise any other functions which transferred to the Council under the Health and Social Care Act 2012.

23. Partnership with the Health Service

(a) To exercise the Council's functions under or in connection with the adult services partnership arrangements made with health bodies pursuant to section 75 of the National Health Service Act 2006 ("the section 75 Agreements").

(b) To exercise the Council's functions under or in connection with the children and young people's partnership arrangements made with health bodies pursuant to section 75 of the National Health Service Act 2006 and section 10 of the Children Act 2004 ("the section 75 Agreements") to the extent they are in force;

24. Learning Disabilities

To discharge the Council's functions regarding learning disabilities.

Referred functions

25. The Board shall have referred functions relating to any matter that has implications for the health and wellbeing of the City.

Reserved matters

26. The following matters will be reserved from the delegations to the Board or its Sub-Committees:

- Final decisions on any matters that are reserved to full council or the CCG by law and cannot be delegated;
- Final decisions on matters reserved to full Council under the Council's Budget and Policy framework
- Matters that have corporate budgetary or policy implications that go beyond health and wellbeing
- The externalisation (outsourcing) or bringing in-house of any Council services (which shall be referred to the Policy & Resources Committee for final decision.)

Meeting arrangements

It is expected that the Board will meet up to 3 times per annum. The Chair of the Board, following consultation with the Deputy Chairs, can convene special meetings of the Board as appropriate.

All business of the Board shall be conducted in public in accordance with Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended). When the Board considers exempt information and/or confidential information is provided to Board members in their capacity as members of the Board all Board members agree to respect the confidentiality of the information received and not disclose it to third parties unless required to do so by law or where there is a clear and over-riding public interest in doing so.

To the extent that these Terms of Reference conflict with or differ from Council Procedure Rules, these Terms of Reference set out above shall apply.

**HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD
BRIGHTON & HOVE COUNCIL ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND PUBLIC
HEALTH SUB-COMMITTEE**

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Explanatory Note

The Brighton & Hove Council Adult Social Care and Public Health Sub-Committee is established as a sub-committee of the Brighton & Hove Health & Wellbeing Board pursuant to s102 4B of the Local Government Act 1972 (as modified by the Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013).

Purpose

The purpose of the Brighton & Hove Council Adult Social Care and Public Health Sub-Committee is to discharge the functions of Brighton & Hove City Council in relation to adult social care, learning disabilities and public health.

Composition

The sub committee will consist of 5 Members (who it is expected will be the BHCC 5 elected members of the Health and Wellbeing Board)

Delegated Functions

1. Adult Social Services

- (a) To exercise the social services and health functions of the Council in respect of adults;
- (b) To exercise all of the powers of the Council in relation to the issue of certificates to blind people and the grant of assistance to voluntary organisations exercising functions within its area of delegation;
- (c) To exercise the functions of the Council in relation to the removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

2. Public Health

To exercise the Council's functions in respect of public health, including but not limited to:

- sexual health
- physical activity, obesity, and tobacco control programmes
- prevention and early detection
- immunisation
- mental health
- NHS Healthcheck and workplace health programmes

- dental public health
- social exclusion
- seasonal mortality.

To receive reports from relevant programme boards and related multi-sector committees with a remit for public health in order to inform the Health and Wellbeing Strategy including: the Alcohol Programme Board, the Substance Misuse Programme Board, the Healthy Weight Programme Board and the Sexual Health Programme Board.

3. Partnership with the Health Service

To exercise the Council's functions under or in connection with the partnership arrangements made with health bodies pursuant to Section 75 of the National Health Service Act 2006 and section 10 of the Children Act 2004 to the extent they are in force.

To take funding decisions relating to the Council's contribution to the pooled fund established by the Better Care Fund Section 75 Agreement;

4. Learning Disabilities

To discharge the Council's functions regarding Learning Disability.

5. General

To exercise any other functions which transferred to the Council under the Health and Social Care Act 2012.

Minutes of Sub-Committee meetings

The Health and Wellbeing Board will be informed of the Sub-Committee's decision by the inclusion on its agenda of the minutes of the Sub-Committee's meetings.

Meetings

It is expected that the Adult Social Care and Public Health Sub-Committee will meet up to three times per annum. Special meetings of the Brighton & Hove Council Health and Wellbeing Sub-Committee may be called by the Chair, following consultation with the Deputy Chair, if a decision is required urgently.

It is expected that the Chair will be the Lead Member for Adult Social Care and Health and Deputy Chair will be the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board.

The chair of the meeting will have a second or casting vote.

Subject:	Review of Members Allowances - 2021		
Date of Meeting:	25 March 2021 18 March 2021 – Policy & Resources Committee		
Report of:	Executive Lead Officer for Strategy, Governance & Law		
Contact Officer:	Name:	Elizabeth Culbert Mark Wall	Tel: 01273 291505 01273 291006
	Email:	elizabeth.culbert@brighton-hove.gov.uk mark.wall@brighton-hove.gov.uk	
Ward(s) affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND POLICY CONTEXT**

- 1.1 The report details the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel with regard to the payment of Special Responsibility Allowances under the Member Allowances Scheme (the Scheme) for roles that are undertaken on a job-share basis.
- 1.2 The report also sets out the recommendations of the Panel following its review of the decision taken at the Budget Council meeting on 25th February 2021 to remove the provision for councillors to have car park passes and designated parking at the Norton Road car park.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:**Policy & Resources Committee recommend to Council that:-**

- 2.1 The Scheme is revised to reflect that where a Member holds a role on a job share basis they are entitled to claim a 50% allowance for that role and that a maximum of two of two job share roles can be claimed for on this basis.
- 2.2 The Scheme is revised to make clear that a 50% allowance can be claimed for a job share Deputy Leader role in addition to a 50% allowance for a Chair of a policy committee role (which is a presumption in the Scheme and the chairing may be full time or a shared role.)
- 2.3 The revised Scheme as attached at Appendix 1 be agreed.
- 2.4 The payments for those Councillors whose responsibilities meet the criteria under the revised Scheme are backdated to the date they were appointed.
- 2.5 Full Council notes the comments of the IRP regarding their encouragement to the Council to consider further information being shared regarding the nature and practical implementation of job share roles for Councillors.

- 2.6 The Members Allowances Scheme be revised to remove Hove Town Hall as a named car park to which the reimbursement of passes is applicable, as described in Appendix 1.
- 2.7 That the Monitoring Officer be authorised to make any necessary amendments to the Scheme for Members' Allowances to reflect the changes set out in paragraphs 2.1 to 2.7 above.

3. CONTEXT/ BACKGROUND INFORMATION

SRA's for Job Sharing roles

- 3.1 In November 2019 the Policy and Resources Committee considered a report on Women in Local Government and agreed a recommendation that Member positions of special responsibility are open to job share. At full Council on 23 July 2020 appointments were made to Committees and Sub-Committees, including the appointments to positions of special responsibility. This included a number of roles which were identified as job share roles. A subsequent report was submitted to the 13 August Council meeting confirming some of the details. A Chair's job share protocol was included for information with the papers for full Council.
- 3.2 In view of the above, the Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP) were invited to consider whether changes or clarification of the agreed Member's Allowances Scheme 2018-2023 was necessary.
- 3.3 The role of the IRP, under the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003, is to make recommendations to the Council as to the responsibilities or duties in respect of which allowances should be available and the amount of those allowances. The IRP may also make recommendations as to whether, in the event that the Allowances Scheme is amended at any stage, payment of allowances may be backdated. All councils are required to convene their Allowances Panel and seek its advice before they make any changes or amendments to their Allowances Scheme and they must 'pay regard' to the Panel's recommendations before setting a new or amended Members' Allowances Scheme.
- 3.4 The IRP met to consider the impact of the agreed job share roles on the Allowance Scheme on 19th January and 2nd March 2021. Representations from Councillors were sought, in addition to consideration of advice from officers. The Panel members are Mr Ken Childerhouse (Chair); Mr Martin Andrews; Mr John Bateman and Ms Rachel Potter.
- 3.5 The IRP wished to make clear in this report that they were confined to considering the allowances applicable to the posts that had been agreed by full Council in July and August 2020. The IRP made no comment on the structure or division of roles that had been agreed. They noted that it was a matter for full Council to determine the positions of responsibility and to make any changes to these, including whether or not a role could be a job share. The IRP then make recommendations about which of these roles that have been agreed by full

Council should have allowances applied to them and the amount of the allowances.

- 3.6 Having reviewed the written representations from Councillors and carefully considered the additional verbal representations made on 2nd March 2021 and the officer advice, the IRP concluded that the Allowances Scheme should be revised to enable two job share roles to be undertaken by a member and for each job share role undertaken to be remunerated at 50% of the SRA. The IRP came to this recommendation on the basis that it would ensure that members who could only undertake a role on a job share basis were not disadvantaged and that equally those who were undertaking the equivalent of one full role were not penalised.
- 3.7 Where two different job share roles are being undertaken by a single member, the IRP heard that this has enabled other members who are unable to undertake a full role, to share a role. This supports younger, working members and those with other responsibilities to be able to hold senior positions. The IRP consider that where a member is undertaking two job share roles they should be remunerated at 50% for both roles to reflect the responsibility and work that they are undertaking. This accords with the Fair Remuneration principle already well established in the Scheme.
- 3.8 In relation to the Deputy Leader role, this is already recognised in the Allowances Scheme as a role that may have a job share. The IRP recommend that it is clarified that where the Deputy Leader role does have a job share that both job share post holders are remunerated at 50% of the SRA for that role. In addition, as there is still a presumption in the Scheme for the Deputy Leader to hold a chairing role, 50% of the SRA for a chairing role should also be paid. Again, this accords with the Fair Remuneration principle set out in the Scheme.
- 3.9 One of the key principles considered to be important by the IRP was that the proposed amendments to the Scheme do not have a significant financial impact on the cost of the Scheme. No new allowances are created by the proposed revision to the Scheme. If the roles are undertaken as they are currently the proposals are cost neutral. If, in future a Deputy Leader role was shared and the policy chair roles were also shared this would cost up to an additional approximate £10k. The expectation of the IRP is that appointments will be made within the existing budget.
- 3.10 A revised Scheme showing the proposed changes to take into account the IRPs recommendations are set out at Appendix 1. It is proposed that the payments for those Councillors who have not been remunerated due to their undertaking more than one role are backdated to the date they were appointed at the Annual Council meeting on 23rd July 2020.
- 3.11 The IRP did note that there was a level of confusion and disagreement amongst some members about the way that the job share roles were working and the potential cost of these. The Panel wished to encourage the Council to consider communicating more detail about the job share principles and ways of working so this is fully understood. There was also concern expressed by some members about the impact on workloads for other councillors and accessibility where a member is undertaking more than one job share role. The IRP understood these

concerns. However, as set out above, the IRP's role is to consider the remuneration for the posts being undertaken as opposed to commenting on the structure in place. The IRP noted that the Council does have the mechanisms available to it should it wish to review the posts and structure in place and noted that any issues on reviewing whether there should be job sharing and how it works in practice should be reviewed through the existing mechanisms (Constitutional Working Group, Group Leaders or Group Whips).

Car parking

- 3.12 Independent Remuneration Panels have direct responsibility for making recommendations in relation to travel and subsistence and in turn, local authorities are permitted under the 2003 Regulations to set their own Travel and Subsistence Allowances
- 3.13 At the Budget Council meeting in February 2021 it was agreed that car parking provision at the Norton Road car park for councillors should be withdrawn. The IRP were asked to review the recommendations and consider the implications for the Scheme.
- 3.14 The IRP acknowledged that the decision to make a budget saving of £25,000 by enabling the Parking Team to generate further income from the car park at Hove Town Hall was agreed by full Council. The Panel noted that those councillors who had previously held a car park pass and used this in Norton Road car park would no longer be able to do so under the proposal.
- 3.15 In view of the unanimous support for this proposal, the IRP considered it was appropriate to proceed with this budget saving on the basis that it contributed to the Council's stated priorities and was unanimously approved at Budget Council. The proposed amended wording for the Scheme is attached at Appendix 1.

4. ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 4.1 In relation to all the proposals set out in the report, the IRP The Panel did state that they would review the situation as part of the next full review ahead of making recommendations for the Members Allowances Scheme to be in place for 2023-2027.

5. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & CONSULTATION

- 5.1 The Panel sought the views of councillors and met with a number of councillors prior to making its recommendations on potential changes to the current Members Allowances Scheme to the Policy & Resources Committee and full Council.

6. CONCLUSION

- 6.1 The proposed revisions to the Scheme are recommended to Policy & Resources Committee and to full Council for decision.

7. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

- 7.1 Provided, as proposed, that no more than 100% is paid for each identified role within the Member Allowance scheme, the allowances are affordable within the existing scheme budget. While the cost would increase by £10,020, compared to currently occupied roles, if the two vacant job share policy roles were filled, this would still be within the overall scheme budget available.

Finance Officer Consulted: Nigel Manvell

Date: 10.03.21

Legal Implications:

- 7.2 These are included in the body of the report.

Lawyer Consulted:

Elizabeth Culbert

Date: 05.03.21

Equalities Implications:

- 7.3 The proposed revision to the Scheme in respect of job share roles will support younger members, working members and those with other responsibilities to undertaking position of responsibility. The budget saving approved by the Council does not prevent councillors from opting to use their car to attend meetings and the choice to incur associated costs lies with those councillors. There is also an option to have a bus pass and make a monthly contribution towards the cost that would then enable to travel around the city.

Sustainability Implications:

- 7.4 The use of a car has recognised environmental implications, which need to be taken into consideration when a councillor fulfils their duties and responsibilities and that is a personal choice for each councillor.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Draft Revised Members Allowances Scheme

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL

MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES SCHEME 2019-2023

The Brighton & Hove City Council, in exercise of the powers conferred by the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) Regulations 2003, hereby makes the following Scheme:

1 The Scheme

- 1.1 This Scheme may be cited as the Brighton & Hove City Council Members' Allowances Scheme 2019-2023 and shall have effect on and from 23 May 2019 unless stated otherwise.

2 In this Scheme

- 2.1 "the council" means Brighton & Hove City Council;
- 2.2 "councillor" means a Member of the Brighton & Hove City Council who is a councillor;
- 2.3 "co-opted member" means a member of a committee or sub-committee of the council who is not a Member of the authority;
- 2.4 "total estimated allowances" means the aggregate of the amounts estimated by the Responsible Finance Officer, at a time when a payment of Basic Allowance or Special Responsibility Allowance is made, to be payable under this Scheme in relation to the relevant year, and for this purpose any election under paragraph 13 shall be disregarded;
- 2.5 "year" means the 12 months ending with 31 March.

3. Basic Allowance

- 3.1 Subject to paragraphs 12 and 13, for each year a Basic Allowance of £13,002 shall be paid to each councillor. These payments came into effect on and from 6 May 2019 and subsequently from each Annual Meeting of the Council 2020-2022, subject to any recommendations from the Independent Remuneration Panel.

4. Special Responsibility Allowances

- 4.1 For each year a Special Responsibility Allowance shall be paid to those councillors who hold the special responsibilities in relation to the council that are specified in Schedule 1 to this Scheme. These payments came into effect on and from 23 May 2019 and remain as listed.
- 4.2 Where a councillor holds more than one position of responsibility, only one Special Responsibility Allowance shall be paid, such an allowance being the higher or highest of the relevant allowances. This is subject to the rules relating to job share roles which are set out separately in Schedule 1.

4.3 Subject to paragraphs 13 and 14, the amount of each such allowance shall be the amount specified against that special responsibility in that schedule.

5. Attendance Allowance

5.1 No Attendance Allowance shall be payable.

6. Travel, Subsistence and Dependants' Carers Allowances

6.1 Travel, Subsistence and Dependants' Carers' Allowances shall be paid to councillors and co-opted members in accordance with Schedule 2 to the Scheme.

7. Pensions

7.1 The Local Government Pension Scheme (Transitional Provisions, Savings and Amendment) Regulations 2014 have resulted in the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) no longer being available to elected Members.

8. Income Tax / National Insurance / Statutory Sick Pay

Income Tax

8.1 Basic, special responsibility allowances and the co-optees allowances are classed as income and are subject to taxation. Recipients are expected to make returns to the *Inspector of Taxes* so that a correct tax code is provided to enable payments to be processed through the normal payroll procedures.

8.2 Councillors are reminded to keep their own records of expenses claims and reimbursements for income tax purposes.

National Insurance

8.3 Contributions for national insurance are payable whether or not the Councillor has other employment or self-employment. There is, however, an annual maximum for people with more than one job and a councillor in this position may apply to their local contributions agency office for a Form CA27A. This should be sent to Deferment Services in the National Insurance Contributions Office who in turn can issue form CA2700. This will authorise an employer to deduct primary NICs at a rate of 2% on all earnings from the Earning Threshold (ET) for that tax year. A deferment certificate is only valid for the specified tax year and a new application is required for each subsequent year if the circumstances continue.

8.4 Some councillors may be exempt or liable to reduced rate contributions:

- a) married women and certain widows who have elected (or are treated as having elected) to contribute at the reduced rate;
- b) men aged over 65 years and women aged over 61 on a rising scale to age 65.

8.5 Councillors who come within these categories should apply to their local contributions agency office for a *Certificate of Exemption* or a *Certificate of Age Exemption*. When this certificate has been received it should be forwarded to the Head of Democratic Services. Unless these certificates are received there has to be a deduction full Class 1 contributions.

- 8.6 National insurance contributions are assessed on a monthly basis. Allowances must be treated separately from any other income received from any other employment or business.

Benefits

- 8.7 Full details of the benefits which are receivable by contributors to the state pension scheme can be found in D.S.S. leaflet FB1 "*Family Benefits and Pensions*" which is a regularly revised outline guide to all national pensions and other social security benefits.

Statutory Sick Pay

- 8.8 Employers are responsible for paying statutory sick pay (SSP) to their employees for up to 28 weeks of sickness absence in a tax year, on behalf of the DFSSH.
- 8.9 For the purposes of this scheme councillors are generally classed as employees.
- 8.10 If you are sick for four days or more and are unable to attend council meetings you should contact payroll and ask for a self-certification form.
- 8.11 A doctor's medical certificate must be supplied to payroll services for sickness absences which are for eight days and above in addition to the self-certificate.
- 8.12 SSP may be payable to you as a councillor even if you are receiving SSP payments from another employer. Please see advice as appropriate. Any payments made will be processed through the payroll system.
- 8.13 Some exclusions from SSP payments are:
- a) an employee whose average basic and special responsibility allowances paid over the previous two months are less than the lower monthly earnings limit for National Insurance contribution liability. (As stated in appendix 1 this can only relate to councillors who forego their allowances);
 - b) an employee who has received certain state benefits in the previous eight weeks (this includes maternity benefit).

Submission of Claims

- 8.14 Claims forms may be obtained from Democratic Services. Alternatively, it may be downloaded from the Members webpage on the Intranet.
- 8.15 City council payroll staff are not permitted to make out a councillors / co-optees claim but will be pleased to give assistance and advice. There is also an obligation on councillors / co-optees to complete the forms in accordance with statutory requirements which include **in particular the full description of approved duties.**

Resolving doubts about approved duty

- 8.16 Councillors are asked **not** to make claims for any duty or function where there may be doubts as to whether it is an *approved duty*. In the case of any difficulty of interpretation, councillors should refer to the Executive Lead Officer for Strategy, Governance & Law or the Head of Democratic Services.

9 Method of Payment

- 9.1 Payments for councillors basic, special responsibility and co-optee Allowances will be made automatically on the **last working day of each month** (no claims will be necessary).
- 9.2 Claims for all other allowances should be made within **two months** of the date on which the approved duty was carried out. Payments will be made monthly when claims are received.
- 9.3 Payment will be made by Credit Transfer - direct payment into the councillors' / co-optees' bank account / building society account.
- 9.4 Payment will generally be credited to these accounts on the **last working day of each month**. A pay advice slip will be sent to each councillor/ co-optee.
- 9.5 Councillors / co-optees should inform payroll services of the bank or building society details including personal account number on the *method of pay* form which the payroll team will supply.

10 Co-optee's Allowance

- 10.1 The two Independent Members of the Audit & Standards Committee shall receive a Co-optees' Allowance of £1,030 as specified in Schedule 1 to this Scheme.
- 10.2 In addition to the co-optees' allowance specified in paragraph 10.1, a payment of £200 shall be paid to the Independent Member of the Audit & Standards Committee for each Standards Hearing Panel that they Chair.

11 Withholding of allowances

- 11.1 Where payment of any allowance is due or has already been made in respect of any period during which the member concerned is
- (a) ceases to be a member of the authority; or
 - (b) is in any other way not entitled to receive the allowance in respect of that period,
- the authority may withhold the payment of an allowance for that period or, as the case may be, require that such part of the allowance already paid as relates to any such period be repaid to the authority.
- 11.2 The term "member" in this paragraph covers both councillors and co-opted members.

12 Renunciation

- 12.1 A councillor or a co-opted member may by notice in writing given to the Responsible Finance Officer and Head of Democratic Services elect to forego any part of his/her entitlement to an allowance under this Scheme.

13 Part-Year Entitlement

- 13.1 Subject to paragraph 13.7, the provisions of this paragraph shall have effect to regulate the entitlements of a councillor to Basic and Special Responsibility Allowances where, in the course of a year, this Scheme is amended or that councillor becomes, or ceases to be a councillor, or accepts or relinquishes a special responsibility in respect of which a Special Responsibility Allowance is payable.

- 13.2 If an amendment to this Scheme changes the amount to which a councillor is entitled by way of a Basic Allowance or a Special Responsibility Allowance, then in relation to each of the periods:

- (a) beginning with the year and ending with the day before that on which the first amendment in that year takes effect; or
- (b) beginning with the day on which an amendment takes effect and ending with the day before that on which the next amendment takes effect, or (if none) with the year,

the entitlement to such an allowance shall be to the payment of such part of the amount of the allowance under this Scheme as it has effect during the relevant period as bears to the whole the same proportion as the number of days in the period bears to the number of days in the year.

- 13.3 Where the term of office of a councillor begins or ends otherwise than at the beginning or end of a year, the entitlement of that councillor to a Basic Allowance shall be to the payment to such part of the Basic Allowance as bears to the whole the same proportion as the number of days during which his term of office subsists bears to the number of days in that year.

- 13.4 Where the Scheme is amended as mentioned in sub-paragraph 13.2, and the term of office of a councillor does not subsist throughout the period mentioned in sub-paragraph 13.2(a), the entitlement of any such councillor to a Basic Allowance shall be to the payment of such part of the Basic Allowance referable to each such period (ascertained in accordance with that sub-paragraph) as bears to the whole the same proportion as the number of days during which their term of office as a councillor subsists bears to the number of days in that period.

- 13.5 Where a councillor has during part of, but not throughout, a year such special responsibilities as entitle them to a Special Responsibility Allowance, that councillor's entitlement shall be to payment of such part of that allowance as bears to the whole the same proportion as the number of days during which they have such special responsibilities bears to the number of days in that year.

- 13.6 Where this Scheme is amended as mentioned in sub-paragraph 13.2, and a councillor has during part, but does not have throughout the whole, of any period mentioned in sub-paragraph 13.2(a) of that paragraph any special responsibilities as entitle them to a Special Responsibility Allowance, that councillor's entitlement

shall be to payment of such part of the allowance referable to each such period (ascertained in accordance with that sub-paragraph) as bears to the whole the same proportion as the number of days in that period during which they have such special responsibilities bears to the number of days in that period.

- 13.7 The provisions of this paragraph, subject to necessary modifications, shall apply to Co-optees' Allowances as if the reference to a "Member" included a co-opted member.

14 Claims and Payments

- 14.1 Payments shall be made in respect of Basic and Special Responsibility Allowances, subject to sub-paragraph 13.2, in instalments of one-twelfth of the amount specified in this Scheme on the last day of each month (or the last working day before that day if it is not a working day).
- 14.2 Where a payment of one-twelfth of the amount specified in this Scheme in respect of a Basic Allowance or a Special Responsibility Allowance would result in the councillor receiving more than the amount to which, by virtue of paragraph 13.6, they are entitled, the payment shall be restricted to such amount as will ensure that no more is paid than the amount to which they are entitled.
- 14.3 The provisions of this paragraph shall apply to Co-optees' Allowances in the same way as they apply to Basic and Special Responsibility Allowances.

This Scheme was approved by Full Council at its meeting on 13 December 2018 and takes effect from 23 May 2019 unless stated otherwise.

RATES - 2019 / 2023

**The maximum rates that can be reimbursed
are currently as follows:**

BASIC COUNCILLORS ALLOWANCE

£13,002 per annum

CO-OPTEE'S ALLOWANCE:

£1,030 per annum – Independent Member of Audit & Standards Committee
Plus £200 per Standards Panel chaired

TRAVELLING ALLOWANCES

(Outside of Brighton and Hove)

Car 45 pence per mile
Supplement 5p per mile for each
passenger, with a maximum of 4
Motorcycle 24p per mile
Bicycle 20 pence per mile

CHILD / DEPENDANT CARE ALLOWANCE

Paid as per the living wage
on submitted receipts

The basic and Special Responsibility Allowance (SRA) rates will be effective from May 2019 and subject to future increases based on the council's rate of salary inflation.

SCHEDULE 1

Brighton & Hove Members Allowances Scheme 2019-23

Special Responsibility Allowances

Responsibility	SRA (£)
Leader of the Council*	33,399
Deputy Leader of the Council**	20,039
Chairs of Policy Committees	
Policy, Resources & Growth*	10,020
Children, Young People & Skills	10,020
Environment, Transport & Sustainability	10,020
Housing & New Homes	10,020
Neighbourhoods, Inclusion, Communities & Equalities	10,020
Tourism, Development & Culture	10,020
Chairs of Regulatory Committees	
Planning	11,690
Licensing (dual role)	11,690
Audit & Standards	4,876
Chairs of Overview & Scrutiny Committees	
Health & Wellbeing OSC	5,010
Deputy Chairs of Policy Committees	
Policy & Resources (with responsibility for Finance)	5,010
Children, Young People & Skills	1,002
Environment, Transport & Sustainability	1,002
Housing & New Homes	1,002
Neighbourhoods, Inclusion, Communities & Equalities	1,002
Tourism, Development & Culture	1,002
Deputy Chairs of Regulatory Committees	
Planning	1,002
Licensing (dual role)	1,002
Other positions of additional responsibility	
Chair of the Health & Wellbeing Board	10,020
Lead Member for Adult Care & Health	5,010
Leader of the Opposition Group	11,010
Deputy Leader of the Opposition Group	6,680
Leader of a Minority Group	6,680

Note :

- The payment of allowances to the Leader and Deputy Leader assumes the following:
- The Leader of the Council will Chair the Policy, Resources & Growth Committee; and
- The Deputy Leader will Chair one of the Policy Committees.
- Where the Leader and/or Deputy Leader role is job shared, the position is as set out separately below.
- Only one Deputy Leader of the Council and One Deputy Leader of the Opposition have been included in the Members' Allowances Scheme as being attributable for the payment of an SRA. Where the role of Deputy Leader is job shared the position is as set out separately below.
- The remit and responsibilities of the Chair of the Health & Overview & Scrutiny Committee may change without requiring amendment to the Members' Allowances Scheme.
- Where a councillor holds more than one position of Special Responsibility, only one Special Responsibility Allowance shall be paid and this is the higher or the highest of the relevant allowances. The position in relation to positions of Special Responsibility that are job shared is set out separately below.
- Where there are any changes to any role listed as attracting a special responsibility allowance under the scheme, and the revised role is substantially the same as the previous role in terms of the nature or level of responsibility, the special responsibility allowance shall continue to apply to the new role. This is subject to the Independent Remuneration Panel being consulted and agreeing that it is substantially the same role.

Job Share Allowances

The roles listed in this Schedule 1 to which Special Responsibility Allowances are payable may be undertaken on a job share basis.

Where a role is undertaken on a job share basis the Special Responsibility Allowance for that role will be paid at 50% of the full time allowance.

A councillor may hold two job share roles at one time and the Special Responsibility allowance payable will be 50% of the full time allowance for each role.

A councillor may hold a full role and a job share role at one time, but the Special Responsibility Allowance payable in that case will be limited to 50% of the full time allowance for each role.

If the role of Leader of the Council is job shared, then the following presumptions are made that:-

- The two job share Leaders of the Council will also Chair the Policy, Resources & Growth Committee between them on a job share basis; and
- The Special Responsibility Allowance payable to each councillor will be 50% of the Leader of the Council SRA and no payment will be made in respect of the Chair of Policy & Resources Committee role.

If the role of Deputy Leader of the Council is job shared then the following presumptions are made, that:-

- The two job share Deputy Leaders of the Council will each job share the Chairing of one of the policy committees in addition to the Deputy Leader job share role, but one or both of them may agree to be a full time Chair of a policy committee; and
- The Special Responsibility Allowances payable to each councillor will be 50% of the Deputy Leader of the Council SRA and 50% of the Chair of one of the policy committees (whether they chair the policy committee full time or on a job share basis).

This reflects the levels of responsibility and demands of the Leader and Deputy Leader roles, whilst ensuring costs are not significantly increased.

Co-optee's Allowances

Independent Member of Audit & Standards Committee (x2)	1,058
Independent Member of Audit & Standards Committee (serving as the Chair of a Standards Hearing Panel)	200

Special Responsibility Allowances and Co-optees' Allowances are payable from 23 May 2019.

SCHEDULE 2

Brighton & Hove Members Allowances Scheme 2019-23

Approved Duties

Brighton & Hove City Council specifies the following as approved duties for the purpose of the payment of Travel, Subsistence and Dependants' Carers' Allowances.

1. Attendance at :
 - (a) The council, or any of its committees and sub-committees.
 - (b) The bodies to which the council makes appointments or nominations at either Annual Council or Policy, Resources & Growth Committee including any committee or sub-committee of such a body.
 - (c) The following meetings, the holding of which is authorised by the council, or any of its committees or sub-committees, or by any joint committee (or sub-committee thereof) of the council and any other authority, provided that it is a meeting to which councillors of at least two political groups of the council have been invited:
 - i) Meetings of the council's formally established consultative fora and partnerships, scrutiny review panels and select committees.
 - ii) Meetings with outside bodies in pursuit of economic development objectives which have been authorised by the council, or any of its committees or sub-committees.
 - iii) Councillors' tours of the authority's area which have been authorised by the council, or any of its committees or sub-committees.
 - iv) Internal training sessions organised and facilitated by officers of the council for the induction of councillors or for the better performance of their duties and responsibilities or to enable better understanding of the council's functions.
2. The following meetings of associations of authorities of which this authority is a member:
 - The Local Government Association and its committees
3. Any other duty, or class of duty approved by any committee, or officer of the council acting under delegated powers, such duty or class of duty to be for the purposes of or in connection with the discharge of the functions of the council, or its committees or sub-committees.
4. Payments in respect of the above approved duties shall be paid in accordance with the following rates:

A. Travel and Subsistence Allowance

Public Transport

Actual standard class rail fares (first class travel will only be reimbursed with prior agreement where councillors have to work on the journey).

Long distance travel undertaken by car will be reimbursed at the rail fare rate where this is a cheaper option.

Councillors purchasing their own rail tickets should provide their receipt or ticket when claiming reimbursement.

For local travel councillors may choose:

Either

- (a) an annual saver ticket valid for Brighton & Hove buses where bus fares would otherwise be payable (bus travel is free for those aged 60 and over travelling after 9.00am and the disabled),

Or

- (b) a combination of reimbursement of cycle mileage and (ticketed) bus travel

Or

- (c) reimbursement of cycle mileage and passes to the Lanes Car Park

Mileage Allowances

Motor mileage for attendance at approved council duties is payable for travel **outside** the city boundaries only, except in exceptional circumstances where the use of taxis/personal transport shall be permitted with the agreement of the Monitoring Officer for example by Members who have a disability or injury, or former mayors undertaking mayoral duties on behalf of the Mayor. Taxis may also be claimed in cases of urgency, meetings outside normal working hours (8.30am-6.30pm) or where there is no public transport available. Receipts must be provided. Motor mileage within the city's boundaries is deemed to be covered by the Basic Allowance.

All mileage is paid at Inland Revenue advisory rates and these will automatically be updated by the council to reflect any changes the Inland Revenue introduces. The current rates are -

Cars	45p per mile (up to 10,000 business miles) 25p per mile (for cars for each business mile above 10,000 miles)
Supplement for Passengers	5p per mile for each official passenger, up to a maximum of 4 passengers
Motor Cycle Allowance	24p per mile
Cycle Allowance	20p per mile

In addition, those Members opting for either (b) or (c) above may also take advantage of either the council's Bike Loan Scheme or the new Tax-free Bike

Scheme and they will have access to the showering and secure lock-up facilities at three sites across the city.

Day Subsistence

Subsistence for approved council duties is payable for attendances **outside** the city boundaries only, except in exceptional circumstances. Where refreshments are not provided, subsistence costs within the city's boundaries are deemed to be covered by the Basic Allowance. Where claims can be made, eligibility is based on the time of day meals are taken and time away from home, as follows: -

Breakfast allowance	- more than four hours' absence before 11.00am	£6.77
Lunch allowance	- more than four hours' absence including 12 noon – 2.00pm	£9.30
Tea allowance	- more than four hours' absence including 3.00pm – 6.00pm	£3.50
Evening Meal allowance	- more than four hours' absence ending after 7.00pm	£15.00

Receipts should be provided for all subsistence claimed.

Overnight Subsistence

Where an overnight stay is required, overnight subsistence may be claimed up to a maximum of:

London/Conference Rate not exceeding	£114.00
Standard Rate not exceeding	£100.00

The above sums are for all subsistence received over a 24-hour period.

Meals on Trains

When main meals are taken on trains during a period for which there is an entitlement to day subsistence, the reasonable cost of the meals (including VAT) may be reimbursed in full, within the limits specified below. Where the cost of meals taken on trains is reimbursed, the rate of day subsistence allowance for that period of duty shall not exceed the maximum payable if the period of absence from the usual place of residence were reduced by four hours in respect of each meal taken. The limitations on reimbursement are:

- (i) Absence of more than four but not more than eight hours, the cost of one main meal.
- (ii) Absence of more than eight hours but not more than 12 hours, the cost of two main meals.
- (iii) Absence of more than 12 hours, the cost of three main meals.

Where the cost of meals taken on trains is reimbursed, the rate of day subsistence for that period of duty shall not exceed the maximum payable if the period of absence from the usual place of residence were reduced by 4 hours in respect of each meal taken.

NOTE:

1. The council will not reimburse the cost of any alcohol purchased.
2. With effect from 1 September 2007 motor mileage within the authority's boundaries can only be claimed in exceptional circumstances and councillors should either use the bus or cycle within the city.
3. With effect from 1 September 2007 subsistence within the authority's boundaries can only be claimed in exceptional circumstances.

Car mileage rates were revised from 1 April 2011.

All other travel and subsistence rates apply from 28 November 2003 and these have been re-affirmed by Full Council on 21 October 2011, 23 October 2014 and 13 December 2018.

B. Dependants' Carers' Allowance

Dependants' Carers' Allowance (for children and adult dependants) may be paid retrospectively to either councillor or care provider when a councillor attends any of the approved duties identified in Schedule 2 to this Scheme and incurs costs for care provision.

This claims-based scheme is subject to tax and national insurance deductions at personal rates (liability falling to whoever receives the payment).

Childcare

Eligible councillors may claim no more than the actual amount paid for childcare provision, up to a maximum of £9.00 per hour for each child, provided that the appropriate form is completed, and the relevant receipts are attached.

Up to a total of one hour travelling time may be added to the claim (where applicable) to enable the councillor to travel to and from meetings, provided the child/children remain with the carer for the duration.

Childcare costs may be claimed for children until the Saturday following the 1 September after their 15th birthday in line with the government's eligibility criteria for Working Tax Credits.

The restriction on the use of household members for caring (family and otherwise) applies as a matter of good practice in line with other local authorities.

The minimum age for any carer should be 18 years.

The annual cap for childcare is set at £1,800pa per councillor.

Dependant Care

This allowance is payable for both children with severe disabilities and also dependent adult relatives living in the councillor's home and for whom the councillor is directly responsible. It applies to the care of dependants on social or medical grounds.

Eligible councillors may claim no more than the actual amount paid for specialist dependant care up to a maximum of £9.00 per hour, provided the appropriate form is completed and the relevant receipts are attached.

Up to a total of one hour travelling time may be added to the claim (where applicable) to enable the councillor to travel to and from meetings, provided the dependant remains with the carer for the duration.

The minimum age for any carer should be 18 years.

The annual cap for dependant care is set at £1,800pa per councillor.

The Dependants' Carers' Allowance was revised at Full Council on 13 December 2018.

SCHEDULE 3

Brighton & Hove Members Allowances Scheme 2019-23

Other Allowances

NB These allowances which do not form part of the Members' Allowances Scheme are included here for information only:

Mayoral Allowances

Mayor's Allowance for 2019/20 £10,020 pa

Deputy Mayor's Allowance for 2019/20 £ 2,004pa

The Mayoral Allowances were approved by Full Council on 13 December 2018 and will be uplifted by the council's salary inflation each year, following the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel, and subject to any future review by the Panel.

Payments to Former Mayors £35 per
duty

This is currently a flat rate allowance which is not subject to inflationary increases, although it is subject to further review as required by the Independent Remuneration Panel.

Independent Remuneration Panel

Members of the Independent Remuneration Panel (4) £559 pa each

The IRP' Allowance was revised at Full Council on 13 December 2018 to be effective from 23 May 2019.

NOTICE OF MOTION**LABOUR GROUP MOTION****IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE**

This Council recognises and acknowledges:

- 1) The significant financial, social, wellbeing and educational impacts that the last 12 months of Covid and lockdown have brought to children and their families across the city;
- 2) The great support for these groups that our city's services, community groups and communities have provided to alleviate these impacts;

This Council therefore resolves to:

- 1) Request that the Chief Executive write to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, Robert Jenrick MP, asking for him to lobby for additional funding from the Treasury to support local authorities providing additional financial and service support to our most vulnerable and affected children across the city;
- 2) Request a report to a future Children, Young People & Skills committee in this council year to outline the impacts of Covid-19 and lockdown on children and young people, and potential additional support that could be used to mitigate these impacts including:
 - a. Emotional and wellbeing support in the community;
 - b. Rebuilding young people's community support networks post-Covid;
 - c. Ensuring every child on Free School Meals has access to nutritional food through School Holidays and not just during term time;
 - d. Enabling greater access to existing council services and programmes through increased concessionary fees;
 - e. Enabling free travel for young people across the city;
 - f. Broadening out-of-school and after-hours educational support long-term, to address new and entrenched disadvantage.

Proposed by: Cllr Yates

Seconded by: Cllr Allcock

Supporting Information:

<https://www.childrenssociety.org.uk/what-we-do/our-campaigns/strengthening-safety-net>

NOTICE OF MOTION**JOINT LABOUR & GREEN GROUP MOTION****MOULSECOOMB PRIMARY SCHOOL**

This Council notes;

- 1) The Regional Schools Commissioners (RSC) Office has identified three trusts as potential academy sponsors for Moulsecoomb Primary;
- 2) An academy sponsor is due to be appointed by the RSC at a meeting on 25 March;
- 3) The trajectory of improvement Moulsecoomb Primary is on, following the 2019 'inadequate' Ofsted judgement;
- 4) The recent Ofsted monitoring visit reporting that effective action is being taken with the school's improvement plan described as 'fit for purpose';
- 5) The overwhelming support for keeping Moulsecoomb Primary within local authority control, with a ballot showing 96% of parents were opposed to academisation;

This Council therefore:

- 1) Reaffirms its commitment to stand by parents, staff, unions and community in opposing the forced academisation of Moulsecoomb Primary, as there should be no academisation without community consent;
- 2) Requests the Chief Executive writes to the Secretary of State for Education, urging them to revoke the academisation order on Moulsecoomb Primary and requesting an urgent reinspection to enable the school to demonstrate its ongoing journey of improvement;
- 3) Requests the Chair of the Children, Young People & Skills Committee to call a special meeting to consider the need to conduct a further urgent ballot of parents and carers of children at Moulsecoomb Primary on whether they are in favour or oppose the forced conversion of the school to an academy trust selected by the RSC; and
- 4) Requests the Council's School Improvements team continue to support the school on its journey to being a 'Good' school.

Proposed by: Cllr Grimshaw

Seconded by: Cllr Clare

Supporting Information:

Moulsecoomb Primary school has made significant progress since the last inspection as outlined in November 2019 to the Children, Young People and Skills Committee. It has continued to make progress since then, including during lockdown and throughout the pandemic. This progress has been acknowledged by the local authority and by Ofsted/HMI in February 2020 and in October 2020. There has been particular focus on staff training and on improving the quality of teaching and learning at KS2. Improving attendance has also been a key priority.

NOTICE OF MOTION**GREEN GROUP****CLIMATE AND ECOLOGICAL EMERGENCY BILL**

Council notes that we have cross party, declared a climate and ecological emergency, hosted the city's first climate assembly and youth climate assembly and have published our first Carbon Neutral programme. Council also notes that there is a Bill before Parliament—the Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill (published as the “Climate and Ecology Bill”)—according to which the Government must develop an emergency strategy to limit global temperature increase to 1.5 degrees C above pre-industrial levels. [1]

Council therefore resolves to:

- Support the Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill, through encouraging local MPs to support this bill in Parliament, and through writing to the CEE Bill Alliance,

Further, council also resolves to:

- Continue cross party work on climate by pledging to join the UK100, the alliance of local government leaders for cleaner, more powerful communities. This pledge asks councillors to:
 - pledge to assess our largest impacts on climate change, prioritise where action needs to be taken and measure and monitor progress towards targets.
 - reduce our emissions at source and limit the use of carbon offsets as part of the global effort to avoid the worst impacts of climate change;
- Continue cross party work to ensure Carbon Neutrality by 2030, including through joining lobbying calls of the UK100 partnership of local government.

Proposed by: Cllr Heley

Seconded by: Cllr Mac Cafferty

Supporting Information

[1] The CEE Bill requires that the UK plays its fair and proper role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions consistent with limiting global temperature increase to 1.5 degrees C above pre-industrial temperatures; and

- ensures that all the UK's consumption emissions are accounted for;
- protects and restores biodiverse habitats along overseas supply chains;
- restores and regenerates the UK's depleted soils, wildlife habitats and species populations to healthy and robust states, maximising their capacity to absorb CO₂ and their resistance to climate heating;
- sets up an independent Citizens' Assembly, representative of the UK's population, to engage with Parliament and Government and help develop the emergency strategy.

[2] <https://www.uk100.org/>

NOTICE OF MOTION**GREEN GROUP****NHS WHITE PAPER AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT**

Council notes the publication of the NHS White Paper. We welcome the recognition of the importance of place-based care, despite no long-term funding solution for adult social care but we ask for thorough consultation on the changes proposed.

The White Paper recognises the critical role of local government to the health and wellbeing of our communities, but proposes new powers for the Secretary Of State for Health and Social Care which could undermine local leadership, the local accountability of the NHS, and local government's public health responsibilities.

This council applauds the work of our Public Health and Adult Social Care Teams during this pandemic and the work of all council officers in keeping council services going during these difficult times.

Council therefore resolves that:

- All party Leaders to write to the NHS Leads asking for them to consult the City Council and residents on the White Paper, so that our local communities can have meaningful input into the proposals for the NHS;
- To ask the CEO to write to local NHS Leads, to express our wish for representation of both officers and members in the proposed Integrated Care Systems, to ensure accountability, transparency and oversight;
- And further, to ask the CEO to write to the Minister of Health and local MPs to ask for sufficient resources for public health to address health inequalities and deal with any future pandemic, including responsibility for test and trace systems.

Proposed by: Cllr Shanks

Seconded by: Cllr Nield

Supporting Information

NOTICE OF MOTION**GREEN GROUP AND INDEPENDENT MEMBER****WELFARE ASSISTANCE FUND**

Council notes that in 2020/1, due to the pressures the Covid-crisis put on households, the Government provided significant additional funding to councils like ours to enable us to deliver vital emergency support. As a result, we were able to put in place funding to support the most vulnerable through the pandemic. This has included free school meal support. However, this funding will expire.

- Council notes and supports ongoing work to commission Money Advice services, third sector funding, the welfare support team and housing benefit support and advice, to ensure families and individuals are supported;
- The Children's Society and a number of other charities are calling on the Government to provide long-term, dedicated funding to enable all councils to provide a safety-net for households facing financial crisis

Council therefore resolves to:

- Join and express support for the Children's Society 'funding local crisis support,' campaign, calling on the government to maintain such funding for local crisis support services, beyond the pandemic;
- Ask the Chief Executive and Finance Officer to detail to government our support for the campaign and concerns regarding the end of this funding support on March 31st.

Proposed by: Cllr Littman

Seconded by: Cllr Knight

Supporting Information

- [1] <https://www.childrensociety.org.uk/what-we-do/our-campaigns/strengthening-safety-net>

NOTICE OF MOTION
CONSERVATIVE GROUP
RISE

This Council:

- (1) Strongly supports the work of Sussex-based charity RISE in helping people affected by domestic abuse and violence;
- (2) Notes that Policy & Resources Committee is in the process of establishing a cross-party Member Working Group to review commissioning and procurement practices including those relating to domestic violence services;
- (3) Calls on the Member Working Group to leave no stone unturned in getting to the bottom of the decisions, procedures and processes that led to the current unsatisfactory situation; and
- (4) Requests officers to expedite any requests for information that are made by either Councillors or members of the public relating to the above, through Freedom of Information requests or other means.

Proposed by: Cllr Nemeth

Seconded by: Cllr Simson

NOTICE OF MOTION
CONSERVATIVE GROUP
GREEN PRIDE

This Council agrees to:

1. Request the Policy & Resources Committee to consider the prohibition of the use of Preston Park and any other council property, park, green or open space for the event Green Pride and to call for a report as necessary in order to be able to approve the prohibited use of council land and property as outlined; and
2. Support the use of medicinal cannabis and CBD oil in line with national legislation.

Proposed by: Cllr Miller

Seconded by: Cllr Bagaeen

