

NOTICE OF MOTION REFERRED FROM FULL COUNCIL 25 OCTOBER 2012

NOTICE OF MOTION

CONSERVATIVE GROUP

TRAVELLER ENCAMPMENTS ON SENSITIVE SITES IN BRIGHTON & HOVE

“This Council notes the powers contained in the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 that allow Sussex Police, in conjunction with Brighton & Hove City Council, to move unlawful encampments off public land in the city where they consider that (i) there is disruption to local community activity; (ii) damage has been caused to the land/property, e.g. forced entry; (iii) there is evidence of arrestable offences being committed by the trespassers; or (iv) there is proof that any of the trespassers have used threatening behaviour.

Council further notes that the recent Traveller Scrutiny Panel recommended that, as a matter of priority, the Council produce a plan for identifying and securing sensitive sites in the city.

Given the unprecedented scale of unauthorised encampments in the city in recent months, many of which have occurred on sensitive parkland sites, this Council:

- 1) Requests that the Environment & Sustainability Committee considers the adoption of a sensitive site protocol, in partnership with Sussex Police, as a matter of urgency and that any future incursions on sensitive sites be the subject of immediate eviction utilising the powers described above.
- 2) Believes that any areas not included on a sensitive sites list should not automatically become ‘tolerated’ sites for unauthorised camping.”

Proposed by: Cllr G. Theobald

Seconded by: Cllr Peltzer Dunn

Supported by: Cllrs Cobb, Brown, Bennett, C. Theobald, Cox, A. Norman, K. Norman, Wealls, Mears, Janio, Barnett, Simson, Wells, Hyde, Smith, and Pidgeon.

