

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL

25 SEPTEMBER 2003

NOTICE OF MOTION

Improving the Effectiveness of Partnership Working in Brighton & Hove

This Council notes that:

- A recent audit of strategic partnerships operating in Brighton & Hove, carried out for the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP), found that there are currently 53 such associations at work in the City.
- The present Government has prescribed partnership working as the primary means of delivering its policy programme at a local level.

Furthermore:

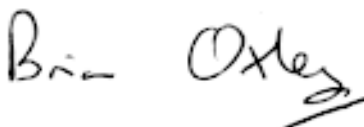
- Recent research (November 2002) by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation found that there is increasing concern amongst local authority members about the general effectiveness of partnership working on such a scale. In particular, the costs and bureaucracy involved in partnerships were questioned and the fact that lines of responsibility and local democratic accountability can become blurred.
- A 2002 Audit Commission report on Community Safety partnerships concluded, worryingly, that between 1999 and 2002: "local partnerships have not made an obvious impact on community safety". They go on to say that: "Many partnerships are characterised by high aspirations but weak delivery" and that "there is an over-emphasis on bureaucracy and process, rather than a focus on outcomes, performance management and information sharing."

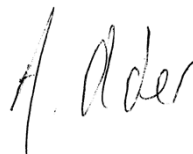
This Council, therefore, resolves:

- Under the auspices of the LSP, and using the Council's recently published 'Partnership Governance Guide', to examine ways in which the 53 strategic partnerships identified could co-operate more closely in order to reduce duplication and make more effective use of scarce resources.
- To encourage strategic partnerships to become more focussed towards delivering efficient and reliable services for the council tax payers/residents of Brighton & Hove.



Councillor Ann Norman





Councillor Averil Older

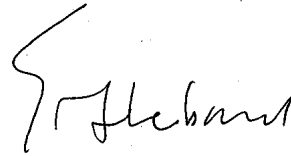


Councillor Brian Oxley

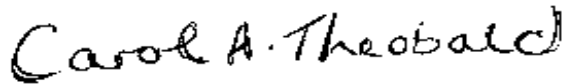
Councillor Dee Simson



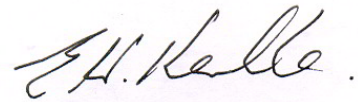
Councillor Anne Giebeler



Councillor Geoffrey Theobald OBE



Councillor Mrs. Carole Theobald



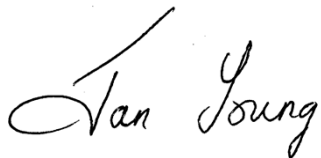
Councillor Ted Kemble



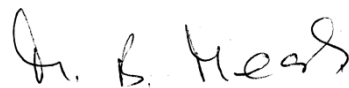
Councillor Brian Pidgeon



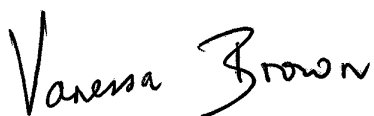
Councillor David Smith



Councillor Jan Young



Councillor Mary Mears



Councillor Mrs. Vanessa Brown