

# **COUNCIL ADDENDUM 3**

**4.30PM, MONDAY, 13 OCTOBER 2025**

**COUNCIL CHAMBER, HOVE TOWN HALL**



## **ADDENDUM**

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### **46      NOTICES OF MOTION**

Notices of Motions received will be circulated separately as part of an addendum for the meeting.

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# Brighton & Hove City Council

## Council

## Agenda Item 42

**Subject:** Review of the Councils Constitution

**Date of meeting:** 13 October 2025

**Proposer:** Councillor Shanks

**Seconder:** Councillor Davis

**Ward(s) affected:** All

### Green Group Amendment

That deletions are made as shown with ~~striketrough~~ below and additional recommendations are added as shown in ***bold italics*** below:

2.1 That Council formally approves the changes to the Constitution relating to increased task & finish groups and time for public questions for Overview & Scrutiny as set out in the report and in Appendix 1, with immediate effect.

~~2.2 That Council formally approves changes to the Council Procedure Rules relating to Extraordinary Council meetings and the notice period for member written questions as set out in the report and Appendix 2, with immediate effect.~~

**2.2 A cross party working group be set up to suggest and be consulted on any future changes to the constitution.**

2.3 That Council authorises the Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer to take all steps necessary or incidental to the implementation of the above changes, and that the Monitoring Officer be authorised to amend such parts of the Council's constitutional documents as they consider necessary or incidental to incorporate the changes, and to republish the Constitution.

### Recommendations to read if carried:

2.1 That Council formally approves the changes to the Constitution relating to increased task & finish groups and time for public questions for Overview & Scrutiny as set out in the report and in Appendix 1, with immediate effect.

2.2 A cross party working group be set up to suggest and be consulted on any future changes to the constitution.

2.3 That Council authorises the Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer to take all steps necessary or incidental to the implementation of the above changes, and that the Monitoring Officer be authorised to amend such parts of the Council's constitutional documents as they consider necessary or incidental to incorporate the changes, and to republish the Constitution.



# Brighton & Hove City Council

## Council

## Agenda Item 46a

**Subject:** Protect Independent Scrutiny, Save Healthwatch England

**Date of meeting:** 13 October 2025

**Proposer:** Councillor Wilkinson

**Seconder:** Councillor Baghoth

**Ward(s) affected:** All

### Notice of Motion

### Labour Group Amendment

This council notes:

- 1) The Health Secretary's proposal to abolish the independent local health and social care champion Healthwatch and to give health scrutiny powers over to Integrated Care Boards (ICBs). This will mean that the new Sussex and Surrey Heartlands ICB would take on Brighton & Hove Healthwatch's function locally next April. Social Care scrutiny powers would move to Councils.
- 2) That 35,000 residents have been supported by Healthwatch Brighton & Hove since 2013.
- 3) Concerns raised by Brighton & Hove Older People's Council about the ~~disproportionate harm~~ **perceived impact** the government's proposal will have on elderly people.
- 4) The letter by Gary Wilkinson, Chair of Brighton & Hove's Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee raising the committee's concerns about the work Healthwatch does in ensuring people have up to date information, sharing people's experiences with commissioners and supporting individuals to navigate a complex healthcare landscape.
- 5) The campaign led by local Healthwatch teams to oppose this proposal and to ask the Health Secretary to undertake a consultation with the public to codesign the future of scrutiny services.

This council resolves to:

- ~~1) Ask the Council Leader to write to the Health Secretary calling for him to change the NHS 10 Year Plan in order to keep Healthwatch England and not to transfer scrutiny powers to ICBs. Concerns should be raised about having Councils and ICBs marking their own homework, especially at a time when ICBs are being cut by 50%.~~

- 2) Requests the leader **of the council** to ensure stronger democratic accountability and improved senior representation of elected members within strategic decision-making bodies following the formation of the new Sussex and Surrey ICB.
- 3) Requests the leader **of the council** to work with existing upper tier authorities, new Mayor and unitary authorities under LGR to develop a common approach to capture the voice and viewpoints of users of the local health system **and where possible to maintain local oversight.**
- 4) ~~Ask Councillors to consider signing and sharing the petition by Samantha Botsford opposing Healthwatch's abolition with residents.~~

### Supporting Information:

Petition to review the decision to abolish independent local Healthwatch:  
<https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/732993>

Local Healthwatch letter to Secretary of State:  
<https://www.healthwatchbrightonandhove.co.uk/news/2025-07-18/our-letter-secretary-state-opposing-decision-abolish-independent-healthwatch>

### Recommendations to read if carried:

This council notes:

- 1) The Health Secretary's proposal to abolish the independent local health and social care champion Healthwatch and to give health scrutiny powers over to Integrated Care Boards (ICBs). This will mean that the new Sussex and Surrey Heartlands ICB would take on Brighton & Hove Healthwatch's function locally next April. Social Care scrutiny powers would move to Councils.
- 2) That 35,000 residents have been supported by Healthwatch Brighton & Hove since 2013.
- 3) Concerns raised by Brighton & Hove Older People's Council about the perceived impact the government's proposal will have on elderly people.
- 4) The letter by Gary Wilkinson, Chair of Brighton & Hove's Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee raising the committee's concerns about the work Healthwatch does in ensuring people have up to date information, sharing people's experiences with commissioners and supporting individuals to navigate a complex healthcare landscape.
- 5) The campaign led by local Healthwatch teams to oppose this proposal and to ask the Health Secretary to undertake a consultation with the public to codesign the future of scrutiny services.

This council resolves to:



- 1) Requests the leader of the council to ensure stronger democratic accountability and improved senior representation of elected members within strategic decision-making bodies following the formation of the new Sussex and Surrey ICB.
- 2) Requests the leader of the council to work with existing upper tier authorities, new Mayor and unitary authorities under LGR to develop a common approach to capture the voice and viewpoints of users of the local health system and where possible to maintain local oversight.



# Brighton & Hove City Council

## Council

## Agenda Item 46b

**Subject:** Gaza and Council Financial Exposure

**Date of meeting:** 13 October 2025

**Proposer:** Councillor Taylor

**Seconder:** Councillor McGregor

**Ward(s) affected:** All

### Notice of Motion

### Labour Group Amendment

This Council notes:

- 1) ***The welcome news that a peace plan has been agreed in the Middle East ensuring the release of all remaining hostages and for life-saving aid to reach Gaza.***
- 2) The widespread view, including of the International Association of Genocide Scholars (IAGS)<sup>1</sup> on 31/08/25 and a UN Independent Commission<sup>2</sup> on 16/09/25, that ***the Israeli Government has been*** committing genocide in Gaza;
- 3) That recent legal analysis has raised concerns that third-party states, including the UK, must ensure their activities do not contribute to violations of international law;
- 4) That this analysis has further suggested these responsibilities apply to the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) and other local government activities under domestic law;<sup>3</sup>
- 5) The recent letter from our Council Leader to the Chair of the ESCC Pension Committee requesting an update further to report A/HRC/37/39 of the UN Human Rights Council and East Sussex Pension Fund (ESPF) exposure;

This council therefore resolves to:

- 1) Request officers to bring a report to the ~~Audit, Standards and General Purposes Committee~~ ***Cabinet*** detailing the ***any*** exposure of ESPF, of our treasury management and of our freehold landholdings to 'involved companies'<sup>3</sup>;
- 2) ~~Request the Leader of the Council to write to the Rt Hon Steve Reed, Secretary of State at MHCLG, informing him of the Council's concerns and requesting that he support the action of divesting LGPS investments from 'involved companies'.~~
- 3) ***Notify other local authorities who may have exposure via the East Sussex Pension Fund of the letter from the Leader of the Council and request that they seek the same information***

## **Recommendations to read if carried:**

This Council notes:

- 1) The welcome news that a peace plan has been agreed in the Middle East ensuring the release of all remaining hostages and for life-saving aid to reach Gaza.
- 2) The widespread view, including of the International Association of Genocide Scholars (IAGS)<sup>1</sup> on 31/08/25 and a UN Independent Commission<sup>2</sup> on 16/09/25, that the Israeli Government has been committing genocide in Gaza;
- 3) That recent legal analysis has raised concerns that third-party states, including the UK, must ensure their activities do not contribute to violations of international law;
- 4) That this analysis has further suggested these responsibilities apply to the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) and other local government activities under domestic law;<sup>3</sup>
- 5) The recent letter from our Council Leader to the Chair of the ESCC Pension Committee requesting an update further to report A/HRC/37/39 of the UN Human Rights Council and East Sussex Pension Fund (ESPF) exposure;

This council therefore resolves to:

- 1) Request officers to bring a report to Cabinet detailing-any exposure of ESPF, of our treasury management and of our freehold landholdings to 'involved companies'<sup>3</sup>;
- 2) Notify other local authorities who may have exposure via the East Sussex Pension Fund of the letter from the Leader of the Council and request that they seek the same information

# Brighton & Hove City Council

## Council

## Agenda Item 46c

**Subject:** Enforcing Covenant on land in West Saltdean

**Date of meeting:** 13th October 2025

**Proposer:** Councillor Rowkins

**Seconder:** Councillor Winder

**Ward(s) affected:** Rottingdean & West Saltdean

### Notice of Motion

### Labour Group Amendment

This council notes:

- 1) The 1938 agreement between Saltdean Estate Company Ltd, the Borough of Brighton and The Mayor Aldermen and Burgesses of the Borough of Brighton which details various conditions attached to three separate plots of land known as The Mount Estate in West Saltdean – and described as open spaces in the Covenant.
- 2) That Clause 4 of 1938 agreement gives BHCC the powers to formally designate the land as public open space.
- 3) That the three plots of land are designated as Local Green Spaces in the West Saltdean Neighbourhood Plan which gives them the same protection as land in the green belt.
- 4) That locked gates have been installed meaning the land cannot be enjoyed as the open space the covenant intended.

This council resolves to:

- 1) Request that officers prepare a report to be presented to **the relevant** Cabinet **Member** about the **feasibility**, processes, timescale and costs of invoking Clause 4 of the Covenant for plots 2 and 3 of The Mount Estate.

## **Recommendations to read if carried:**

This Council notes:

- 1) The 1938 agreement between Saltdean Estate Company Ltd, the Borough of Brighton and The Mayor Aldermen and Burgesses of the Borough of Brighton which details various conditions attached to three separate plots of land known as The Mount Estate in West Saltdean – and described as open spaces in the Covenant.
- 2) That Clause 4 of 1938 agreement gives BHCC the powers to formally designate the land as public open space.
- 3) That the three plots of land are designated as Local Green Spaces in the West Saltdean Neighbourhood Plan which gives them the same protection as land in the green belt.
- 4) That locked gates have been installed meaning the land cannot be enjoyed as the open space the covenant intended.

This council therefore resolves to:

- 1) Request that officers prepare a report to be presented to the relevant Cabinet Member about the feasibility, processes, timescale and costs of invoking Clause 4 of the Covenant for plots 2 and 3 of The Mount Estate.

# Brighton & Hove City Council

## Council

## Agenda Item 46d

**Subject:** Inequality and Life Outcomes in Brighton & Hove

**Date of meeting:** 13 October 2025

**Proposer:** Councillor McLeay

**Seconded:** Councillor Davis

**Ward(s) affected:** All

### Green Group Amendment

This council notes:

- 1) That the UK remains one of the most unequal countries in the developed world, with child poverty rising sharply under the previous government<sup>1</sup> **and continues to rise under the current Government.**
- 2) That inequality is particularly stark in Brighton & Hove, with a recent Sutton Trust report highlighting that parts of our city have some of the lowest social mobility in the country.<sup>2</sup>
- 3) The steps already taken locally to tackle inequality; creating a fairness fund to directly support residents; priority school admissions for those on Free School Meals; new school bus routes and free bus passes for Whitehawk families; free school meals for those educated at home. **Unfortunately, further action is hindered by a lack of central Government funding.**
- 4) Government's steps to alleviate child poverty including expanding eligibility for Free School Meals and signals that the former Coalition Government's two child benefit cap will be scrapped **and recognises the current Government have had over a year to cancel the two-child benefit cap.**
- 5) The welcome news from government of £20m for Whitehawk through the Pride in Place programme, with local residents directly shaping how funding will be invested.

This council resolves to:

- 1) Request the relevant Cabinet Member to consider a formal review of inequality in the city, and the impact **the two-child benefit cap, winter fuel benefit cuts, and tightening of PIP eligibility rules have** on life chances;

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/tackling-child-poverty-developing-our-strategy/tackling-child-poverty-developing-our-strategy-html>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.suttontrust.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/The-Opportunity-Index.pdf>

drawing on lived experience, and welcoming input from residents and experts in a 'call for evidence'

- 2) *Send results of this review directly to Rt Hon Briget Phillipson MP as Minister for Women and Equalities and ask for Royal Commission to look into how to end poverty.***

#### **Recommendations to read if carried:**

This council notes:

- 1) That the UK remains one of the most unequal countries in the developed world, with child poverty rising sharply under the previous government<sup>3</sup> and continues to rise under the current Government.
- 2) That inequality is particularly stark in Brighton & Hove, with a recent Sutton Trust report highlighting that parts of our city have some of the lowest social mobility in the country.<sup>4</sup>
- 3) The steps already taken locally to tackle inequality; creating a fairness fund to directly support residents; priority school admissions for those on Free School Meals; new school bus routes and free bus passes for Whitehawk families; free school meals for those educated at home. Unfortunately, further action is hindered by a lack of central Government funding.
- 4) Government's steps to alleviate child poverty including expanding eligibility for Free School Meals and recognises the current Government have had over a year to cancel the two-child benefit cap.
- 5) The welcome news from government of £20m for Whitehawk through the Pride in Place programme, with local residents directly shaping how funding will be invested.

This council resolves to:

- 1) Request the relevant Cabinet Member to consider a formal review of inequality in the city, and the impact the two-child benefit cap, winter fuel benefit cuts, and tightening of PIP eligibility rules have on life chances; drawing on lived experience, and welcoming input from residents and experts in a 'call for evidence'
- 2) Send results of this review directly to Rt Hon Briget Phillipson MP as Minister for Women and Equalities and ask for Royal Commission to look into how to end poverty.

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/tackling-child-poverty-developing-our-strategy/tackling-child-poverty-developing-our-strategy-html>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.suttontrust.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/The-Opportunity-Index.pdf>