

TOURISM, EQUALITIES, COMMUNITIES & CULTURE COMMITTEE ADDENDUM 1

4.00PM, THURSDAY, 15 SEPTEMBER 2022

HOVE TOWN HALL - COUNCIL CHAMBER

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ADDENDUM 1

ITEM		Page
21	PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT	5 - 6
	Question from Mark Strong	
22	ITEMS REFERRED FROM COUNCIL	7 - 10
	Notice of Motion – Take Action to Tackle Gender Inequality in Brighton & Hove	
	Notice of Motion – Licensing Scheme for Short Term Holiday Lets and AirBnBs	

Brighton & Hove City Council

Tourism, Equalities, Communities & Culture Committee

Agenda Item 21 (b)

Subject: Public Questions

Date of meeting: 15 September 2022

A period of not more than fifteen minutes shall be allowed at each ordinary meeting for questions submitted by a member of the public.

The question will be answered without discussion. The person who asked the question may ask one relevant supplementary question, which shall be put and answered without discussion. The person to whom a question, or supplementary question, has been put may decline to answer it.

The following written questions have been received from members of the public:

(1) Russell Mimms – Kayak Storage Saltdean Beach

Please can Saltdean residents put a community kayak storage rack on, or near the beach at Saltdean.

The idea is that this will ease the significant effort required to transport kayaks to the beach for local residents, and make our local beach more accessible for water sports / leisure, and thus make our lovely beach even better. Kayak racks are often seen at other beach locations around the UK.

We will fund and organise it ourselves with the help of Councillor Bridget Fishleigh.

(2) Christopher Hawtree – Full-Time Head of Libraries

For many years, we have had here a part-time Head of Libraries system. In these unprecedented times, with a need for well-stocked libraries necessary to foment social inclusion, would the Chair please tell us what steps are being taken to appoint a full-time Head of Libraries?

(3) Mark Strong – Accessible City Strategy

I strongly welcome the proposed Accessible City Strategy. However, it is disappointing to see little reference to the public realm. Obstructed pavements, with private and public bins, A Boards and increasingly parked cars, make it hard or impossible for Disabled people to get around our city.

The principles document fails to refer to national guidance which addresses transport by Disabled people, including DfT's Inclusive Mobility (2022). Also omitted are local policies including the Local Transport Plan and LCWIP.

Will the council commit to including these issues in the Strategy, with a review of accessibility of the public realm including pavements?

Brighton & Hove City Council

Tourism, Equalities, Communities & Culture Committee

Agenda Item 21

Subject: Take action to tackle gender inequality: from period poverty to safety, health and education
Notice of Motion referred from Council on the 21 July 2022

Date of meeting: 15 September 2022

Ward(s) affected: All

For general release

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

1.1 To receive the following Notice of Motion which was debated at and referred from the full Council meeting held on the 21 July 2022.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

2.1 That the Committee responds to the motion concerning Take action to tackle gender inequality either by noting it or where it is considered more appropriate, calling for an officer report on the matter as requested, which may give consideration to a range of options.

3. CONTEXT / BACKGROUND INFORMATION

3.1 The following resolution from the full council meeting held on the 21 July 2022 for the committee to consider is detailed below:

Council notes:

- The US Supreme Court decision to overturn Roe v Wade
- Systematic and institutional misogyny meaning women being failed in areas ranging from justice to health
- Brighton & Hove has been ranked the worst city in the country for period poverty, with almost HALF of women and girls unable to afford basic sanitary protection
- Charities are still supporting red boxes in schools and food banks with sanitary products and commends the work of projects like the young-people led Brighton Period Project who collect and distribute products in the city
- Healthwatch survey data which shows over a THIRD of women in Brighton & Hove missed smear tests and critical cervical screenings last year although recognises the limitations of the data provided, meaning this may not be an accurate picture
- That Government intervention is needed, but that there are concrete real actions we can take to tackle period poverty, female health inequalities, and to improve safety and education some of which is already taking place in a variety of settings

- Services already provided by Brighton & Hove City Council, including support in schools such as the equality service provided on BEEM
- The recent consultation on the creation of a Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy

Therefore, resolves to:

- 1) Request Tourism, Equalities, Communities and Culture Committee to ask officers to bring forward a report, in consultation with residents who self-define as a woman or another marginalised gender identity, and women's organisations and other organisations such as youth services and public sector partners in the city, that outlines a new Gender Equality Strategy, aimed at tackling gender inequality in the city
- 2) Further requests TECC to ask officers to include in the report information on work already ongoing, alongside any new proposals to work in partnership to tackle gender inequality to focus on four key areas;
 - Poverty (to consider distributing free sanitary products at community centres and youth clubs)
 - Health (including requesting that the NHS to consider a public health awareness campaign to improve cervical screening rates)
 - Safety (including improvements to support services for victims of VAWG, and a Night Time Safety Charter and a consultation to hear from women and girls on improving street safety)
 - Education (including rolling out further commissioned services such as anti-misogyny and gender equality training)

Brighton & Hove City Council

Tourism, Equalities, Communities
& Culture Committee

Agenda Item 21

Subject: **Licensing scheme for short term holiday lets and airbnbs**
Notice of Motion referred from Council on the 21 July 2022

Date of meeting: **15 September 2022**

Ward(s) affected: **All**

For general release

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

1.1 To receive the following Notice of Motion which was debated at and referred from the full Council meeting held on the 21 July 2022.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

2.1 That the Committee responds to the motion concerning the sale of new homes as second homes either by noting it or where it is considered more appropriate, calling for an officer report on the matter as requested, which may give consideration to a range of options.

3. CONTEXT / BACKGROUND INFORMATION

3.1 The following resolution from the full council meeting held on the 21 July 2022 for the committee to consider is detailed below:

This committee notes:

- The disruption, distress, and exacerbation to the housing supply crisis that the rise in short term holiday lettings such as AirBnB have inflicted on our local communities
- That some short-term holiday lets have replaced long term rental accommodation, stifling supply of rented accommodation and in turn driving rents up and conditions down
- The detrimental impact holiday lets have on local hotels, bed and breakfast establishments and our aim for a circular local economy that builds community wealth

This council also notes:

- The council has previously reviewed options to regulate short term lets (1) (2), which confirmed that it has no powers to license short term lets
- The government have recently assessed the impact of short term lets in England (3) and have launched a consultation on regulation in June 2022, which closes on 21st September. (4)

Therefore, this Council resolves to:

1) Request a report to come to next TECC Committee which provides updates on the report from March 20, including new legislation in Wales, changes in tax policy, and suggestions made by AirBnB themselves (5)

2) Submit a response to the government's call for evidence

3) Request the Chief Executive write to the Housing Secretary, lobbying for powers to;

- Designate a minimum percentage of rented housing to be reserved for long term lets, and place a cap on the number of holiday lets
- Introduce a licensing scheme similar to that laid out by the Welsh Government, to not only limit the number of second homes and holiday lets, but to ensure fair taxation is extracted from them
- Change planning laws to require landlords wishing to convert their property into a holiday let to have to apply for change of use to a new class use for holiday lets

Sources:

- (6) [Party Houses Scrutiny Panel in 2014](#)
- (7) [TECC committee report in March 2020](#)
- (8) [The Growth in Short-Term Lets \(England\) Government report](#)
- (9) [Government Consultation link](#)
- (10) [AirBnB White Paper](#)