

NOTICE OF MOTION**LABOUR AND CO-OPERATIVE GROUP****TUPE PENSION PROTECTION FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT STAFF.**

This Council calls on the Chief Executive to write to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions Damien Green requesting that he amend the Fair Deal Guidance 2003 to include staff from Best Value Authorities such as Brighton and Hove City Council. This will ensure that local authority staff have the same rights as other public sector workers to retained their Public Service Pension Scheme when they are TUPE'D out of local government employment.

Proposed by: Cllr Moonan

Seconded by: Cllr Horan

Supported by: The Labour and Cooperative group of councillors

Supporting information

Most public sector employees (e.g. NHS, maintained schools, civil service) who are TUPE'd out to another service provider have the right to stay within their respective Public Service Pension Scheme. This protection does not apply to LA's such as BHCC - the guidance states the any new contractor can provide either the local government scheme or one that is "broadly comparable"

It is unclear if there are any alternative schemes that provide the same full package and quality of pension. The phrase "broadly comparable" is vague and can lead to many people receiving a reduced pension package when they retire. The cost to contractors of retaining the local government scheme is high. This is a disincentive for them to choose to offer the local government scheme and many offer a broadly comparable scheme instead.

It is unfair that local government employees, who may have worked loyally for many years, can find that their pension has been eroded in this way. A significant proportion of these employees may be low paid women, for whom a safe and reliable pension is an essential part of their financial security in their retirement.

