

COUNCIL ADDENDUM 2

2.00PM, THURSDAY, 23 JULY 2026

COUNCIL CHAMBER, HOVE TOWN HALL

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BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL

4.30pm 21 MAY 2026

COUNCIL CHAMBER, BRIGHTON TOWN HALL

MINUTES

Present: Councillors Grimshaw (Chair), Asaduzzaman, Atkinson, Alexander, Allen, Baghoth, Cattell, Daniel, Davis, Earthey, Evans, Fishleigh, Fowler, Galvin, Gauge, Goddard, Goldsmith, Guilmant, Helliwell, Hewitt, Hill, Hogan, Lademacher, Loughran, Lyons, McGregor, McLeay, McNair, Meadows, Miller, Muten, Nann, Parrott, Pickett, Robins, Robinson, Rowkins, Sankey, Shanks, Sheard, Simon, Sykes, Taylor, C Theobald, Thomson, West, Wilkinson and Williams

PART ONE

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

1.1 There were no declarations of interests in matters appearing on the agenda.

2 MAYORAL REPORT 2025-26

2.1 The mayor formally moved that the report on the mayoral year 2025/26 be noted.

2.2 RESOLVED:

That the report be noted.

3 MAYOR'S THANKS AND PRESENTATIONS

3.1 The Mayor gave thanks and paid tribute to:

- the Civic Office and Democratic Services teams for the support provided over the Mayoral Year.
- Father David.
- Her Niece Candice in their capacity as Mayoral consort for the Municipal Year

4 ELECTION OF THE MAYOR OF BRIGHTON AND HOVE FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2026/27

4.1 The mayor invited nominations for the position of Mayor of Brighton & Hove for the municipal year 2026/27.

- 4.2 Councillor Theresa Fowler was proposed by Councillor Bella Sankey and seconded by Councillor Williams.
- 4.3 The mayor declared that there being no other nominations, Councillor Theresa Fowler had been duly elected Mayor of Brighton & Hove for the forthcoming municipal year 2026/27.
- 4.4 **The motion was agreed.**

*

The mayor then adjourned the meeting at 5.15pm in order for Councillor Fowler as the incoming Mayor to be robed and to take the Chair for the meeting.

5 DECLARATION OF OFFICE, ACCEPTANCE SPEECH AND VOTE OF THANKS TO THE RETIRING MAYOR

Councillor Fowler in the Chair

- 5.1 Councillor Fowler reconvened the meeting at 5.18pm and then made and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.
- 5.2 The mayor then thanked the Council for her appointment.
- 5.3 The mayor invited Councillor Sankey to move a vote of thanks for the previous Mayor, Councillor Amanda Grimshaw.
- 5.4 Councillor Sankey moved a vote of thanks to Councillor Grimshaw as the retiring Mayor for their services during his term of office.
- 5.5 Councillor Taylor formally seconded the motion, and this was supported by Councillors Hill and McNair.
- 5.6 The mayor put the motion to the vote.
- 5.7 The motion was **carried**.
- 5.8 The mayor presented Councillor Grimshaw with a commemorative badge in recognition of his year of office.

6 APPOINTMENT OF THE DEPUTY MAYOR FOR BRIGHTON AND HOVE FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2026/27

- 6.1 The mayor invited nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor for the forthcoming municipal year 2026/27.
- 6.2 Councillor Sheard was proposed by Councillor Allen and seconded by Councillor Guilmant.
- 6.3 The mayor put the nominations to the vote, and it was carried that Councillor Sheard be appointed as Deputy Mayor for Brighton and Hove for the municipal year 2026/27.

- 6.4 Councillor Sheard made and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office as Deputy Mayor and was presented with their badge of office by the mayor.

7 APPOINTMENT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FOR 2026/27

- 7.1 The mayor invited Councillor Parrott to propose the appointment of the Leader of the Council.
- 7.2 Councillor Parrott proposed that Councillor Sankey should be appointed as the Leader of the Council for the municipal year 2026/27.
- 7.3 Councillor Hewitt formally seconded the proposal.
- 7.4 The mayor noted that there were no other nominations and put the motion to the vote which was agreed.
- 7.5 The mayor then invited Councillor Sankey to address the council.
- 7.6 Councillor Sankey thanked Councillors for their nomination.

7.7 RESOLVED:

That Councillor Sankey be appointed as the Leader of the Council.

8 COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS 2026/27

- 8.1 The mayor moved that for the municipal year 2026/27 the following appointments be agreed:
- (i) Joint Deputy Leaders of the Council, Councillor Tim Rowkins and Jacob Taylor;
and
 - (ii) Leader of the Official Opposition, Councillor Steve Davis.
- 8.2 The mayor also moved that for the municipal year 2026/2027 the following appointments to the positions as agreed by the various Groups represented on the Council be noted:
- (i) Leader of the Labour Group - Councillor Bella Sankey;
 - (ii) Deputy Leaders of the Labour Group - Councillors Tim Rowkins and Jacob Taylor;
 - (iii) Convenor of the Green Group – Councillor Steve Davis;
 - (iv) Deputy Convenors of the Green Group – Councillors Kerry Pickett, Chloe Goldsmith and Marina Lademacher
 - (v) Leader of the Conservative Group - Councillor Alistair McNair;

(vi) Deputy Leaders of the Conservative Group – Councillors Anne Meadows and Carol Theobald

(vii) Leader of the Brighton & Hove Independent Group – Councillor Bridget Fishleigh

9.3 The motion was **carried**.

9.4 **RESOLVED:**

That the following appointments to the positions as agreed by the various Groups represented on the Council be noted:

(i) Leader of the Labour Group - Councillor Bella Sankey;

(ii) Deputy Leaders of the Labour Group - Councillors Tim Rowkins and Jacob Taylor;

(iii) Convenor of the Green Group – Councillor Steve Davis;

(iv) Deputy Convenors of the Green Group – Councillors Kerry Pickett, Chloe Goldsmith and Marina Lademacher

(v) Leader of the Conservative Group - Councillor Alistair McNair;

(vi) Deputy Leaders of the Conservative Group – Councillors Anne Meadows and Carol Theobald

(vii) Leader of the Brighton & Hove Independent Group – Councillor Bridget Fishleigh

9 **APPOINTMENT OF CABINET MEMBERS**

9.1 The Leader of the Council, Councillor Sankey informed the Council of the appointment of the Cabinet for 2026/27.

9.2 **RESOLVED:**

That Council notes the appointment of Cabinet Members and Cabinet Advisors by the Leader as set out in Appendix A.

10 **REVIEW OF POLITICAL BALANCE AND APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES, OUTSIDE BODIES AND PARTNERSHIPS 2026-27**

10.1 The mayor moved the recommendations as listed in the report of the Chief Executive which had been circulated as part of the addendum papers.

10.2 Councillor Picket moved an amendment on behalf of the Green Group which was seconded by Cllr Shanks.

10.3 Cllr Earthey and Evans spoke on the matter.

10.4 The mayor put the amendment to the vote and confirmed it had been lost.

10.5 The mayor put recommendations in the report to the vote, and it was carried.

10.6 **RESOLVED:**

That the recommendations be approved.

11 CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting concluded at 6.23pm

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of

2026

Subject: Resisting Hostile Environment Policies

Date of meeting: 23 July 2026

Proposer: Councillor Sankey
Seconded: Councillor Asaduzzaman

Ward(s) affected: All

Notice of Motion

Labour Group Amendment

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

This Council notes:

1. The current government's ***action to resist the hostile policies of the previous Government including scrapping the Rwanda deportation scheme and starting to process asylum cases again.***
2. ***The hostile environment reached its peak in Brighton and Hove when 137 unaccompanied asylum seeking children went missing from a hotel in Hove between 2021 and 2022*** ~~immigration strategy, which represents a regressive and callous shift that targets vulnerable refugees and asylum seekers, many of whom are fleeing war, persecution and climate destruction.~~
3. The recent counter-protests, which demonstrate that the vast majority of our city reject the far-right hate that drives these hostile immigration policies.
4. Brighton and Hove's longstanding status as a City of Sanctuary, recently recognised by the Council of Sanctuary award.

This Council resolves to:

1. Officially ***endorse the Leader's recent letter to the Home Secretary calling for an extension to the move on period; granting asylum seekers the right to work after six months; the commencement of local authority led accommodation pilots and restore the right to family reunion.*** ~~condemn the increase in immigration raids and the regressive settlement and asset seizure policies put forward by the current Government, which can function as a form of State intimidation, dividing communities and instilling fear amongst our residents.~~

This Council further notes:

- a. ~~outlines the council's legal obligations~~ ***relate to regulatory, safeguarding and public protection responsibilities, such as consumer protection, public safety, health and safety, licensing compliance, modern slavery, labour exploitation and***

- safeguarding concerns and do not extend to*** when it comes to immigration enforcement;
- b. ~~explores situations in which the Council can legally refuse to provide assistance to the Home Office or Immigration Enforcement teams – including via Council licensing and environmental health – to avoid council resources being used to facilitate raids wherever possible;~~
 - c. ~~outlines any~~ ***there are no*** data-sharing or service agreements with the Home Office that are in place concerning immigration enforcement, ~~reviewing them wherever legally possible to reduce our complicity in creating a digital hostile environment and creating a clear firewall around Council services where this is in line with the Council's legal obligations; and~~
 - d. ~~considers~~ ***continues*** partnership working with organisations like Voices in Exile and local anti-raids groups to support migrants ***and*** businesses and those targeted by raids to ensure they are aware of their legal rights in relation to immigration enforcement and raids.

Supporting Information:

[Immigration raids - Guide for local councillors](#)

Recommendations to read if carried:

This Council notes:

1. The current government's action to resist the hostile policies of the previous Government including scrapping the Rwanda deportation scheme and starting to process asylum cases again.
2. The hostile environment reached its peak in Brighton and Hove when 137 unaccompanied asylum seeking children went missing from a hotel in Hove between 2021 and 2022
3. The recent counter-protests, which demonstrate that the vast majority of our city reject the far-right hate that drives these hostile immigration policies.
4. Brighton and Hove's longstanding status as a City of Sanctuary, recently recognised by the Council of Sanctuary award.

This Council resolves to:

1. Officially endorse the Leader's recent letter to the Home Secretary calling for an extension to the move on period; granting asylum seekers the right to work after six months; the commencement of local authority led accommodation pilots and restore the right to family reunion.

This Council further notes:

- a. The council's legal obligations relate to regulatory, safeguarding and public protection responsibilities, such as consumer protection, public safety, health and safety, licensing compliance, modern slavery,

labour exploitation and safeguarding concerns and do not extend to immigration enforcement;

- b. There are no data-sharing or service agreements with the Home Office in place concerning immigration enforcement
- c. Continues partnership working with organisations like Voices in Exile to support migrants and businesses to ensure they are aware of their legal rights.

Brighton & Hove City Council

Council

Agenda Item 31

Subject: Net Zero & Climate Adaptation in Brighton & Hove

Date of meeting: 23 July 2026

Proposer: Councillor Hill

Seconded: Councillor Sykes

Ward(s) affected: All

Notice of Motion

Green Group Amendment

This Council notes:

- 1) The work undertaken to accelerate the city's progress to Net Zero, including large scale rooftop solar generation, nation-leading EV charging, the development of a Strategic Energy Partnership to fund and deliver the decarbonisation project pipeline.
- 2) That city's leadership in the establishment of Sussex Energy to achieve zero carbon energy for the whole of Sussex by 2040 and the importance of this work continuing.
- 3) That the UK recently recorded its hottest June day on record, with temperatures reaching 37.3°C, and that heatwaves are becoming more frequent, longer-lasting and more intense as a result of climate change. **The Met Office has estimated that more than 2,700 people are thought to have died from heat-related causes during the May and June heatwaves in England and Wales.**
- 4) That climate change is already affecting residents in Brighton & Hove through overheating, pressure on health and care services, disruption to transport and public services, impacts on schools and workplaces, and increased risks to vulnerable people.
- 5) The work done to date on climate adaptation, including the Climate Risk & Vulnerability Assessment and the Climate and Nature Action Plan.
- 6) **News reports that indicate that the government is looking to give consent to new oil drilling in the North Sea by issuing licenses to allow for the Rosebank & Jackdaw.**
- 7) **Any new oil and gas field approval is wholly incompatible with keeping global warming to 1.5°C, the internationally agreed limit for avoiding the worst impacts of climate breakdown.**

This Council resolves to:

- 1) Request officers to explore creating and maintaining a publicly accessible "Cool Spaces" map, identifying libraries, community hubs, parks, public

buildings and other locations where residents can find respite during periods of extreme heat;

- 2) Requests officers to review actions from the Climate Risk & Vulnerability Assessment and Climate & Nature Action Plan and consider whether a standalone action plan focused on increasing resilience to heat is required;
- 3) Request officers to explore the establishment of a Heatwave Partnership, bringing together the council, NHS, universities, schools, housing providers, emergency services, community groups and businesses to coordinate preparedness and response.
- 4) **Request that the Council Leader writes to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero Miatta Fahnbulleh asking her not to issue licenses to the Rosebank & Jackdaw oil field developments.**

Recommendations to read if carried:

This Council notes:

- 1) The work undertaken to accelerate the city's progress to Net Zero, including large scale rooftop solar generation, nation-leading EV charging, the development of a Strategic Energy Partnership to fund and deliver the decarbonisation project pipeline.
- 2) That city's leadership in the establishment of Sussex Energy to achieve zero carbon energy for the whole of Sussex by 2040 and the importance of this work continuing.
- 3) That the UK recently recorded its hottest June day on record, with temperatures reaching 37.3°C, and that heatwaves are becoming more frequent, longer-lasting and more intense as a result of climate change. The Met Office has estimated that more than 2,700 people are thought to have died from heat-related causes during the May and June heatwaves in England and Wales.
- 4) That climate change is already affecting residents in Brighton & Hove through overheating, pressure on health and care services, disruption to transport and public services, impacts on schools and workplaces, and increased risks to vulnerable people.
- 5) The work done to date on climate adaptation, including the Climate Risk & Vulnerability Assessment and the Climate and Nature Action Plan.
- 6) News reports that indicate that the government is looking to give consent to new oil drilling in the North Sea by issuing licenses to allow for the Rosebank & Jackdaw.
- 7) Any new oil and gas field approval is wholly incompatible with keeping global warming to 1.5°C, the internationally agreed limit for avoiding the worst impacts of climate breakdown.

This Council resolves to:

- 1) Request officers to explore creating and maintaining a publicly accessible "Cool Spaces" map, identifying libraries, community hubs, parks, public buildings and other locations where residents can find respite during periods of extreme heat;

- 2) Requests officers to review actions from the Climate Risk & Vulnerability Assessment and Climate & Nature Action Plan and consider whether a standalone action plan focused on increasing resilience to heat is required;
- 3) Request officers to explore the establishment of a Heatwave Partnership, bringing together the council, NHS, universities, schools, housing providers, emergency services, community groups and businesses to coordinate preparedness and response.
- 4) Request that the Council Leader writes to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero Miatta Fahnbulleh asking her not to issue licenses to the Rosebank & Jackdaw oil field developments.

