

**COUNCIL**

**4.30pm 10 JULY 2025**

**COUNCIL CHAMBER, HOVE TOWN HALL**

# **DECISION LIST**

## **Part One**

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### **26 THE FREEDOM OF THE CITY OF BRIGHTON & HOVE**

*Contact Officer:* Victoria Simpson *Tel:* 01273 294687  
*Ward Affected:* All Wards

- 1) That the Council approved the Policy attached as Appendix 1 with immediate effect.

### **27 MINIMUM REVENUE PROVISION POLICY - UPDATE**

*Contact Officer:* Haley Woollard *Tel:* 01273 291246  
*Ward Affected:* All Wards

- 1) That the Council approved the revised Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement for 2025/26 as set out in Appendix 2;
- 2) That the Council noted that once formally approved, the policy will be applied to the council's draft Statement of Accounts for 2024/25.

### **28 LOOKING AFTER OUR HERITAGE**

Resolved to:

This Council Notes:

- 1) Brighton & Hove is home to nationally significant heritage, from Saxon churches to the Royal Pavilion;
- 2) 18 at risk sites are listed by Historic England, others, are less well-known
- 3) Patcham, is home to Brighton's oldest church, a 16th century dovecote; a 1930s clocktower; Patcham Place sports pavilion, included in the list of planned pavilion upgrades in Administration's Playing Pitch Strategy; and Patcham Peace Gardens which the U3A maintain;

- 4) Tourists and residents note the poor state of the city's heritage caused by fourteen years of austerity under the previous national government and the subsequent lack of funding for the maintenance of the country's heritage assets, recognising that the total national budget for Historic England was only £117m in 2023/24
- 5) The reputational damage and concern expressed by residents and visitors has led to this administration's determination to begin the restoration programme for Madeira Terraces and the seafront heritage lanterns, whose restoration begins autumn 2025.
- 6) That officers have recommended a review be completed of all council-owned heritage assets to establish the full extent of the problem.

Therefore, resolves to:

- 1) Request that the Place Overview & Scrutiny Committee consider undertaking a cross-party Task & Finish Group review of all council-controlled heritage assets, addressing potential timelines and funding for restoration and maintenance;
- 2) Note the ongoing consultation with residents and community groups to guide future investment in the city's heritage, recognising the social, educational and public value of cultural regeneration.
- 3) Request the Place Overview & Scrutiny Committee considers as part of any review how the Council can strengthen partnerships with local arts organisations, schools, colleges, universities, and heritage groups to promote cultural education and inclusive access to our heritage.

## **29 RECOGNISING UNPAID CARERS**

Resolved to:

This Council Notes:

- 1) Brighton & Hove is home to nationally significant heritage, from Saxon churches to the Royal Pavilion;
- 2) 18 at risk sites are listed by Historic England, others, are less well-known
- 3) Patcham, is home to Brighton's oldest church, a 16<sup>th</sup> century dovecote; a 1930s clocktower; Patcham Place sports pavilion, included in the list of planned pavilion upgrades in Administration's's Playing Pitch Strategy; and Patcham Peace Gardens which the U3A maintain;
- 4) Tourists and residents note the poor state of the city's heritage caused by fourteen years of austerity under the previous national government and the subsequent lack of funding for the maintenance of the country's heritage assets, recognising that the total national budget for Historic England was only £117m in 2023/24
- 5) The reputational damage and concern expressed by residents and visitors

has led to this administration's determination to begin the restoration programme for Madeira Terraces and the seafront heritage lanterns, whose restoration begins autumn 2025.

- 6) That officers have recommended a review be completed of all council-owned heritage assets to establish the full extent of the problem.

Therefore, resolves to:

- 1) Request that the Place Overview & Scrutiny Committee consider undertaking a cross-party Task & Finish Group review of all council-controlled heritage assets, addressing potential timelines and funding for restoration and maintenance;
- 2) Note the ongoing consultation with residents and community groups to guide future investment in the city's heritage, recognising the social, educational and public value of cultural regeneration.
- 3) Request the Place Overview & Scrutiny Committee considers as part of any review how the Council can strengthen partnerships with local arts organisations, schools, colleges, universities, and heritage groups to promote cultural education and inclusive access to our heritage.

### **30 ACADEMISATION OF WOODINGDEAN PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Resolved to:

This council notes:

- 1) That Woodingdean Primary School is undergoing a consultation on proposals to join the Eko Trust.
- 2) There is significant concern about the principle of academisation from staff, parents, carers and the community.
- 3) Woodingdean has two 'good' Ofsted rated maintained schools which deliver excellent educational outcomes for children.
- 4) The Eko Trust is in the process of a merger with another Multi Academy Trust – feeding uncertainty into the process and future implications for the school.
- 5) School governors are a vital asset to our family of schools and help deliver excellent educational opportunities for the children of our city – hence we do not want to see them undermined as is often the case in a Multi Academy Trust.

This council resolves to:

- 1) Request that the Leader of the Council writes to the Co-Chair of governors at Woodingdean Primary to seek to extend the consultation period to the autumn, supporting parent's wishes.
- 2) Request officers to consider how best to ensure that Woodingdean school governors are fully aware and briefed on the school improvement work undertaken in recent years, and the totality of the LEA offer to schools prior to

the next Full Governing Board meeting where feedback from the consultation is to be discussed.

3) Request officers and Cabinet members to listen and respond to feedback from the school and to consider whether bespoke packages of support are available and committing to always innovate and evolve the LEA offer.

4) Request officers to consider how they can seek out schools considering academisation, and to present a robust case to them for remaining with the LEA.

5) Note the Administration's position to explicitly oppose new academisation proposals on principle.