

Brighton & Hove City Council

Council

Agenda Item 3

Subject: Mayoral Report 2021/22

Date of meeting: 26 May 2022

Report of: Chief Executive

Contact Officer: Name: Minna Robertson

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Ward(s) affected: All

For general release

1. Purpose of the report and policy context

1.1 This report informs the Council of the activities of the Mayor, Councillor Alan Robins during the civic year 2021-22.

2. Recommendations

2.1 That the report be noted.

3. Context and background information

3.1 The Mayor is the first citizen of Brighton and Hove and carries out a range of civic and ceremonial duties, representing the council across the city and around the region. The Mayor of Brighton and Hove is not directly elected, holds no direct power and is politically neutral during their term in office. The role is purely civic and ceremonial.

3.2 The Mayor selected the IFCG (Interfaith Contact Group) to continue as his Chaplaincy for a second year. The IFCG work together to promote understanding between people of different faiths and their communities within the city.

3.3 The Mayor continued to support the Brighton Fringe, Leo House at Home, Off the Fence, the Sussex Heart Charity and Together Co, initially selected in 2020.

3.4 The charity events planned for 2021-22 took place including the charity health walk, women behind the blue plaque tours, tea in the Pavilion Gardens and the screening of Miracle of 34th Street at All Saints Church.

3.5 Events were affected by cancellations due to the spread of the Omicron variant notably from mid-December 2021 to the beginning of February 2022. The University of Sussex graduations were cancelled in January, whereas

the University of Brighton graduations took place in the beginning of February.

- 3.6 262 engagements took place in the Mayoral year 2021-2022. The figure is an 80% increase from the previous year of 2020-2021 when 145 engagements took place, demonstrating the impact of lockdown and slowly emerging from lockdown.
- 3.7 The Mayor undertakes many different duties including Chairing meetings of Full Council, supporting the main aims of the Council, representing the council at public, civic and ceremonial events both in and outside the city, acting as an ambassador for the city and working with a wide range of local organisations.
- 3.8 Highlights of the Mayoral year included:
- Hosting a Primary School in the Council Chamber
 - Service of Compassion at the Brighton Dome
 - School visit to Brackenbury Primary School
 - Hosting the Chelsea Pensioners at Portslade Bowls Club
 - Remembrance Service at Brighton War Memorial
 - Gay Games announcement at the Royal Pavilion
 - First of Advent Civic Service at St Nicholas Church
 - Chinese New Year celebration
 - Unveiling of Plaque to Rabindranath Tagore
 - Archbishop of Canterbury visit to St Peter's Church
- 3.9 Due to Covid-19 restrictions only small gatherings of twelve were allowed in the Mayor's Parlour. Scout awards, school visits, meetings and charity events took place in the Council Chamber.
- 3.10 Acts of Remembrance across the city took place with big crowds gathering this year. The Hove Act of Remembrance is now organised by All Saints Church and took place at the Hove War Memorial followed by a parade up to All Saints Church for a Service of Remembrance.
- 3.11 The Mayor wishes to thank the Interfaith Contact Group for their work as Chaplain for a second year. A special thank you to Anthea Ballam and Martin Poole for organising the Service of Compassion that took place on Sunday 17 October 2021.
- 3.12 The Mayor would like thank his Consort Val Cawley for her support.
- 3.13 The Mayor is grateful for the support of officers, the civic office team and those involved in helping to manage the council meetings.
- 3.14 The Mayor would also like to thank the Deputy Mayor Cllr Mary Mears for her support.

4. Analysis and consideration of alternative options

- 4.1 As this is an annual report of the Mayor there is no need for any consideration of alternative options.

5. Community engagement and consultation

5.1 There has been no other consultation required.

6. Conclusion

6.1 That the information contained in the report should be noted

7. Financial implications

7.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

Name of finance officer consulted: Peter Francis

Date consulted: 10/05/22

8. Legal implications

8.1 There are none arising from this report.

Name of lawyer consulted: Liz Culbert

Date consulted: 10/05/22

9. Equalities implications

9.1 There are none arising from this report.

10. Sustainability implications

10.1 There are none arising from this report.

Supporting Documentation

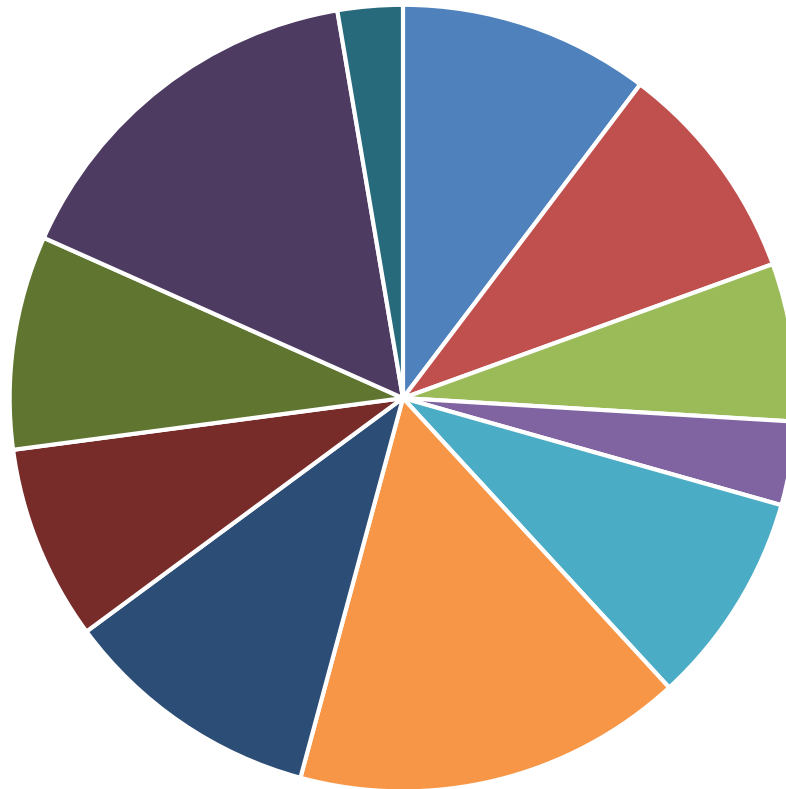
1. Appendices

1. Type of Mayoral Engagements

2. Background documents

1. None

Type of Mayoral engagements



- Arts/creative
- Faith or F/Communities
- sport or sporting activities
- Meetings
- Economy
- Interviews/ virtual messages
- Charity, fundraising or volunteer
- Aspects of health, age or well-being
- traditional/heritage
- young people, schools & Graduations Ceremonies
- communities equalities

Arts/creative	10%
Charity, fundraising or volunteer	9%
Faith or F/Communities	6%
Aspects of health, age or well-being *	3%
Sport or sporting activities	9%
Traditional/heritage	16%
Meetings	11%
Young people, schools & Graduations Ceremonies	8%
Economy	9%
Communities equalities	16%
Interviews/ virtual messages	3%
	100

*To note that certain engagements may fit within several categories, for example Aspects of Health, Age and Wellbeing may have been classified within Communities.