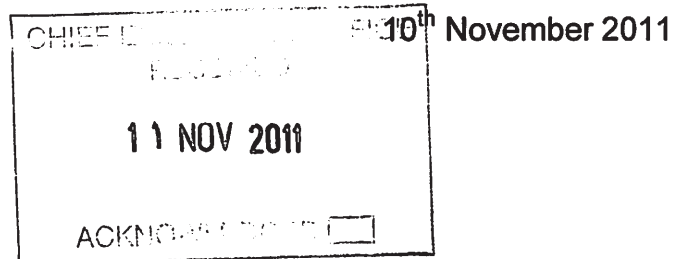




**Brighton & Hove
City Council**

COUNCILLOR GILL MITCHELL
Leader, Labour & Co-operative Group
Brighton & Hove City Council
Room 122, King's House
Grand Avenue, Hove
BN3 2LS

John Barradell
Chief Executive
Brighton & Hove City Council



Dear John,

Re: Call-in Request: Blatchington Mill School Hockey Pitches

I am writing to request a call-in of the decision taken by Cabinet on 10th November regarding Agenda Item 122, Blatchington Mill School Hockey Pitches.

I believe that this decision taken by Cabinet was not taken in accordance with Article 13 of the Constitution ('Decision Making'), principally due to its lack of openness.

The Cabinet decision included a loan from the Council to Blatchington Mill School of £350,000, funded through unsupported borrowing, but further details were laid out in a business plan which was not appended to the report.

The report refers to a Business Plan several times, mainly when reviewing the financial implications of the decision. The report states that the Business Plan:

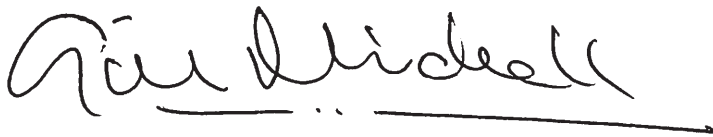
- (a) shows the repayments of interest and principal are affordable to the school;
- (b) considers the potential income and expenditure in relation to the development and to assess the financial risk;
- (c) is self-financing;
- (d) results in a break-even position in terms of potential cash flows, even on a worse scenario; and
- (e) assesses the risks and opportunities of management implications.

Furthermore, given that this decision would seem to place quite a significant financial burden on one of the city's schools, it is important to understand the ability of the school to pay off the loan. Therefore, the inclusion of the Business Plan is all the more critical.

In summary, it seems that the Business Plan holds a significant amount of information leading to how this decision was made, especially relating to financial implications. I therefore believe its exclusion as part of this report contravenes the "presumption in favour of openness" mentioned in Article 13 of the Constitution.

I therefore request that the decision is scrutinised along with sight of the Business Plan, before the final decision is taken.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gill Mitchell', with a long horizontal line extending to the right from the end of the signature.

Councillor Gill Mitchell
Leader, Labour & Co-operative Group
Chair, Overview & Scrutiny Commission
Brighton & Hove City Council