



**Brighton & Hove  
City Council**

# **COUNCIL ADDENDUM 1**

**4.30PM, THURSDAY, 11 JULY 2024**

**COUNCIL CHAMBER, HOVE TOWN HALL**



## **ADDENDUM**

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# Brighton & Hove City Council

## Council

## Agenda Item 20

**Subject:** Petitions

**Date of meeting:** 11 July 2024

**Report of:** Corporate Director for Corporate Services

**Contact Officer:** Name: Anthony Soyinka  
Tel: 01273 291006  
Email: [anthony.soyinka@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:anthony.soyinka@brighton-hove.gov.uk)

**Ward(s) affected:** All

### 1. Purpose of the report and policy context

1.1 To receive any petitions submitted directly to Democratic Services or any e-Petition submitted via the council's website.

### 2. Recommendations

2.1 That Council notes the petition(s).

### 3. Context and background information

3.1 To receive the following petition signed by 34 people at time of publication:

#### **Dyke Road Drive is an unsafe road**

We the undersigned petition Brighton & Hove Council to urgently require the council to take note of the deteriorating situation for residents, drivers, cyclists and pedestrians and work with us to create wholistic solution for our street. Increasing traffic pressure and poor traffic & parking design, leading to high levels of pollution and aggressive antisocial driver behaviour, mean that Dyke Road Drive has become unsafe:

- as a major route to schools
- as a significant east-west cycle route
- and above all as a place to live.

It is not serving drivers well either.

3.2 To receive the following petition signed by 3 people at time of publication:

#### **Controlled Parking Zone**

We the undersigned petition Brighton & Hove Council to Add 1 hour controlled parking zone, one in the morning and one in the afternoon similar to the surrounding areas on Nevill Avenue for the entire street.

The surrounding areas around Hove Park, Poets Corner and now around Portslade Station have all had parking restrictions applied. This has now caused more and more overspill onto other roads without restrictions. I would like the same consistency and approach to be applied to Nevill Avenue. The main issues is now

cars are parked all along the road, days and even months at a time. they are making it increasingly difficult for residents to park in their own drives, or even drive out of their drives as they are usually blocked or their line of sight to oncoming cars is blocked making it extremely difficult. Especially dangerous to families who have young children. There are several schools in the area with children crossing roads with multiple cars parked all day everyday making it difficult and dangerous to cross the road. As per the above if a controlled 1 hour parking restriction was applied twice a day would minimise the number of vehicles parked on the road making it a much safer road for everyone.

3.3 To receive the following petition signed by 13 people at time of publication:

### **Residents' Parking Consultation Lovers Walk Brighton**

Lovers Walk is at crisis point.

#### **The Parking Situation**

- We are the ONLY non-permitted street in the city centre and have been experiencing extreme and increasing difficulty parking in our street.
- This affects residents daily e.g. access for carers, loading for the tip, getting deliveries, arranging work by trades or being trades people getting to and from work.
- There's acute competition for spaces; cars/vans continually parking on double yellow lines, regularly blocking access to the private road at the end of the street, resulting in missed appointments, lost days of work, serious inconvenience and costs for residents
- There has also been repeated serious damage to resident's cars.
- Some residents would also like to switch to e-vehicles in the next few years which seems an impossibility.

It is rapidly worsening due to several factors:

- The incremental addition of resident parking schemes across the city has made our street an obvious target for visitors to the city and locals parking vehicles, sometimes for long periods of time as it is a short walk into the city centre.
- Pressure from Travelodge customers who predominantly opt to park for free in our street rather than pay to park in the company's camera-controlled car park, often in a dangerous and inconsiderate way, blocking in residents.
- Multiple development projects occurring in the immediate vicinity including the creation of 229 new homes on the Anston House site. There is likely to be further developments too over the coming years e.g. the NatWest buildings on Preston Road.
- The consolidation of GP practices into the Beaconsfield Medical Centre which has limited parking spaces and serves in excess of 10k residents.
- People visiting Preston Park which now charges more for parking. This worsens when there are festivals and events in the park which happen more frequently now.

#### **The State of the Road Surface:**

The road surface is in a truly terrible state with exposed gravel and deepening potholes. It has been at least twenty years since it was resurfaced and now requires urgent attention.

The street now looks seriously neglected which sends out the message that it is uncared for, not a residential space that is in a Conservation Area. Graffiti is endemic and anti-social behaviour is commonplace, including drug dealing and a

flasher on the steps. One resident had £4k of damage to her property as a result of a thrown bottle.

This is a serious concern as Lovers Walk is a major thoroughfare for families and school children, college students, dog walkers and residents accessing Preston Park.

To summarise, Lovers Walk is a historical asset in decline, and its residents are experiencing an increasingly negative impact from the major developments occurring in the vicinity, the inconsiderate attitude of the Travelodge and many other factors. We are seeking an urgent resolution to the parking situation and the road condition, which should act as a trigger for wider improvements to the street.





**Subject: Written questions from members of the public**

**Date of meeting: 11 July 2024**

A period of not more than thirty minutes shall be allowed for questions submitted by a member of the public who either lives or works in the area of the authority at each ordinary meeting of the Council.

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

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

**1. Question from: Gary Valier**

Does the council accept that Karon Monaghan KC is correct that the BHCC Trans Inclusion Schools Toolkit is in breach of the Human Rights Act 1998, the European Convention on Human Rights, the Equality Act 2010, The Education Acts of 1996, 2002 and 2006, the School Premises (England) Regulations 2012, departmental statutory guidance including Keeping Children Safe in Education, EHRC Guidance (both Statutory and Technical) and multiple instances of binding case law in both the domestic and the supranational courts?

**Reply from Councillor Daniel Cabinet Member – Children, Families, Youth Services and for Ending Violence against Women and Girls**

**2. Question from: Penny Taites**

Short term rentals have caused long term stress to neighbors due to noise disturbance and anti-social behavior by the guests. This also has negative health effects on children such as prolonged sleep disturbance which results in tiredness, daytime sleepiness, difficulties in focusing attention, increased irritability, and lowered frustration tolerance. Short-term renters have no stake in the community, and therefore no reason to care how the neighborhood around them suffers from their vacation activities. The levels of noise by these party goers (which is a statutory nuisance) and prolonged anti-social, disruptive behavior is excessive, is at unreasonable times and in an unreasonable fashion, thereby substantially causing a significant interference with the enjoyment of homes in the neighborhood and interferes with everyday life. What action will the council take, in line with your enforcement policy to ban short term lets that are a statutory nuisance for a prolonged period of time?

**Reply from Councillor Williams Cabinet Member – Housing and New Homes**

**3. Question from: Ben Carr**

I'm a farmer in Ovingdean growing crops that people in our City eat. Last year I came to full council and asked BHCC to introduce a by-law so that overnight camping is banned on Greenways road. I need this because people stay overnight, have picnics/campfires, empty their bowels/portaloos on my crops - and leave piles of rubbish.

Neither myself and Councillor Fishleigh have managed to make any progress with officers. Section 77 notices aren't enough. I need a solution so that vans that park overnight can be ticketed/moved on immediately. Can the Council please help save my crops and introduce a by-law?

**Reply from Councillor Muten Cabinet Member – Transport, Parking and Public Realm**

**4. Question from: Barbara Odell**

What will it take for the Brighton and Hove Council, City Parks to respond to their Civic responsibilities to its residents of Goldstone, Shirley Drive and other local areas to cut/mow and re-instate their overgrown, hazardous, neglected and unsightly verges and is this a reflection of the sad decline of Civic Pride of our City?

N.B. The verges are now over knee-high and the breeding grounds for ticks, insect biting species incorporating dog faeces, rubbish, hidden uneven obstacles, heavy with grass seeds hazardous to dogs and cats, obstruction to visibility for vehicles, and also a potential fire hazard.

**Reply from Councillor Rowkins Cabinet Member – Net Zero & Environmental Services**

**5. Question from: Nigel Smith**

BHCC's transport officers say they expect that substantially reducing the width of the Marine Parade exit from the Aquarium Junction will have a negligible impact on bus and other eastbound traffic flows.

This contradicts DfT guidance on how road widths affect traffic flows.

It also ignores the widespread gridlock experienced in August 2020, when the width of the westbound exit was reduced for a COVID bike lane (which was rapidly removed).

Can you explain why B&HCC persists in believing its assumptions are better than the DfT's professional road capacity guidelines that underpin UK Transport Assessments?

**Reply from Councillor Muten Cabinet Member – Transport, Parking and Public Realm**

**Subject: Deputations from members of the public**

**Date of meeting: 11 July 2024**

A period of not more than fifteen minutes shall be allowed at each ordinary meeting of the Council for the hearing of deputations from members of the public. Each deputation may be heard for a maximum of five minutes following which one Member of the council, nominated by the mayor, may speak in response. It shall then be moved by the mayor and voted on without discussion that the spokesperson for the deputation be thanked for attending and its subject matter noted.

Notification of one Deputation has been received. The spokesperson is entitled to speak for 5 minutes.

**(1) Deputation concerning Improved parking, traffic management & safety required on Eldred Avenue**

Supported by:  
Edward & Victoria Raynard  
Andrew Ashton  
Rona & Simon Smith  
Jonathon & Gemma Tacon  
Alan & Margaret Walker

Summary of deputation:

Firstly, I would like to thank the Chair and the committee for the opportunity to present this deputation, bringing attention to the need for better parking, traffic management & safety measures on the southern stretch of Eldred Avenue between Dene Vale and Tongdean Lane, situated on the borders of Westdene and Withdean.

My name is Edward Raynard, I have been a resident of Brighton for 20 years, and have lived on Eldred Avenue since June 2021. Though a relative newcomer, this deputation represents the views of many long-standing residents, some of whom have lived in the area since 1971.

Year on year, residents have witnessed significant increases in traffic, parking congestion, pollution, and driver aggression. The Deneway and Eldred Avenue has become a popular 'rat-run' with drivers who divert away from the nearby A23 - Brighton's main arterial road. Rat-run drivers have a singular focus; the shortest journey time from point A to point B, resulting in high volume of traffic and pollution on unsuitable, narrow residential roads like Eldred Avenue. In 2024, congestion intensified with the introduction of BHCC parking management at Withdean Leisure Centre, Stadium, Withdean Road and Surrenden Road.

This 400 metre section of Eldred Avenue is at breaking point for long periods of the day and cannot cope with current levels of parking and congestion....neither can its residents.

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In June 2024, 80% of households in the effected area responded to the survey accompanying this deputation, giving their views and experiences related to traffic and parking problems, including;

- 100% of responses stated the need for something to be done to improve traffic management at the southern end of Eldred Avenue and The Deneway.
- 61% of residents experienced damage to their parked cars from passing traffic.
- 89% witnessed reckless driving, altercations, road rage or aggressive behaviour

Speaking on behalf of the Eldred Avenue residents, I recommend council members review the accompanying survey – it really does highlight the issues. More importantly, the results provide a range of tangible ideas and solutions as to how best Brighton & Hove Council can support this neighbourhood and its road users.

Finally, I would like to thank Chair, the committee and Council for listening, and look forward to further consultation with the appropriate committee members for consideration at its next meeting, including our Ward Councillors who have been supportive to date.

## Supporting Information

Attached as Appendix 1

## **(2) Deputation concerning Provision of recycling services on Sylvan Hall estate by CityClean**

Supported by:

Catherine Eden (lead speaker)

Hugh Barney Miller

Timothy Joseph Andrews

Alessandra De Santis

Max Calesini

Cosmo Calesini

Ailsa McWhinnie

Aurelie Elder

Anna Miller

Abigail Smith

Katie Knight

Jean Bairstow

## Summary of deputation:

This deputation is addressed to the council administration. Sylvan Hall estate has a long history of failed recycling collections, as evidenced by a long email trail between the residents' association and CityClean, which councillors Pete West and Raphael Hill have been copied into. In June 2023, CityClean committed to providing two recycling collections per week to the estate, as our communal recycling bins regularly overflow and items blow around the estate, causing both distress and risk to residents. Residents regularly clear up the mess themselves with large quantities of bin bags. One elderly resident has slipped on the mess and children regularly play amongst and go through any

## Brighton & Hove City Council

items which are not collected, which poses an obvious hazard. We attach photos to this written submission.

Unfortunately, CityClean have been largely unable to fulfil their promise of two recycling collections per week. Up until very recently, two out of the three recycling locations on Sylvan Hall have only been receiving one collection per week. The third location at Canterbury Drive only receives fortnightly collections, apparently due to difficulties of access because of overhanging trees. As well as the accrual of mess, the irregularity of collections throughout the estate has led to increased flytipping, as some residents assume that as the recycling sites are such a mess, that any unwanted items can be dumped there.

CityClean's record-keeping of completed collections has been repeatedly inaccurate, and residents have had to physically check the recycling on a regular basis to see for themselves whether it has been collected. This has again been evidenced in a long chain of email correspondence, most recently demonstrated by CityClean claiming that Canterbury Drive recycling is picked up twice a week, which is incorrect, as it is picked up fortnightly, as discussed above.

Over the past few weeks, with continued chasing by residents, CityClean have been able to provide twice-weekly collections on Mondays and Thursdays. This has made an enormous difference. There is currently no overflow of recycling, and flytipping has been much reduced. We are keen to ensure this continues.

We would like to ask the following questions:

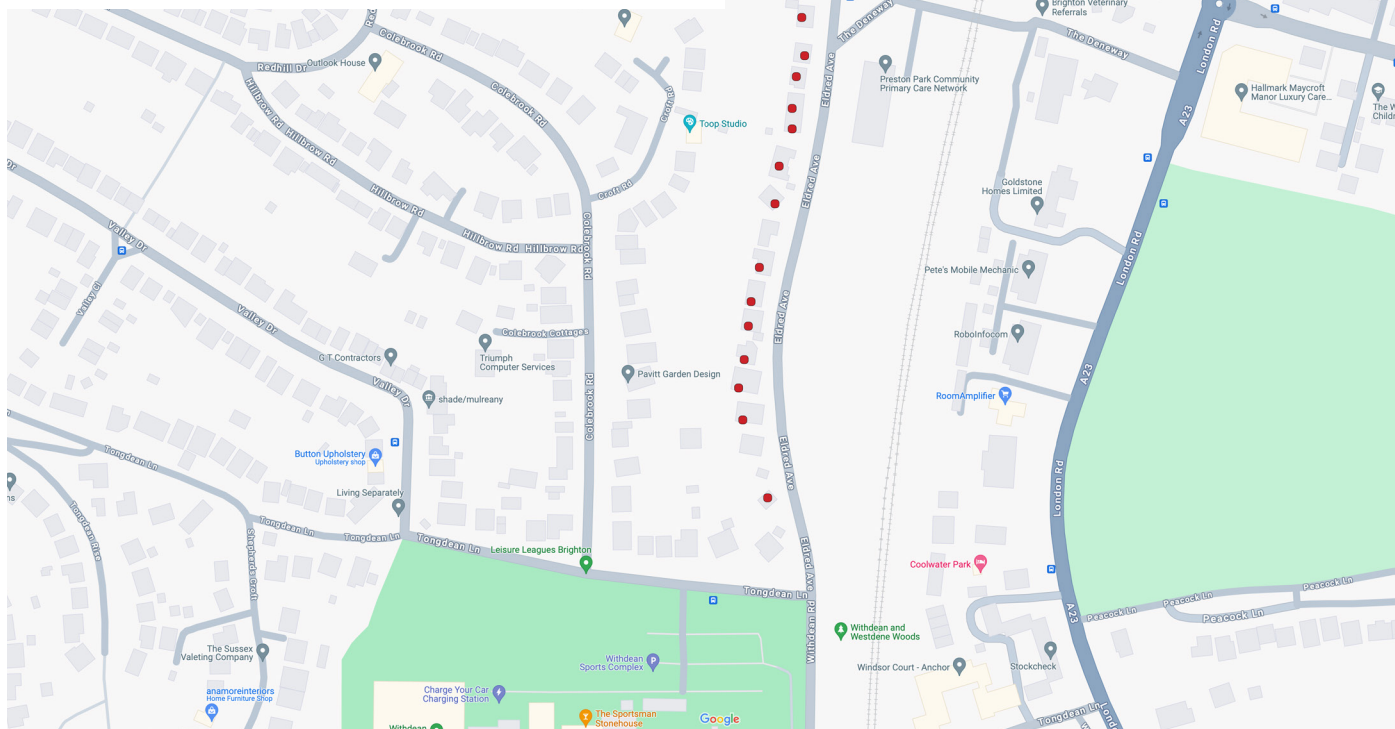
1. What can be done to ensure a continued regular twice-weekly provision of recycling services to all three locations on Sylvan Hall, without continual chasing of CityClean by residents?
2. Why is CityClean's record-keeping about both frequency of and completed recycling collections inaccurate, and what difference will digitalising records make, if it is still reliant on human input? How can residents check to see whether a scheduled recycling collection has actually taken place?
3. Sylvan Hall currently has communal recycling bins, rather than recycling bins for each separate flat. What percentage of Sylvan Hall's/general Brighton and Hove communal bin recycling gets rejected as contaminated, and how does this compare to recycling collected from individual flats/houses in Brighton and Hove? Do councillors feel that the rate of rejection from communal bins is acceptable? Why can't recycling be collected from Sylvan Hall's individual block bin rooms, with an individual recycling bin for each flat?
4. What are our rights as residents regarding an adequate recycling service, and how can these rights be enforced?
5. How will the mandatory (as of 31 March 2026) weekly food waste collections be provided on Sylvan Hall, and in Brighton and Hove generally? Will it be through communal bins, and will CityClean be responsible for providing this service?

Supporting Information:

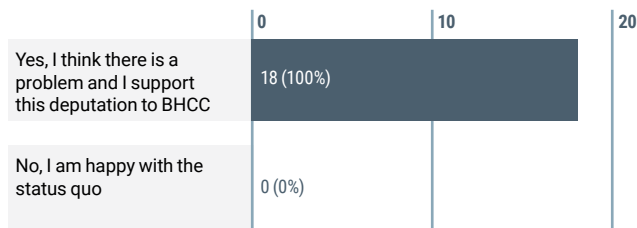
Attached as Appendix 2



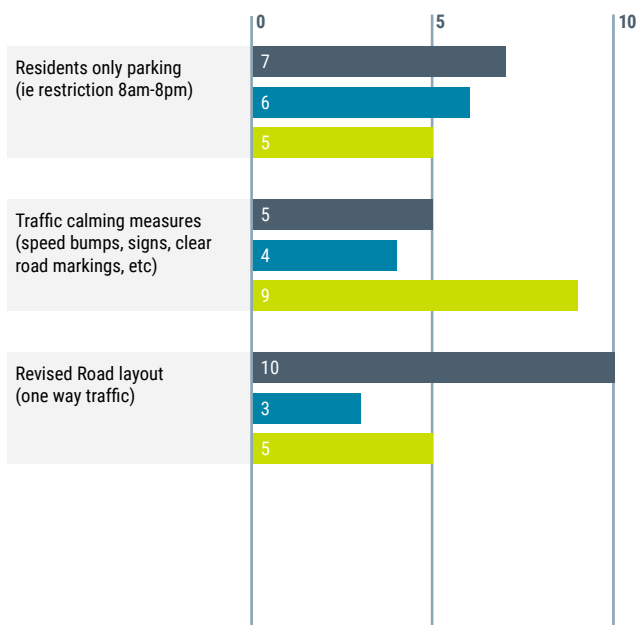
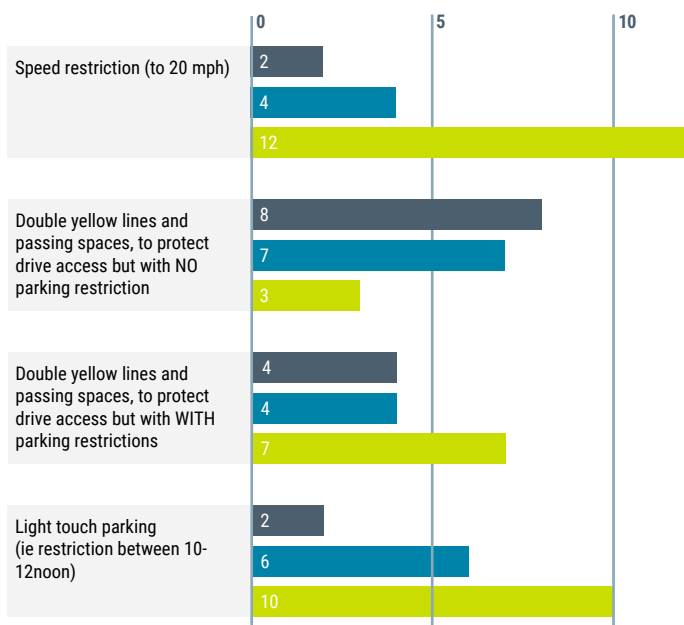
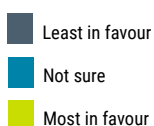
18 houses (marked by red dots) returned a response to the questionnaire along the portion of Eldred Avenue in question.



**Q1: Do you think something needs to be done about traffic management between the southern end of Eldred Avenue and The Deneway**



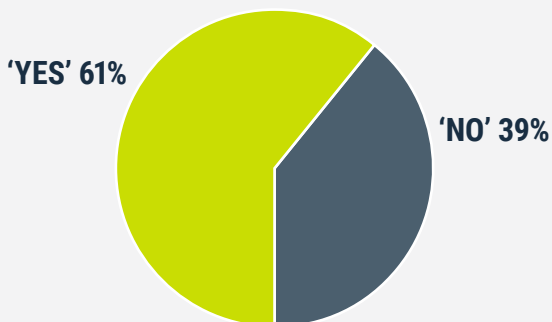
**Q2: There are several alternative measures which may be possible to ease the flow of traffic and reduce the risk of vehicle damage. From the options below please give an indication of which you are most in favour.**







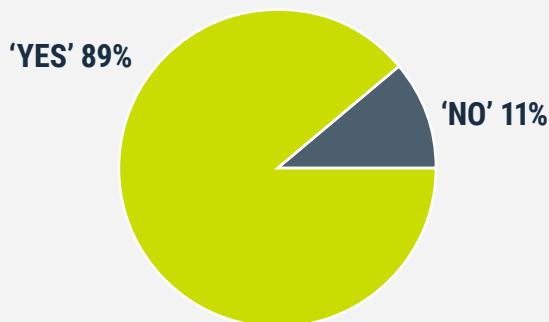
**Q3: Have you experienced damage to your own or a visitor's vehicles?**



**If 'yes' please provide details:**

- Wing mirrors knocked off tradespersons van.
- Damage to car in May from taxi driver trying to find space to park while dropping off customer
- We've lost 2 wing mirrors, had a vehicle scraped, and a tradesman lost a wing mirror. We have also had a cat killed by a speeding car.
- Scraped along the side around the rear light
- All 3 cars had had 4 corners (wings) damaged + multiple wing mirrors
- Three separate incidents of wing mirrors being knocked off plus dents to the side of one vehicle. Additionally an incident of significant damage to one of our cars caused by a person turning right from the left hand side of the triangle in front of our house
- Wing mirrors broken off. Scratched paintwork.
- Own car written off by insurance company after being hit while parked
- Damage by car pulling in to passing space and misjudging.
- Mirrors damaged and bumpers slight damage

**Q4: Have you witnessed any altercations, road rage or aggressive behaviour connected to road use?**



**If 'yes' please provide details:**

- People refusing to go backwards into passing spaces, chaos ensues with more people creating traffic until someone gives in. Cars pulling out causing others to wait for long periods because of restricted space & views
- Cars refusing to give way to each other – shouting and beeping, physical confrontations, fast acceleration after having to stop. Driving too fast down road in hope of getting through before other traffic. Buses and trucks having to reverse causing wider frustration and more road rage!
- I have seen numerous altercations, road rage, intransigence and anger. I feel for the bus drivers whose journeys are often impeded. I have seen one incident where the road was blocked for 20 minutes because a family were terrified to get out of their car and face an irate driver who had crashed into them. The police had to resolve the situation.
- Multiple occasions of honking horns and at least 8 incidents of swearing and abuse between drivers always as cars turn out of the triangle junction onto Eldred Avenue into oncoming traffic which has had to move to the wrong side of the road to avoid parked cars
- Too many to mention, happens regularly. People swearing which is not good in front of my young children. Damages to verges on the side of the road due to people trying to pass.
- It's a daily occurrence. We have lived in Eldred Avenue many years, it used to be a nice place to live but it's now marred by daily road rage. We are disturbed by congestion, honking horns and heated, loud verbal abuse, revving engines.





**Photographs  
taken between  
2023 and 2024**





# Brighton & Hove City Council

## Council

## Agenda Item 23

**Subject:** Petition for Debate – Save the Baby Room at Bright Start Nursery

**Date of meeting:** 11 July 2024

**Report of:** Corporate Director for Corporate Services

**Contact Officer:** Name: Anthony Soyinka  
Tel: 01273 291006  
Email: [anthony.soyinka@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:anthony.soyinka@brighton-hove.gov.uk)

**Ward(s) affected:** All

### FOR GENERAL RELEASE

#### 1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 Under the Council's Petition Scheme if a petition contains more than 1,250 signatures and is not petition requesting officer evidence, it will be debated by the Full Council.
- 1.2 The e-petition has resulted in triggering a debate at the council meeting, having exceeded the threshold with a total of 1255 signatures confirmed at the time of printing the report.

#### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the petition is noted.

#### 3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION / CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

##### 3.1 The Petition:

We are calling on Brighton and Hove City Council to stop the closure of the Bright Start baby room.

##### Background

Bright Start is a much-loved Council-run nursery, currently located in Barrack Yard in the North Laine. In November 2023, Brighton and Hove City Council announced plans to move the nursery to the Turner Centre in September 2023 and to close the nursery's baby room, scrapping all provision for under 2s.

The closure of the baby room will strip the city centre of one of the few affordable nurseries in the area providing care for under 2s. The nursery has a high proportion of children Special Educational Needs and disabilities and a high proportion with English as an additional language, but the Council have

not undertaken a full Equalities Impact Assessment on the impact of the baby room closure.

The Council have also failed to consider other locations for the nursery, particularly co-locating the nursery in the nearby St Bartholomew's School, which the Council is trying to close.

We're calling on the Council to rethink this decision and protect affordable city-centre childcare for under 2s.

#### **4. PROCEDURE:**

4.1 The petition will be debated at the Council meeting in accordance with the agreed protocol:

- (i) The Lead petitioner will be invited by the Mayor to present the petition and will have up to 3 minutes in which to outline the petition and confirm the number of signatures;
- (ii) The Mayor will then open the matter up for debate by councillors for period of 15 minutes and will first call on the relevant Cabinet Member to respond to the petition and move a proposed response. The Mayor will then call on those councillors who have indicated a desire to speak in the matter, before calling on the relevant Cabinet Member to respond to the debate;
- (iii) An amendment to the recommendation in paragraph 2.1 of the report or to add additional recommendations should be submitted by 10.00am on the day before the meeting; otherwise it will be subject to the Mayor's discretion as to being appropriate. Any such amendment will need to be formally moved and seconded at the meeting;
- (iv) After the 15 minutes set aside for the debate, the Mayor will then formally put:
  - (a) Any amendments in the order in which they are moved, and
  - (b) The substantive recommendation(s) as amended (if amended).



# Brighton & Hove City Council

## Council

## Agenda Item 24

**Subject:** Petition for Debate – Support private rent controls and more social housing at living rents

**Date of meeting:** 11 July 2024

**Report of:** Corporate Director for Corporate Services

**Contact Officer:** Name: Anthony Soyinka  
Tel: 01273 291006  
Email: [anthony.soyinka@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:anthony.soyinka@brighton-hove.gov.uk)

**Ward(s) affected:** All

### FOR GENERAL RELEASE

#### 1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 Under the Council's Petition Scheme if a petition contains more than 1,250 signatures and is not petition requesting officer evidence, it will be debated by the Full Council.
- 1.2 The e-petition has resulted in triggering a debate at the council meeting, having exceeded the threshold with a total of 1784 signatures confirmed at the time of printing the report.

#### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the petition is noted.

#### 3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION / CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

##### 3.1 The Petition:

In Brighton and Hove average private rents for a 3 bedroom flat are around £1700 a month. The middle take home pay of people living in Brighton and Hove is £2,250 a month.

Private renting is unaffordable for many households, yet since 1989 when fair rent tenancies were replaced national governments of all parties have been committed to "free market rents".

It could be different, other countries in Europe have rent controls, lower rents and better quality homes to rent.

Over 2 million council homes have been lost through the right to buy.

We need rent controls and more social housing at Living rents. People are struggling with the cost of living and need politicians to act now.

We the undersigned call on Brighton and Hove council to:

- 1) Write to ministers demanding action now that they:
  - a) Give local councils the power to cap and reduce rents in areas like ours where rents are too high
  - b) Provide grant to councils to expand homes at Living (or social) rents
  - c) End the loss of council housing through the Right to Buy
- 2) Write to government demanding that they pledge action on the above

#### **4. PROCEDURE:**

4.1 The petition will be debated at the Council meeting in accordance with the agreed protocol:

- (i) The Lead petitioner will be invited by the Mayor to present the petition and will have up to 3 minutes in which to outline the petition and confirm the number of signatures;
- (ii) The Mayor will then open the matter up for debate by councillors for period of 15 minutes and will first call on the relevant Cabinet Member to respond to the petition and move a proposed response. The Mayor will then call on those councillors who have indicated a desire to speak in the matter, before calling on the relevant Cabinet Member to respond to the debate;
- (iii) An amendment to the recommendation in paragraph 2.1 of the report or to add additional recommendations should be submitted by 10.00am on the day before the meeting; otherwise it will be subject to the Mayor's discretion as to being appropriate. Any such amendment will need to be formally moved and seconded at the meeting;
- (iv) After the 15 minutes set aside for the debate, the Mayor will then formally put:
  - (a) Any amendments in the order in which they are moved, and
  - (b) The substantive recommendation(s) as amended (if amended).

# Brighton & Hove City Council

## Council

## Agenda Item 25

**Subject:** Petition for Debate – Good Development Standards:  
building homes which meet the needs of our communities

**Date of meeting:** 11 July 2024

**Report of:** Corporate Director for Corporate Services

**Contact Officer:** Name: Anthony Soyinka  
Tel: 01273 291006  
Email: [anthony.soyinka@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:anthony.soyinka@brighton-hove.gov.uk)

**Ward(s) affected:** All

### FOR GENERAL RELEASE

#### 1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 Under the Council's Petition Scheme if a petition contains more than 1,250 signatures and is not petition requesting officer evidence, it will be debated by the Full Council.
- 1.2 The e-petition has resulted in triggering a debate at the council meeting, having exceeded the threshold with a total of 1371 signatures confirmed at the time of printing the report.

#### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the petition is noted.

#### 3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION / CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

##### 3.1 The Petition:

Cllr Gill Williams (as Cabinet Member at Brighton and Hove City Council for Housing) and Cllr Liz Loughran (as Chairwoman of the Planning Committee),

We are grateful for the support you have already shown to our Alliance in terms of the Housing Emergency our city faces. Our collective membership of schools, colleges, universities, unions, faith institutions, and community organisations (representing over 55,000 people) appreciates your efforts, as well as the changes that have started to happen across our city (e.g. landlord licencing).

We all know that our city needs radical solutions when it comes to housing.

Too many nurses, care workers, teachers, and other key workers are leaving our city due to the ever-rising cost of housing. Our city's most precious services are under pressure as a result. Our families cannot receive the care they deserve. Our children worry that their teachers will soon leave.

Too many families are leaving our city: friendships are crushed. And schools are closing.

Like you, we worry that developers rarely - if ever! - meet their targets when it comes to affordability and we want to help you hold them to account.

On 25th April, we heard you very clearly, Cllr Williams: you will 'leave no stones unturned', you said, when it comes to housing and we heard you clearly when you said you would work with Brighton & Hove Citizens to develop plans to strengthen housing policies for our city. We thank you for that.

On 25th April, our Alliance asked you to work with us to address the following areas:

- 1) Affordability: genuine affordability which would include Community Land Trust Homes and Living Rent homes (where the rental cost is based on the actual cost of living, and not the market rate).
- 2) Availability for key workers: a key focus on supporting those professions which make our city run.
- 3) The need to make sure that new developments create spaces for people to build a sense of community. Too many new development feel soulless, with very few places for people to meet.

You agreed to focus on all 3 areas and we look forward to working with you!

We know that the Housing Crisis we face won't be resolved overnight. But we also know that collaboration can only be a good thing.

Learning from other areas where Citizens UK alliances across England have reshaped housing policies, we want to work with you to make Brighton and Hove the place it deserves to be: a place where families can thrive and where people can stay.

We ask that Brighton and Hove Council shows its commitment to housing justice in moving in the right direction by developing a set of Good Development Standards and a supplementary planning process which will make it clearer - and more accountable - to developers when it comes to affordability, the need to support key workers, and the need to support and enhance community cohesion.

We ask all Councillors to be our allies. We ask you to be leaders that help rebuild our city in a way that enables our communities to flourish. Let us shape our city for what it needs to be, rather than watch it become a place where dreams vanish.

#### **4. PROCEDURE:**

- 4.1 The petition will be debated at the Council meeting in accordance with the agreed protocol:



- (i) The Lead petitioner will be invited by the Mayor to present the petition and will have up to 3 minutes in which to outline the petition and confirm the number of signatures;
- (ii) The Mayor will then open the matter up for debate by councillors for period of 15 minutes and will first call on the relevant Cabinet Member to respond to the petition and move a proposed response. The Mayor will then call on those councillors who have indicated a desire to speak in the matter, before calling on the relevant Cabinet Member to respond to the debate;
- (iii) An amendment to the recommendation in paragraph 2.1 of the report or to add additional recommendations should be submitted by 10.00am on the day before the meeting; otherwise it will be subject to the Mayor's discretion as to being appropriate. Any such amendment will need to be formally moved and seconded at the meeting;
- (iv) After the 15 minutes set aside for the debate, the Mayor will then formally put:
- (v) (a) Any amendments in the order in which they are moved, and  
(b) The substantive recommendation(s) as amended (if amended).



**Subject:** Written questions from Councillors

**Date of meeting:** 11 July 2024

**Report of:** Corporate Director for Corporate Services

**Contact Officer:** Name: Anthony Soyinka  
Tel: 01273 291006  
Email: [anthony.soyinka@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:anthony.soyinka@brighton-hove.gov.uk)

**Ward(s) affected:** All

**For general release**

The following questions have been received from Councillors and will be taken as read along with the written answer detailed below:

**1. Councillor Hill**

I welcome the introduction of a country wide mandatory food waste collection system by 31 March 2026, however implementing this properly within tight budget constraints will be a difficult challenge for our local authority. The previous government did not provide enough additional funds for the scheme so money will have to come from elsewhere to fund this. What is the administration doing to find ways to make up for this funding shortfall?

**Reply from Cllr Rowkins Cabinet Member – Net Zero & Environmental Services**

**2. Councillor Hill**

Food waste collections can lead to bits of food being left in the street. Even when the bins have a locking mechanism, it is likely that they will not always be used perfectly. If food waste is left in the street, it creates a contamination problem and allows seagulls and rats to get to the food. This is particularly problematic in high student density areas. Will the administration consider hiring additional street cleaners alongside the rollout of the food waste collection system up? What else is it looking at to avoid contamination issues relating to a food waste collection system.

**Reply from Cllr Rowkins Cabinet Member – Net Zero & Environmental Services**

**3. Councillor Hill**

What progress has been made with Southern Water to get funding from them to pay for sustainable urban drainage systems and other improvements?

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## **Reply from Cllr Muten Cabinet Member – Transport, Parking and Public Realm**

### **4. Councillor Hill**

Regarding the Springfield Road memorial tree, are we any closer to getting the tree planted in a suitable place and with protections around it to stop it being knocked down by cars as happened before?

## **Reply from Cllr Muten Cabinet Member – Transport, Parking and Public Realm**

### **5. Councillor Pickett**

Net Zero

The redesign of the Carbon Neutral Programme (CNP) initiated and set up in 2022 included a reduction in gas emissions, an enhancement of biodiversity and an adaption to climate change. The current plan includes only a plan to reduce gas emissions to net zero. Can the administration please explain why they have abandoned any plan to enhance biodiversity or climate adaption? Can they please explain what a net zero plan only looks like?

## **Reply from Cllr Rowkins Cabinet Member – Net Zero & Environmental Service**

### **6. Councillor Pickett**

Clean air

In light of the recent BBC investigation that found that England's clean air zones (CAZs) have raised over £150m for local authorities by charging drivers a fee to enter certain areas in an effort to reduce pollution. The money raised is then reinvested into local transport plans, road repairs, and improvements including clean air school programmes and school streets pilot schemes. When will BHCC initiate its own scheme to improve the welfare and health of this city's residents and in particular, those of children who are particularly vulnerable, as well as pay for itself in the process?

## **Reply from Cllr Rowkins Cabinet Member – Net Zero & Environmental Services**

### **7. Councillor Shanks**

Residents are concerned that money raised by events in parks and open spaces is not benefitting local communities. Has the administration plans to ensure some money from these can be used locally?

## **Reply from Cllr Rowkins Cabinet Member – Net Zero & Environmental Services**

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**8. Councillor Shanks**

Please identify which community groups have lost all or some of their funding from the communities' fund in the last budget

**Reply from Cllr Pumm Cabinet Member – Communities, Equalities and Human Rights**

**9. Councillor Shanks**

How many posts were removed in the council reorganisation and budget cuts? Does the partial audit reassurance mean that we lack capacity in some areas?

**Reply from Cllr Taylor Cabinet Member – Finance and City Regeneration**

**10. Councillor Shanks**

Please outline the councils strategy to plant more trees, how will you get City Parks and Highways depts to work together with community groups to plant trees in the North Laine and elsewhere?

**Reply from Cllr Rowkins Cabinet Member – Net Zero & Environmental Services**

**11. Councillor Shanks**

When will the administrations plans for a federation of Schools be shared with opposition councillors?

**Reply from Cllr Daniel Cabinet Member – Children, Families, Youth Services and for Ending Violence against Women and Girls**

**12. Councillor McLeay**

As the spraying of glyphosate takes place across the city, resident are finding they are not given warning of when this takes place, there is no signage to say the area has been sprayed and the only way they can tell spraying has taken place is by looking closely for an oily residue. This puts pets and children most at risk. Could there be more forewarning, or notice be given to streets when spraying might take place, and signage put in place to communicate when an area has been sprayed?

**Reply from Cllr Rowkins Cabinet Member – Net Zero & Environmental Services**

**13. Councillor McLeay**

There are streets across the city who would like to manage their own weeds without any use of glyphosate. They applied for weeding kits and on the day it arrived, were met by sprayers on their street. How can residents politely

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request that they manage their own street, so it can remain glyphosate free?  
Who should they direct these requests to?

## **Reply from Cllr Rowkins Cabinet Member – Net Zero & Environmental Services**

### **14. Councillor McNair**

CCTV Orchid View –

There has recently been serious vandalism in Orchid View. When will CCTV be fitted in Orchid View in order for residents to feel safe? And what is the timeline?

## **Reply from Cllr Muten Cabinet Member – Transport, Parking and Public Realm**

### **15. Councillor Meadows**

Patcham Place Pavilion –  
Patcham Place pavilion has been repeatedly vandalised. Fortunately, cricket was able to continue at Patcham Place this season. What is the council doing to help ensure Patcham Place Pavilion is restored to a usable state and that cricket can continue at this venue long term?

## **Reply from Cllr Robins Cabinet Member – Sports & Recreation**

### **16. Councillor McNair**

Garden waste collections –  
Garden waste collections in Patcham & Hollingbury were severely affected in June. Why was this? When is the service expected to return to normal? As residents pay additionally for this service when can they expect to be compensated?

## **Reply from Cllr Rowkins Cabinet Member – Net Zero & Environmental Services**

### **17. Councillor Hogan**

Recycling in Hove Park –  
Recycling in Hove Park has not been collected. Why is this, and when will a consistent service be established?

## **Reply from Cllr Rowkins Cabinet Member – Net Zero & Environmental Services**

### **18. Councillor Hogan**

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Road resurfacing –

Residents were told Woodland Drive would not be resurfaced, now it is. This is confusing for residents and has caused significant disruption. How will residents be notified of resurfacing?

**Reply from Cllr Muten Cabinet Member – Transport, Parking and Public Realm**

**19. Councillor Lyons**

Tongdean Lane parking consultation –

Residents in Tongdean Lane are keen for a parking consultation. Buses can't get through. Could this consultation be commenced in the near future?

**Reply from Cllr Muten Cabinet Member – Transport, Parking and Public Realm**

**20. Councillor Lyons**

Road Resurfacing –

We are grateful for the resurfacing of Hill Brow but why were worse roads in north Brighton ignored, such as Carden Hill?

**Reply from Cllr Muten Cabinet Member – Transport, Parking and Public Realm**

**21. Councillor Meadows**

Enforcement officers –

Why did enforcement officers tell residents in Vale Avenue to take down their signs protesting the Royal Mail development? And, in the process, upset an elderly couple by telling them their sign was illegal when it wasn't? Who sent the enforcement officers to speak to the residents at this property? Can we be reassured that this will not occur again

**Reply from Cllr Pumm Cabinet Member – Communities, Equalities and Human Rights**

**22. Councillor Theobald**

Patcham roundabout –

Please provide an update on the progress being made on ensuring Patcham roundabout is an attractive gateway to the city.

**Reply from Cllr Muten Cabinet Member – Transport, Parking and Public Realm**

**23. Councillor Lyons**

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Withdean Rd –

Part of Withdean road has a speed limit of 20mph, whilst the section between Withdean Stadium to the junction of Wayland Ave has a 30mph limit. Many households have contacted us requesting a uniform 20mph for the whole road. Could this be expedited as soon as possible? There have been a number of near accidents.

**Reply from Cllr Muten Cabinet Member – Transport, Parking and Public Realm**

**24. Councillor Lyons**

The Martlet –

We have received requests for traffic calming within The Martlet. Traffic is heavy at school dropping off/collection times. Could consultation be commenced to decide the most appropriate traffic calming measure?

**Reply from Cllr Muten Cabinet Member – Transport, Parking and Public Realm**

**25. Councillor McNair**

Ukrainian refugee groups –

Is it true that Ukrainian refugee groups in the city are losing funding from the council? Will Ukrainian organisations and individuals be able to apply for funding from the Brighton & Hove Fairness Fund?

**Reply from Cllr Pumm Cabinet Member – Communities, Equalities and Human Rights**

**26. Councillor McNair**

Taxis –

Why are taxis from outside Brighton & Hove allowed to operate in the city with no checks and no adherence to this council's rules and regulations? Local taxi drivers are at a significant disadvantage and their business is suffering. What will the council do to support our local taxi drivers?

**Reply from Cllr Muten Cabinet Member – Transport, Parking and Public Realm**

**27. Councillor Fishleigh**

Parking vouchers - digital discrimination continues in our city. When will printed parking vouchers be available in our City for visitors and residents to purchase?



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**Reply from Cllr Muten Cabinet Member – Transport, Parking and Public Realm**

**28. Councillor Fishleigh**

Pavements - how much is in the budget for mending pavements and how will areas be prioritised for replacement of paving slabs damaged by weeds and re-laying of slabs that have lifted?

**Reply from Cllr Muten Cabinet Member – Transport, Parking and Public Realm**

**29. Councillor Fishleigh**

Trees - as there is no budget to remove tree stumps, will BHCC allow resident-funded projects to turn these into seats, flower pots and wood sculptures?

**Reply from Cllr Rowkins Cabinet Member – Net Zero & Environmental Services**

**30. Councillor Fishleigh**

Unadopted pavement on Marine Drive, Rottingdean - will BHCC now agree that it has responsibility for this area to the east and south of the A259 and Rottingdean High Street junction and partly in front of shops that BHCC owns - and prioritise for resurfacing please?

**Reply from Cllr Rowkins Cabinet Member – Net Zero & Environmental Services**

**31. Councillor Earthey**

What are the reasons for undertaking these improvements without consultation with the stakeholders of the Undercliff Safety Campaign (which include Rottingdean Parish Council, Ovingdean Residents and Preservation Society, Saltdean Residents Association, the Saltdean Community Association, the proprietors of the Ovingdean Café and Molly's Café, the two ward councillors, and the local MP)?

**Reply from Cllr Muten Cabinet Member – Transport, Parking and Public Realm**

**32. Councillor Earthey**

What is BHCC's current plan for improving Undercliff safety (by type of improvement and date of implementation, e.g, rumble strips, signs, barriers, etc)?

**Reply from Cllr Muten Cabinet Member – Transport, Parking and Public Realm**

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### 33. Councillor Earthey

Please provide BHCC's budget and costings of their said plan, so it can be seen why there is no money for the Ovingdean – Saltdean stretch, and what the options are for raising finance from alternative sources.

**Reply from Cllr Muten Cabinet Member – Transport, Parking and Public Realm**

### 34. Councillor Earthey

What is BHCC's plan to provide better engagement with the Campaign's stakeholders?

**Reply from Cllr Muten Cabinet Member – Transport, Parking and Public Realm**

### 35. Councillor Earthey

Please provide confirmation that the Stakeholders' views on Undercliff safety will be incorporated into the final plan.

**Reply from Cllr Muten Cabinet Member – Transport, Parking and Public Realm**

### 36. Councillor Hill

Can Cllr Cllr Rowkins Cabinet Member – Net Zero & Environmental Services clarify whether Hanover & Elm Grove ward is part of a pilot opt out scheme for glyphosate spraying? Different Labour Councillors have claimed it is either due to high footfall in the area or due to a pilot opt out scheme. Which reason is it? If the latter, is it fair that Cllr Cllr Rowkins Cabinet Member – Net Zero & Environmental Services's residents get to be part of a pilot whereas other wards have not been afforded the same right to opt out at this point in time?

**Reply from Cllr Rowkins Cabinet Member – Net Zero & Environmental Services**

### 37. Councillor Bagaeen

Veolia Household Waste Recycling Site (HWRS) Hove  
I have received consistent and persistent complaints from residents in the Westdene and Hove Park Ward, and additionally south of the railway, about a 'pungent', 'rancid', and 'not transient' smell from green waste vehicles entering and exiting the Waste Transfer Station.  
Why is the council making this problem worse in allowing increasing amounts of green waste entering the site on council vehicles?

**Reply from Cllr Rowkins Cabinet Member – Net Zero & Environmental Services**

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## 38. Councillor Bagaeen

Public path between Woodland Drive and the Three Cornered Copse  
In storms in early November 2023, a fence of a house on the passage blew down in the wind blocking the public path between The Three Cornered Copse and Woodland Drive. Soon after, council officers put up a 'Footpath Closed' sign and blocked access. This public path was very highly used. How is it that the council has allowed this public path to remain closed since November 2023?

**Reply from Cllr Muten Cabinet Member – Transport, Parking and Public Realm**

