

# Council

Date: **10 July 2025**

Time: **4.30pm**

Venue: **Council Chamber, Hove Town Hall**

Members: **Councillors:** Grimshaw (Chair), Galvin (Deputy Chair), Asaduzzaman, Atkinson, Alexander, Allen, Bagaeen, Baghoth, Burden, Cattell, Czolak, Daniel, Davis, Earthey, Evans, Fishleigh, Fowler, Gauge, Goddard, Goldsmith, Guilmant, Helliwell, Hewitt, Hill, Hogan, Loughran, Lyons, Mackey, McGregor, McLeay, McNair, Meadows, Miller, Muten, Nann, Oliveira, O'Quinn, Parrott, Pickett, Robins, Robinson, Rowkins, Sankey, Shanks, Sheard, Simon, Sykes, Taylor, C Theobald, Thomson, West, Wilkinson, Winder and Williams.

Contact: **Anthony Soyinka**  
Head of Democratic Services  
01273 291006  
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Chief Executive  
Hove Town Hall  
Norton Road  
Hove BN3 3BQ

Date of Publication - Wednesday, 2 July 2025

# AGENDA

## Part One

## Page

### 15 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- (a) Disclosable pecuniary interests;
- (b) Any other interests required to be registered under the local code;
- (c) Any other general interest as a result of which a decision on the matter might reasonably be regarded as affecting you or a partner more than a majority of other people or businesses in the ward/s affected by the decision.

In each case, you need to declare

- (i) the item on the agenda the interest relates to;
- (ii) the nature of the interest; and
- (iii) whether it is a disclosable pecuniary interest or some other interest.

If unsure, Members should seek advice from the Monitoring Officer or Democratic Services Officer preferably before the meeting.

### 16 MINUTES

7 - 8

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the previous Council meeting(s) which will be circulated separately as part of an addendum for the meeting.

*Contact Officer: Anthony Soyinka*

*Tel: 01273 291006*

### 17 MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

To receive communications from the Mayor.

### 18 LEADER AND PORTFOLIO HOLDER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

To receive announcements by the Leader and Portfolio Holders.

### 19 TO RECEIVE PETITIONS AND E-PETITIONS

To receive any petitions to be presented to the Mayor by members of the public and/or Members as notified by the due date of 26 June 2025 (10 working days) which will be circulated separately as part of an addendum for the meeting.

### 20 WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

A list of public questions received by the due date of 12noon on 30 June 2025 will be circulated separately as part of an addendum for the meeting.

### 21 DEPUTATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

A list of deputations received by the due date of 12noon on 30 June 2025 will be circulated separately as part of an addendum for the meeting.

## PETITIONS FOR DEBATE

Petitions to be debated at Council.

### **22 REINSTATE THE DOG FREE FENCED AREA IN BLAKERS PARK 9 - 10**

### **23 CALL OVER FOR REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

(a) Call over (items 26 - 27) will be read out at the meeting and Members invited to reserve the items for consideration.

(b) To receive or approve the reports and agree with their recommendations, with the exception of those which have been reserved for discussion.

### **24 WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS 11 - 28**

A list of the written questions submitted by Members has been included in the agenda papers. This will be repeated along with the written answers received and will be taken as read as part of an addendum circulated separately at the meeting.

*Contact Officer: Anthony Soyinka*

*Tel: 01273 291006*

## **6.30 - 7.00PM REFRESHMENT BREAK**

Note: A refreshment break is scheduled for 6.30pm although this may alter slightly depending on how the meeting is proceeding and the view of the Mayor.

### **25 ORAL QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS 29 - 32**

A list of Councillors who have indicated their desire to ask an oral question at the meeting along with the subject matters has been listed in the agenda papers.

*Contact Officer: Anthony Soyinka*

*Tel: 01273 291006*

## **REPORTS FOR DECISION**

### **26 THE FREEDOM OF THE CITY OF BRIGHTON & HOVE 33 - 48**

*Contact Officer: Victoria Simpson*

*Tel: 01273 294687*

*Ward Affected: All Wards*

### **27 MINIMUM REVENUE PROVISION POLICY - UPDATE 49 - 56**

*Contact Officer: Haley Woollard*

*Tel: 01273 291246*

*Ward Affected: All Wards*

## **REPORTS REFERRED FOR INFORMATION**

## **NOTICES OF MOTION**

The following Notices of Motion have been submitted by Members for consideration:

28	LOOKING AFTER OUR HERITAGE	57 - 58
29	RECOGNISING UNPAID CARERS	59 - 60
30	ACADEMISATION OF WOODINGDEAN PRIMARY SCHOOL	61 - 62
31	CLOSE OF MEETING	

The Mayor will move a closure motion under Procedure Rule 17 to terminate the meeting 4 hours after the beginning of the meeting (excluding any breaks/adjournments).

*Note:*

1. *The Mayor will put the motion to the vote and if it is carried will then:-*
  - (a) *Call on the Member who had moved the item under discussion to give their right of reply, before then putting the matter to the vote, taking into account the need to put any amendments that have been moved to the vote first;*
  - (b) *Each remaining item on the agenda that has not been dealt with will then be taken in the order they appear on the agenda and put to the vote without debate.*  
  
*The Member responsible for moving each item will be given the opportunity by the Mayor to withdraw the item or to have it voted on. If there are any amendments that have been submitted, these will be taken and voted on first in the order that they were received.*
  - (c) *Following completion of the outstanding items, the Mayor will then close the meeting.*
2. *If the motion moved by the Mayor is **not carried** the meeting will continue in the normal way, with each item being moved and debated and voted on.*
3. *Any Member will still have the opportunity to move a closure motion should they so wish. If such a motion is moved and seconded, then the same procedure as outlined above will be followed.*

*Once all the remaining items have been dealt with the Mayor will close the meeting.*

## FOR INFORMATION

The City Council actively welcomes members of the public and the press to attend its meetings and holds as many of its meetings as possible in public. Provision is also made on the agendas for public questions to committees and details of how questions can be raised can be found on the website and/or on agendas for the meetings.

The closing date for receipt of public questions and deputations for the next meeting is 10:00am on the eighth working day before the meeting.

Meeting papers can be provided, on request, in large print, in Braille, on audio tape or on disc, or translated into any other language as requested.

Infra-red hearing aids are available for use during the meeting. If you require any further information or assistance, please contact the receptionist on arrival.

### **Webcasting notice**

This meeting may be filmed for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's website. At the start of the meeting the Chair will confirm if all or part of the meeting is being filmed. You should be aware that the Council is a Data Controller under the Data Protection Act 1998. Data collected during this web cast will be retained in accordance with the Council's published policy.

Therefore, by entering the meeting room and using the seats in the chamber you are deemed to be consenting to being filmed and to the possible use of those images and sound recordings for the purpose of web casting and/or Member training. If members of the public do not wish to have their image captured, they should sit in the public gallery area.

### **Access notice**

The Public Gallery is situated on the first floor of the Town Hall and is limited in size but does have 2 spaces designated for wheelchair users. The lift cannot be used in an emergency. Evac Chairs are available for self-transfer and you are requested to inform Reception prior to going up to the Public Gallery. **For your own safety please do not go beyond the Ground Floor if you are unable to use the stairs.**

Please inform staff on Reception of this affects you so that you can be directed to the Council Chamber where you can watch the meeting or if you need to take part in the proceedings e.g. because you have submitted a public question.**Fire & emergency evacuation procedure**

If the fire alarm sounds continuously, or if you are instructed to do so, you must leave the building by the nearest available exit. You will be directed to the nearest exit by council staff. It is vital that you follow their instructions:

- You should proceed calmly; do not run and do not use the lifts;
- Do not stop to collect personal belongings;
- Once you are outside, please do not wait immediately next to the building, but move some distance away and await further instructions; and
- Do not re-enter the building until told that it is safe to do so

### **Further information**

For further details and general enquiries about this meeting contact Anthony Soyinka, (01273 291006, email [anthony.soyinka@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:anthony.soyinka@brighton-hove.gov.uk)) or email [democratic.services@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.services@brighton-hove.gov.uk)



# Brighton & Hove City Council

## Council

## Agenda Item 16

**Subject:** Minutes of previous council meetings

**Date of meeting:** 10 July 2025

**Report of:** Director of Governance & Law

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

**Ward(s) affected:** All

### 1. Action required of Council:

To receive and approve the minutes of the previous Council meetings held on 30 January 2025, 27 February 2025 (Special Council meeting and Budget Council meeting), 22 May 2025 (Annual Council), and 23 June 2025 (Special Council meeting).

### 2. Recommendations

#### That Council:

- 2.1 Approves as a correct record the minutes of the Council meeting held on 30 January 2025, and
- 2.2 Approves as a correct record the minutes of the Special Council meeting held on 27 February 2025, and
- 2.3 Approves as a correct record the minutes of the Budget Council meeting held on 27 February 2025, and
- 2.4 Approves as a correct record the minutes of the Annual Council meeting held on 22 May 2025, and
- 2.5 Approves as a correct record the minutes of the Special Council meeting held on 23 June 2025





# Brighton & Hove City Council

## Council

## Agenda Item 22

**Subject:** Petition for Debate

**Date of meeting:** 10 July 2025

**Report of:** Director of Governance & Law

**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.

#### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the petition is noted.

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

- 3.1 To receive the following petition:

##### [Reinstate the Dog Free Fenced Area in Blakers Park](#)

We the undersigned petition Brighton & Hove Council to amend the current Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) and reinstate the fenced area in Blakers Park as a dedicated dog-free space for children, families, and the wider community. For over 40 years, this fenced area has served as a safe and peaceful haven where school groups, nursery children, and families have gathered for picnics, games, and community events. In the 1970s, following strong local advocacy over concerns such as dog fouling, the community successfully secured its dog-free status. This long-standing arrangement has helped foster safety, accessibility, and harmony in the park. However, the current PSPO does not include this important space within its dog-free designation, despite its historical use as a dog-free area. As a result, dogs are now allowed in a space that has traditionally been relied upon for safe, dog-free recreation.

We respectfully urge Brighton & Hove City Council to amend the current PSPO to reinstate the dog-free status of the fenced area, ensuring that

# Brighton & Hove City Council

Blakers Park remains a welcoming and secure environment for children, families, and the wider community.

Please sign this petition to help safeguard our cherished park for families, residents, and future generations.

## **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).

# Brighton & Hove City Council

## Council

## Agenda Item 24

**Subject:** Written questions from Councillors

**Date of meeting:** 10 July 2025

**Report of:** Director of Governance & Law

**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 asked:**

At the Annual Council meeting, Cllr Sankey stated that due to proportionality rules the Administration would get 4 out of the 4 Deputy Mayor nominations from 2023-2027. Given that Administration have two thirds of the seats, how is it proportional to have 100% control of Mayor making?

**Reply from Councillor Sankey, Leader of the Council & Cabinet Chair:**

**2. Councillor Hill asked:**

Residents of mine have contacted me with concerns relating to Brighton & Hove City Council selling off the council land . Previous areas of land have been snapped up by predatory private developers, resulting in more overpriced luxury flats and little to no social housing. When will details of proposed disposals be shared publicly?

**Reply from Councillor Taylor, Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Finance & City Regeneration:**

**3. Councillor Hill asked:**

Can I confirm that there has been no report done on the suitability of the Veolia site? I do not expect there to be but for the record.

**Reply from Councillor Rowkins, Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Net Zero & Environmental Services:**

## Brighton & Hove City Council

**4. Councillor Hill asked:**

Bad odours coming from the Hollingdean Materials Recovery Facility continue to affect residents in Round Hill. What work is being done to mitigate this given the particularly high heat this summer is likely to intensify the bad odour? I appreciate that when there are missed collections also there will be worse smells.

**Reply from Councillor Rowkins, Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Net Zero & Environmental Services:**

**5. Councillor Hill asked:**

Will Cllr Rowkins consider allowing roads with more than approximately 100 houses to opt out of using glyphosate if they have enough volunteers? Have considerations been made to allow residents to opt out a clearly designated part of a long road next year?

**Reply from Councillor Rowkins, Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Net Zero & Environmental Services:**

**6. Councillor Hill asked:**

Is chalk downland considered an irreplaceable habitat for the purposes of biodiversity net gain protection? How can it be protected within the new planning framework of the planning and infrastructure bill which does not protect irreplaceable habitats?

**Reply from Councillor Rowkins, Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Net Zero & Environmental Services:**

**7. Councillor McLeay asked:**

Residents near Valley Gardens are distressed by repeated events with open-air bars and loud music until 2am, often without proper consultation. Given the area is already well-served by licensed premises and residents have reported ongoing disruption, how can the Council justify approving such events without consultation, noise assessments, or reasonable hours? Will the Council commit to reviewing Valley Gardens as a venue for these events and ensure local voices are heard in future decisions connected with its licence?

**Reply from Councillor Miller, Cabinet Member for Culture, Heritage & Tourism:**

**8. Councillor McLeay asked:**

With so much of the green space along The Level and Valley Gardens used for outdoor events this and last summer, and much of that grassland deteriorating further each year - will the council consider investing in greater reinstatement works such as sprinklers and fresh lawn turf (as done at

## **Brighton & Hove City Council**

Pavilion Gardens following the ice rink) so our green spaces can return to their former glory?

**Reply from Councillor Robins, Cabinet Member for Sports, Recreation & Libraries:**

**9. Councillor McLeay asked:**

Anti-social behaviour on New Road is escalated for a third summer, with increasing violence, drug use, and public drinking. Despite arrests and court orders, offenders return the next day, and police presence remains inconsistent. Staff safety and mental well-being in local businesses are now real concerns. Given the ongoing issues, will the Council reconsider how the space around the benches is used, such as a food market or alternative seating that prevents concealment of alcohol? How can we design out anti-social behaviour in this area, and improve the environment for all?

**Reply from Councillor Allen, Cabinet Member for Customer Services & Public Realm:**

**10. Councillor McLeay asked:**

Residents living on Zion Gardens are experiencing reporting fatigue. They've logged incidents ranging from public urination and graffiti to serious assaults, but see no visible outcome from public services. At a January meeting, we were told more reports are needed before more action could be taken, but no threshold has been given. What level of reporting is required before further action is taken, and how can residents without easy access to technology or with language barriers be supported in this process? How can we make sure these reports are being logged for the reporting tally, and won't be missed?

**Reply from Councillor Daniel, Cabinet Member for Children, Families & Youth Services:**

**11. Councillor McLeay asked:**

At January's Full Council, Cllr Rowkins confirmed a commitment to in-house waste services while being open to exploring community-led elements that could augment the existing provision. Has there been any follow-up with the former management of Magpie to discuss potential partnership? Given the continued disruption and loss of public trust caused by the long-running issues and sabotage within the council-run service, what steps is the Council taking to engage with community-focused organisations like Magpie who wish to work in partnership on improving waste services?

**Reply from Councillor Rowkins, Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Net Zero & Environmental Services:**

## **Brighton & Hove City Council**

**12. Councillor McLeay asked:**

Local businesses face rising business rates, increased leasing costs, and a loss of income during a challenge economic climate. Many pay for their own waste collection, security, and repairs and see very little return on their investment from fees paid to BHCC. They also report a lack of support from council services when issues arise, such as flooding from blocked drains or a rise in crime. What steps is the Council taking to improve relationships with businesses, and ensure better communication and support? How will the Economic Development Plan 2024-2027 work to address the challenges faced by these independent traders? What relief options are available when businesses can't operate due to damaged city infrastructure very much out of their control?

**Reply from Councillor Taylor, Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Finance & City Regeneration:**

**13. Councillor Pickett asked:**

With reference to the recent Casey report findings, it recommends that the use of out-of-town taxis should be limited for under 16s to enable better safe-guarding. When will the council be likely to start implementing these recommendations?

**Reply from Councillor Muten, Cabinet Member for Transport & City Infrastructure:**

**14. Councillor Pickett asked:**

The street opt-out scheme for residents who do not want glyphosate on their streets has failed to stop this happening on certain streets. Can Cllr Rowkins reassure residents that this will not happen again and can he explain what measures will be put in place to make sure?

**Reply from Councillor Rowkins, Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Net Zero & Environmental Services:**

**15. Councillor Pickett asked:**

With the knowledge that the council is failing to uphold its obligation to provide equality of access for disabled residents and visitors trying to use Preston Park train station and others in the city, when will the council use its power to request that Network Rail provide lifts?

**Reply from Councillor Muten, Cabinet Member for Transport & City Infrastructure:**

## **Brighton & Hove City Council**

**16. Councillor Pickett asked:**

Brighton & Hove taxis follow the rules of the Blue Book. This means that they have to follow the strict rules of updating their vehicles once they reach a certain age. However, other cities and towns do not impose such strict rules. This means that it is more costly for B&H drivers and they have to charge more to get some recompense and cannot compete with outside tenders on an equal basis. What can be done to help these drivers find parity and an equal basis when tendering for jobs?

**Reply from Councillor McGregor, Chair of Licensing Committee:**

**17. Councillor Pickett asked:**

With the extra air quality monitoring systems in place around the city, when will the council make the results of these tests available and what is the plan one the results have been analysed?

**Reply from Councillor Rowkins, Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Net Zero & Environmental Services:**

**18. Councillor Pickett asked:**

Whilst I am aware that the council has an issue finding enough properties to house people in, does the council condone the use of unsuitable accommodation (eg excessive mould during winter months that causes respiratory issues,) for families when they know it could affect the health of that family?

**Reply from Councillor Williams, Cabinet Member for Housing:**

**19. Councillor Pickett asked:**

Having signed up to Zane's Law in 2024, will the council ensure that if the Gasworks redevelopment planning appeal is accepted, that the council will follow the principles of Zane's Law to ensure that remediation of the land is properly and safely carried out, thus protecting those living in the nearby vicinity?

**Reply from Councillor Rowkins, Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Net Zero & Environmental Services:**

**20. Councillor Pickett asked:**

With regard to the new 28 day rule that now includes event build and breakdown when will we be given clarity on how that will affect events in Brighton & Hove?

**Reply from Councillor Miller, Cabinet Member for Culture, Heritage & Tourism:**

## **Brighton & Hove City Council**

**21. Councillor Pickett asked:**

Nationally, statistics are on the rise for child deaths for those housed in temporary accommodation. How does Brighton & Hove fare with regard to these statistics and what is the council doing to ensure the safety of these children?

**Reply from Councillor Williams, Cabinet Member for Housing:**

**22. Councillor Shanks asked:**

Why do non-administration councillors only receive information via council press releases? How can we be kept informed of decisions for example closure of tennis courts at Withdean, housing development in Hove

**Reply from Councillor Sankey, Leader of the Council & Cabinet Chair:**

**23. Councillor Shanks asked:**

Why were trees allowed to die and are still dying at Hove Beach Park? Will the council ensure adequate watering of park trees throughout the city in the summer months? Have volunteer waterers been considered?

**Reply from Councillor Rowkins, Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Net Zero & Environmental Services:**

**24. Councillor Shanks asked:**

Why was there no consultation with users and the public about closure of the indoor tennis courts at Withdean stadium? This was a citywide resource and used by residents in my ward. What other indoor tennis is available?

**Reply from Councillor Robins, Cabinet Member for Sports, Recreation & Libraries :**

**25. Councillor Shanks asked:**

The government has announced that Healthwatch bodies are to be dismantled and not funded. Will the administration join with me in protesting about this destruction of a very valuable resource for residents in terms of support and research?

**Reply from Councillor Allen, Cabinet Member for Customer Services & Public Realm:**



## **Brighton & Hove City Council**

**26. Councillor Sykes asked:**

Concerning the UC and PIP Bill, can the Administration share its assessment of the impact of the amended Bill on sick and disabled claimants in our city, and of the indirect impact on council and NHS services of the expected cuts?

**Reply from Councillor Taylor, Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Finance & City Regeneration:**

**27. Councillor Sykes asked:**

Residents in Brunswick and Adelaide have reported cracks in their building on Western Road and that this may be associated with heavy vehicle traffic and a degraded road surface. This could result in claims against the council. Is the possibility of claims for damage to private buildings considered in the way roads are prioritised for resurfacing?

**Reply from Councillor Muten, Cabinet Member for Transport & City Infrastructure:**

**28. Councillor Sykes asked:**

As council resources diminish, we are increasingly reliant on local 'Friends Of' groups to help keep our city centre green spaces looking good. However, barriers to the involvement of these groups remain. What steps will the Administration take to enable both sides to get the most from these relationships?

**Reply from Councillor Rowkins, Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Net Zero & Environmental Services:**

**29. Councillor West asked:**

The cabinet member for Transport, when addressing the cabinet report on the Local transport Plan in April, answered my question about the dangerous state of the road surface of Ditchling Road between Viaduct Road to Fiveways, stating that it will be re-laid. When might we expect that important road safety work to actually happen?

**Reply from Councillor Muten, Cabinet Member for Transport & City Infrastructure:**

**30. Councillor West asked:**

The impact of the recent fire at the Pines, which traumatised and displaced neighbouring residents, caused serious damage to property and personal cost. Given neighbours' expressed concerns previously there are questions over the adequacy of tenancy management. Residents and ward councillors are grateful to the phalanx of officers who attended a packed residents meeting in May, and for the follow-up actions now being undertaken.

## **Brighton & Hove City Council**

However, given the very serious nature of the situation, and need for quick and clear answers, why was the cabinet member not in attendance at the meeting nor seemingly engaging in the correspondence? Cabinet members have a significant leadership role to play and residents need to be reassured by seeing the hands-on involvement of the cabinet member ensuring officers are giving their very best focus to all questions and concerns, and progressing renovations and improvements to security and safety at pace.

### **Reply from Councillor Williams, Cabinet Member for Housing:**

#### **31. Councillor West asked:**

Businesses in New England House provide hundreds of jobs and contribute crucial services to the creative, cultural and digital sectors. The internal audit requested by the Council's CEO has revealed fire safety concerns have been known about by senior council officers since July 2020. However, it appears those concerns were only made known to council members and tenants late last year. Businesses are now having to hastily leave so safety work may be carried out. Alternative light industrial premises are scarce and slow to procure. Business interruption and relocation costs are severely impacting financial viability. If the safety problems had been acted upon sooner, different outcomes may have been possible. Does the cabinet member accept that the council has neglected its duties to its tenants and should not leave them to shoulder the consequences. Will he agree to fully compensate businesses for the cost of the impact of their displacement?

### **Reply from Councillor Taylor, Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Finance & City Regeneration:**

#### **32. Councillor West asked:**

For a second year the chief internal auditor was only able to provide partial assurance of the adequacy and effectiveness of the council's framework of governance, risk management and internal control for the year 2024-25. Expressing particular concern over a number of key financial and corporate systems that relate to strategic risks, the chief auditor states that prompt and robust action is required to address findings. Capacity challenges and service resilience have been raised in several areas by management. It is notable that there has been an increase in actions not implemented by their due date. At AS&GP committee, Cllr Taylor acknowledged the reported concerns are serious and worrying and stated that improvements are being made that will address this. Given the continuation of Government austerity, what concrete measures are Cabinet taking to ensure this trend of decline will be reversed by the next annual audit report.

### **Reply from Councillor Taylor, Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Finance & City Regeneration:**

## **Brighton & Hove City Council**

**33. Councillor West asked:**

The presence of the unofficial memorial set up in Palmeira Square in November 2023 is causing community tensions. I understand the Council had taken the view that the memorial was temporary, yet it has now been present for 20 months. What is the current view taken by the administration of the status of the memorial and what is its intention regarding potentially removing or relocating it?

**Reply from Councillor Allen, Cabinet Member for Customer Services & Public Realm:**

**34. Councillor West asked:**

What is the estimated impact of the recent Government announcement of changes to funding formula upon the funding the Council will receive from 2026?

**Reply from Councillor Taylor, Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Finance & City Regeneration:**

**35. Councillor West asked:**

It is good to see the long awaited improvements to cycle lanes along the A23, north of Preston Circus, are finally being rolled out. The project commenced under the former administration which developed and consulted upon the designs. It is disappointing then to find that the surfacing of the lanes are not being laid sufficiently smoothly resulting in a very bumpy and arduous ride. Can the Transport lead please explain if he has inspected the build quality and whether he is challenging contractors over the sub-standard running surface?

**Reply from Councillor Muten, Cabinet Member for Children, Families & Youth Services:**

**36. Councillor West asked:**

The Administration have abandoned No Mow May, increased the frequency of verge mowing, and called a halt to the beneficial rewilding of some larger verges which for the past decade were only receiving a single annual cut each autumn. How much more fossil fuel is being consumed, and how much more CO2 is being emitted, in this war on nature as the Administration drive to make these wildlife habitats neat and tidy? How does this approach sit with the Council meeting its agreed Net Zero and Biodiversity goals, ambitions I know the Cabinet member says he is keen to champion?

**Reply from Councillor Rowkins, Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Net Zero & Environmental Services:**

## **Brighton & Hove City Council**

**37. Councillor West asked:**

By any measure an exam score of 54% is not regarded as a great accomplishment. While the Carbon Disclosure Project may have put Brighton & Hove among only 62 councils to score over 50%, isn't this in fact a reflection of the consequential failure of successive UK governments, to take seriously the need to invest at sufficient scale and pace in measures to arrest climate change?

**Reply from Councillor Rowkins, Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Net Zero & Environmental Services:**

**38. Councillor West asked:**

The external auditor has flagged up some 1,600 legal claims arising from potential gender pay inequality as a financial risk to the council going forward. Should these claims succeed, they could put the council at risk of having to issue a section 114 notice – effectively a bankruptcy notice – if it was unable to meet its financial liabilities. The auditor's report also said that "the council considers that the claims are defensible and has commissioned external legal advice to undertake detailed analysis and advise the council on potential defences or any potential risks they may pose. This process is likely to take at least two years." In the meantime, what financial provision does the Cabinet member feel it is prudent to be making in case the legal opinion proves unsupportive of the council's case and for the possibility that the council might lose?

**Reply from Councillor Taylor, Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Finance & City Regeneration:**

**39. Councillor Goldsmith asked:**

A high number of residents in the city centre have been complaining to myself and colleagues about the level of noise from motorbikes keeping them awake very late at night. What will the council do to tackle this anti-social behaviour? There was a trial in other councils for noise cameras – will the administration lobby the government to allow us to introduce these here and see if it improves the lives of these residents?

**Reply from Councillor Daniel, Cabinet Member for Children, Families & Youth Services:**

**40. Councillor Goldsmith asked:**

A camper van has been repeatedly parking on the grass in Regency Square since last summer, visiting almost every weekend when it's warm. This has understandably upset residents with this selfish behaviour, and is preventing others from using the square. The council has told residents it cannot fine the vehicle under current powers. Will the administration urgently investigate how No Parking signs could be installed, even temporarily, to allow our

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enforcement officers to fine this vehicle as a deterrent, while suitable long-term solutions are developed? The current inaction is simply not good enough for local residents.

**Reply from Councillor Allen / Muten , Cabinet Member for Customer Service & Public Realm/Cabinet Member for Transport & City Infrastructure:**

**41. Councillor Goldsmith asked:**

Related to my previous question – like many squares in the city, Regency Square had its railings removed during WWII, but unlike most others, it has never had them restored. There have been previous plans developed for the regeneration of the square, which included restoring the railings, but nothing has happened. Will the administration please work with Regency Squares Community and ward councillors on a plan to restore these railings? It would be a much-wanted improvement to the square, restoring some of its history, while also preventing the selfish behaviour we have seen with parking on the grass.

**Reply from Councillor Allen, Cabinet Member for Customer Services & Public Realm:**

**42. Councillor Goldsmith asked:**

I have had residents and businesses alike complain to me that, when there are noise complaints out of hours and over weekends, there are no council services available to help. Noise diaries are all well and good, but when no enforcement happens and residents are struggling with loud music into the early hours of the morning, or performers playing at such high volumes over the weekend that they are disturbing local businesses, there is nobody then can call to solve the problem there and then. What can the administration do to better help these residents and businesses?

**Reply from Councillor Rowkins, Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Net Zero & Environmental Services:**

**43. Councillor McNair asked:**

Around half the exterior lights in blocks 2-24 and 26-60, Bramble Way, have not been fixed for months. One or two lights are on all day but not at night. When will they be fixed? Many exterior lights on other blocks across Bramble Way do not work either. No one seems to have checked the lights at nighttime. This problem has been raised by residents and councillors repeatedly yet has not been resolved. Residents should not have to walk around in the pitch dark – it is a serious safety risk.

**Reply from Councillor Williams, Cabinet Member for Housing:**

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**44. Councillor McNair asked:**

Rustington Road and Withdean Court Avenue have both suffered very erratic rubbish and recycling collections. Both are narrow lanes that require small vehicles. Could you tell me what plan is in place to ensure these two roads and other narrow roads across the city receive regular rubbish collections?

**Reply from Councillor Rowkins, Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Net Zero & Environmental Services:**

**45. Councillor Meadows asked:**

Regarding Patcham Court Farm, why did the developers not complete the archaeological and ecological studies prior to removing every piece of vegetation on the land? There is now no wildlife left.

**Reply from Councillor Williams, Cabinet Member for Housing:**

**46. Councillor Meadows asked:**

The developer of the Royal Mail sorting office on Patcham Court Farm has been removing chalk and other earth work from Patcham Court Farm to the boundary of the South Downs National Park. Will the developer be dumping all their waste from this build on Patcham Court Farm on the same site by the National Park? It is exceeding close to an important aquifer and threatens to pollute the water supplying Brighton & Hove.

**Reply from Councillor Williams, Cabinet Member for Housing:**

**47. Councillor Lyons asked:**

Following residents' requests for a parking consultation in Nevill Rd, Nevill Ave, Cranmer Ave in 2023- nothing has been heard since. Councillor Lyons emailed Cllr Trevor Muten on 9 April 2025 for an update, but did not receive a reply.

**Reply from Councillor Muten, Cabinet Member for Transport & City Infrastructure:**

**48. Councillor Lyons asked:**

With many hundreds of missed garden waste collections within the city, why is the onus on the resident or the councillor to claim for an extension of the standing order? Surely, the system should automatically extend the subscription or a rebate is given – after all it is the residents that are paying extra for the service.

**Reply from Councillor Rowkins, Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Net Zero & Environmental Services:**

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**49. Councillor Lyons asked:**

I am making contact to ask if there is any up-to-date information about proposed parking management in Eldred Avenue, between Tongdean Lane and the shops? The last I heard was an e-mail of 4.1.25, which advised that the southern end of Eldred Avenue was to be added to the Parking Scheme Priority Timetable, and that a formal consultation with residents would be undertaken before any decision was made. It would be helpful for timelines to be provided to councillors so they can inform residents.

**Reply from Councillor Muten, Cabinet Member for Transport & City Infrastructure:**

**50. Councillor Hogan asked:**

How many claims have been submitted for pothole damage caused to vehicles & how many claims have been settled between April 2024 and April 2025.

**Reply from Councillor Muten, Cabinet Member for Transport & City Infrastructure:**

**51. Councillor Hogan asked:**

Now that Withdean Sports Complex has had parking charges for the past year, please provide a schedule of income generated to the council v expected revenue. Will the charges be reviewed this year & if yes, when?

**Reply from Councillor Muten, Cabinet Member for Transport & City Infrastructure:**

**52. Councillor Theobald asked:**

Would you please list the roads in Patcham and Hollingbury and Westdene and Hove Park Wards that will be resurfaced in the next three years with the starting dates for the works? Road repairs in recent years do not appear effective, with road's breaking up within a few years of completion. Have specifications and monitoring of the works changed?

**Reply from Councillor Muten, Cabinet Member for Transport & City Infrastructure:**

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**53. Councillor Fishleigh asked:**

Parking revenue

How much revenue did the parking spaces that were removed to make way for the new bus lane east of the aquarium on the A259 generate over the past three years?

**Reply from Councillor Muten, Cabinet Member for Transport & City Infrastructure:**

**54. Councillor Fishleigh asked:**

Given the special allowance that the leader of the opposition receives, please could a mechanism be introduced whereby they list their activities and achievements, above being a ward councillor and political party member, on a regular basis so that residents are aware of their role?

**Reply from Councillor Sankey, Leader of the Council & Cabinet Chair:**

**55. Councillor Earthey asked:**

What progress in 2024 and 2025-to-date has BHCC's Glyphosate-based Weed Control Programme made towards achieving its stated targets?

**Reply from Councillor Rowkins, Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Net Zero & Environmental Services:**

**56. Councillor Earthey asked:**

How many wards (or residents) elected to drop out of the Glyphosate Programme and weed manually?

**Reply from Councillor Rowkins, Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Net Zero & Environmental Services:**

**57. Councillor Earthey asked:**

Based on (1) and (2) above, is it the Administration's intent to continue using Glyphosate into 2026, or is it evaluating alternative weed-killing methods (including chemical-free)?

**Reply from Councillor Rowkins, Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Net Zero & Environmental Services:**



## Brighton & Hove City Council

**58. Councillor Earthey asked:**

What environmental impact studies have been completed on determining if the levels of environmental Glyphosate have risen since the start of the current Programme, and what are their findings?

**Reply from Councillor Rowkins, Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Net Zero & Environmental Services:**

**59. Councillor Earthey asked:**

What progress in 2025 has been made by BHCC's pothole-filling programme towards achieving its stated targets?

**Reply from Councillor Muten, Cabinet Member for Transport & City Infrastructure:**

**60. Councillor Earthey asked:**

Where has the extra money on pothole-filling been spent, and what levels of improvement (in terms of reducing the number of potholes) have been seen?

**Reply from Councillor Muten, Cabinet Member for Transport & City Infrastructure:**

**61. Councillor Bagaeen asked:**

The Tony Blair Institute recently published a report on how the day-to-day tasks of local government related to the delivery of public services can all be performed faster, better and cheaper with the use of AI.  
(<https://institute.global/insights/politics-and-governance/governing-in-the-age-of-ai-reimagining-local-government>).

Will the Leader of the Council please respond to the following:

- How are officers in the council using AI driven tools when drafting reports and responses to members and residents?
- Are officers incentivised to use AI tools to deliver efficiency savings?
- If they are, what's the order of magnitude of these efficiency savings?

**Reply from Councillor Sankey, Leader of the Council & Cabinet Chair:**

**62. Councillor Bagaeen asked:**

Brighton & Hove City Council has a duty to set school term dates for its community schools, community special schools and maintained nursery schools. Governing boards of voluntary-aided schools (Church of England and Catholic schools) set their own dates and academy trusts set the dates for academies and free schools.

Term dates for West Sussex County Council and East Sussex County Council have an impact on school staff and families living and working across borders.

## **Brighton & Hove City Council**

West Sussex and East Sussex have published their term dates and there are clear differences between them.

If East and West Sussex cannot agree on school dates, it is unlikely they will work well together in a mayoral combined authority.

Will the Leader of the Council please respond to the following:

- How would the creation of a Mayoral Combined Authority in Sussex impact school term dates in Brighton and Hove and any plans parents and carers may have already made?

**Reply from Councillor Sankey, Leader of the Council & Cabinet Chair:**

**63. Councillor Bagaeen asked:**

Residents have highlighted a number of coach parking incidents at Withdean Sports Stadium. Previous coach parking area has been converted to five-a-side football pitches, forcing coaches to park illegally to service Withdean Sports Stadium.

Will the Cabinet Member please respond to the following:

- Where exactly should coaches park for drop-offs and collections at Withdean?
- Where should coaches wait between drop-off and collection times?
- What is the capacity of each designated area for waiting?
- At capacity, are there any alternative designated coach parking areas other than double yellow lines?

**Reply from Councillor Muten, Cabinet Member for Transport & City Infrastructure:**

**64. Councillor Bagaeen asked:**

A Parking Design and Implementation officer mentioned in an email response to a resident on 24 June 2025 that Goldstone Crescent will be getting this year a consultation for a residents parking scheme. This is not something that local ward members have been informed of.

The Cabinet Member responsible for this area has not responded recently to a number of emails from myself including forwarded complaints from residents about parking on Nevill Road.

Will the Cabinet Member please respond to the following:

- When did officers agree to a parking consultation for the Aldrington and Nevill areas?
- If Goldstone Crescent is included in this consultation, what is the extent of the boundary for the consultation area?
- Why were ward councillors not informed that this was under consideration given it had been requested a number of times in the past 3 years?

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### **Reply from Councillor Muten, Cabinet Member for Transport & City Infrastructure:**

#### **65. Councillor Bagaeen asked:**

Homes for Brighton & Hove, the partnership between Brighton & Hove City Council and the Hyde Group, has applied for permission to build 306 affordable and shared ownership homes in Hove.

Although the planning application states that the proposed building will be a similar size, height and design as the one originally given planning permission when that was secured for an extra care community, the new application presents serious challenges for the area's infrastructure ((transport, energy, water and wastewater, waste, and flood risk management), in stark contradiction to the Government's recently launched 10-year Infrastructure Strategy which promised a co-ordinated approach to social infrastructure when building new homes.

With serious problems uncovered around shared ownership - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cy8gplg6jv8o> - including difficulties in selling, Florence Eshalomi MP has recently criticised shared ownership saying that 'it is quite worrying when you see the amount of complaints going to the ombudsman'.

Will the Cabinet Member please respond to the following:

- I acknowledge the urgency to build more affordable homes in Hove but why is the council and its partner the Hyde Group proposing to build more problematic shared ownership homes?

### **Reply from Councillor Williams, Cabinet Member for Housing:**

#### **66. Councillor Bagaeen asked:**

With zero public consultation and engagement with ward members, the Council has decided (<https://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/news/2025/indoor-padel-courts-coming-withdean>) to commission new indoor padel courts at Withdean Sports Complex replacing the only indoor tennis courts in the city.

This decision has unfortunately been ill-timed given the announcement coincided with the start of Wimbledon.

Will the Cabinet Member please respond to the following:

- Who initiated the conversations that led to this hasty and unfortunate decision?
- What EDI/DEI data for the use of paddle courts in the city was used to justify this decision given that the council has publicly claimed that this action contributes to increased accessibility and equality?
- Why was the tennis community in the city not consulted?
- Why did the ward members find out about this decision from members of the public and not from officers?

## **Brighton & Hove City Council**

**Reply from Councillor Robins, Cabinet Member for Sports, Recreation & Libraries :**

**67. Councillor Atkinson asked:**

I am currently involved with a serious situation involving anti-social behaviour from one council tenant to their neighbour, another council tenant. Most of the behaviour relates to extremely loud and constant swearing and arguing which can be clearly heard by the resident I'm involved with. The Housing Team and the Temporary Accommodation team, however, just describe this as "household noise".

How can I get a change introduced within the Housing Department to allow for different levels/definitions of household noise to be described including one that reaches the level of anti-social behaviour?

**Reply from Councillor Williams, Cabinet Member for Housing:**

# Brighton & Hove City Council

## Council

## Agenda Item 25

### **Subject: Oral questions from Councillors**

A period of not more than 30 minutes is set aside for oral questions from Members, at the expiry of which, the mayor will call a halt and proceed to the next item of business of the agenda.

The following Members have indicated that they wish to put questions to the Leader, Cabinet portfolio holder, Chairs of Committees or Members of the Council that have been appointed to an outside body. The Councillor asking the question may then ask one relevant supplementary question which shall be put and answered without discussion:

**Date of meeting: 10 July 2025**

#### **1. Councillor McNair**

Hove Beach Park trees

**Reply from Councillor Robins, Cabinet Member for Sports, Recreation & Libraries**

#### **2. Councillor Fishleigh**

Is it true that when someone on HomeMove has declined two properties offered to them as they are unsuitable, then they have to accept the third property offered without knowing how much the rent will be and if the rent is then far above what their current rent is then it's just tough luck?

**Reply from Councillor Williams, Cabinet Member for Housing**

#### **3. Councillor Gauge**

Grooming Gang Exploitation - Learning from Casey's Review in Brighton & Hove

**Reply from Councillor Daniel, Cabinet Member for Children, Families & Youth Services**

#### **4. Councillor McLeay**

Additional Council Housing

**Reply from Councillor Williams, Cabinet Member for Housing**

# Brighton & Hove City Council

## 5. Councillor Meadows

Rubbish collections

**Reply from Councillor Rowkins, Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Net Zero & Environmental Services**

## 6. Councillor Earthey

On 28th March 2024, this Chamber passed a NoM on Zane's Law. Can the Administration assure this Chamber that consequent to the March 2024 NoM's resolutions, Officers have compiled a register of land within Brighton and Hove which may be contaminated, and that the said list includes the Gasworks site adjacent to Marina Way and Roedean Road?

**Reply from Councillor Williams, Cabinet Member for Housing**

## 7. Councillor Atkinson

Can the council give an absolute assurance that both the garden waste and recycling collection services will be functioning satisfactorily before it introduces a food waste collection?

The current problems with recycling and garden waste collections are widely known about and it would seem disingenuous, if not reckless, to introduce another council collection service if the current situation with recycling and garden waste does not improve.

**Reply from Councillor Rowkins, Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Net Zero & Environmental Services**

## 8. Councillor Burden

Public Realm Improvements

**Reply from Councillor Allen, Cabinet Member for Customer Service & Public Realm**

## 9. Councillor Pickett

Waste Collection

**Reply from Councillor Rowkins, Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Net Zero & Environmental Services**

## 10. Councillor Theobald

Cemeteries

# **Brighton & Hove City Council**

**Reply from Councillor Robins, Cabinet Member for Sports, Recreation & Libraries**

**11. Councillor Simon**

Loading Bays

**Reply from Councillor Muten, Cabinet Member for Transport & City Infrastructure**

**12. Councillor Sykes**

Policy on memorials in public spaces

**Reply from Councillor Allen, Cabinet Member for Customer Services & Public Realm:**

**13. Councillor Hogan**

Electric cars

**Reply from Councillor Muten, Cabinet Member for Transport & City Infrastructure**

**14. Councillor Cattell**

Road Improvements

**Reply from Councillor Muten, Cabinet Member for Transport & City Infrastructure**

**15. Councillor Goldsmith**

Glyphosate

**Reply from Councillor Rowkins, Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Net Zero & Environmental Services**

**16. Councillor Shanks**

Local Government Reorganisation

**Reply from Councillor Sankey, Leader of the Council & Cabinet Chair**

**17. Councillor Hill**

NHS Sussex & NHS Surrey Heartlands proposed merger

**Reply from Councillor Allen, Cabinet Member for Customer Service & Public Realm**

# **Brighton & Hove City Council**

## **18. Councillor West**

A23 Cycle Lanes

**Reply from Councillor Muten, Cabinet Member for Transport & City Infrastructure**



# Brighton & Hove City Council

## Council

## Agenda Item 26

**Subject:** Honorary Freedom of the City

**Date of meeting:** 10 July 2025

**Report of:** Elizabeth Culbert, Director Governance & Law (Monitoring Officer)

**Contact Officer:** Victoria Simpson, Senior Lawyer – Corporate Law  
Victoria.Simpson@brighton-hove.gov.uk

**Ward(s) affected:** All

**For general release**

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

- 1.1 This Report describes the powers the Council has to award the honorary Freedom of the City and recommends that Council formally approves the policy attached at Appendix 1.
- 1.2 Publication of a transparent and clear policy which explains how the Freedom of the City can be nominated to aligns with the Council Plan priority to ensure our services are easy to access, that customers are kept informed and that their view are listened to.

### **2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 That the Council approve the Policy attached as Appendix 1 with immediate effect.

### **3. Context and background information**

- 3.1 The award of the Freedom of the City is an honorary one, which local authorities may choose to award to those people who, in the opinion of the Council, have rendered eminent service to the council or the city.
- 3.2 The legal framework which provides for the award of the Freedom of the City is outlined in paragraph 8 below. The framework gives Councils leeway to determine their own selection process and to make such appointments to this honorary award as they see fit.
- 3.3 Brighton & Hove City Council's existing arrangements have been in place since 2012. A list of former recipients is attached as Appendix 2. There is currently not a published policy in place which clearly sets out the criteria for the award and the award has therefore been managed on an ad hoc and reactive basis.
- 3.4 Officers have therefore explored options for making the process for nominating someone for this award more inclusive and transparent, as a

means of acknowledging a more diverse range of people who have made a significant contribution to this city. This report is the outcome of that work

### **A Policy which encourages an inclusive approach**

- 3.5 As noted above, the legislation which governs this award is silent on how nominees might be selected. As a result, local authorities are free to exercise their discretion as they see fit.
- 3.6 The criteria included in the updated Policy aim to encourage consideration not just of reputational impact but also the actual contribution made by nominees to the people of this city: a contribution which could involve (for instance) improving the lives of residents day to day. The suggested wording aims to be as wide as possible to recognise those with a local connections whose achievements may provide others with inspiration and/or enhance perceptions of this city.
- 3.7 It is proposed that the process by which nominations for this award may be made is published and clearly sets out how residents and other stakeholders may make nominations for consideration by filling in a single form. Information about this will be published on the Council's website – including the deadlines for nominations.
- 3.8 The policy provides that all nominations received in are reviewed annually by a group made up of Leaders of each of the Council's political Groups. That group will review nomination(s) – normally one per calendar year – to be put to a meeting of full Council for approval. Leaders' Group will aim for a consensus approach, noting the legal requirement for the nomination to receive the support of a two thirds majority of those in attendance and voting at a Special Council meeting.

## **4. Analysis and consideration of alternative options**

- 4.1 The Council's only statutory means of recognising services or significant contributions to the city is that of conferring the Freedom of the City. For this reason, no alternative options have been considered.

## **5. Community engagement and consultation**

- 5.1 Consideration of community engagement is at the heart of this proposal, which seeks to open up the process for awarding the Freedom of the City so that nominations can be made by anyone and everyone can understand and access the process and criteria. Leaders Group has been consulted on the proposal, with the draft policy shared for comment.

## **6. Conclusion**

- 6.1 Conferring the honour of Freedom of the City has potential to be a means of acknowledging key contributions made by residents and stakeholders of the city across any number of spheres. This proposed update to the Council's approach aims to open up its potential as a tool for acknowledging achievement, in a way which provides inspiration for the future.

## **7. Financial implications**

- 7.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. The costs arising from the award of this title is expected to be met from within existing resources.

Name of finance officer consulted: Haley Woollard Date consulted: 26/06/25

## **8. Legal implications**

- 8.1 Section 249 (5) The Local Government Act 1972 (as amended by the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009) enables the councils of cities to confer the status of honorary freeman/freewoman on "(a) persons of distinction and (b) persons who have, in the opinion of the council, rendered eminent services to the local area". The award of the title of Honorary Freeman must be approved by a resolution passed by not less than two-thirds of the Members voting at a meeting of the council specially convened for the purpose. The Freedom of the City confers no rights: while it is the highest honour a Council may award, it is largely of symbolic importance.

Name of lawyer consulted: Victoria Simpson Date consulted: 12/06/2025

## **9. Risk implications**

- 9.1 The only risk identified is the potential reputational risk of the Council conferring the Freedom of the City on a person who is subsequently found to have acted in a way which is inconsistent with the Council's values. This risk is considered likely to manifest only rarely, and where it does arise then a mechanism exists for revoking the honour.

## **10. Equalities implications**

- 10.1 The Freedom of the City is a civic honour that can be granted by the Council on deserving recipients and has in the past been awarded sparingly to maintain the significance of the award. It is recognised that the way in which the Freedom of the City has been awarded historically was not as inclusive as it should have been, as a policy, criteria and timescales were not published on the Council's website. The proposed arrangements aim to allow for an approach which is more inclusive, including in relation to how nominations may be made.

## **11. Sustainability implications**

- 11.1 There are no sustainability implications arising from the report.

## **12. Other Implications**

- 12.1 No other significant implications have been identified as arising from the report.

## **Appendices**

Appendix 1 – Policy on awarding the honorary title of Freedom of the City  
Appendix 2 – List of past recipients of the title



## **Brighton & Hove City Council's Policy on awarding the honorary title of Freedom of the City**

### **Contents**

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## **1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION & CONTEXT**

1.1 Section 249(5) of the Local Government Act 1972 permits local councils to confer the honorary title of Freedom of the City on:

- (i) *persons of distinction; and*
- (ii) *persons who have, in the opinion of the council, rendered eminent services to the city*

1.2 The only legal requirement necessary for awarding the title is that the Council pass a resolution to that effect at a meeting of Full Council convened for that purpose, where at least two-thirds of the members vote in favour. There is no minimum or maximum number of people on whom the Freedom of the City may be conferred.

As no formal process is stipulated by legislation or statutory guidance, the Council has developed its own protocol for seeking and evaluating nominations prior to seeking Council approval to award the title of Freedom of the City.

## **2. BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL: PROTOCOL**

At its meeting in July 2025, the Council resolved to adopt the following approach to nominations for the above award:

### **2.1 Protocol for nominating an individual (or, exceptionally, group of individuals):**

- 2.1.1 The Council invites nominations from members of the public and other stakeholders, provided that nominees meet the essential requirements listed at 2.2.1 – 2.2.2 below.
- 2.1.2 All nominations which meet the essential requirements will be reviewed by Group Leaders, normally in November, on an annual basis. The deadlines for each cycle will be published on the Council's website.
- 2.1.3 Group Leaders shall review nominees (normally no more than one nominee per year) for nomination for the title of Freedom of the City. Group Leaders may seek additional information if they consider it necessary before reaching a decision. Their recommendations shall be put to a special Council meeting to seek formal approvals.

### **2.2 Essential requirements for nominations**

- 2.2.1 In acknowledgement of the fact that conferring the honorary title of Freedom of the City is the highest title that a local authority can bestow, the Council shall only consider conferring this honour where the nominated individual (or exceptionally a group of individuals):

- (i) meets the statutory criteria by having in the opinion of the council rendered eminent services to the city, and
- (ii) was born, lives or works in, or has strong links to, the city of Brighton & Hove.

2.2.2 To satisfy requirement (i) above, to 'render eminent services to the city' the nominee will have:

- (a) acted in a way which enhances the city's reputation, for instance through innovation, sporting excellence and/or achievement in the cultural sphere, and/ or
- (b) otherwise contributed positively to the lives of the people of Brighton & Hove, whether by improving the lives of those less able to help themselves or by acting as 'trailblazers': people whose actions serve as an inspiration to others.

2.2.4 Awards may be given on a posthumous basis and may exceptionally be granted to groups of people as long as the group is fixed and can be clearly defined.

### 2.3 Assessment of nominations:

2.3.1 The overriding principle is that this honorary title shall be awarded solely on merit, on the basis of achievement which may be exhibited through exceptional public service.

2.3.2 In considering applications, an inclusive approach will be applied to nominations. This approach aims to reflect the different types of contribution made by nominees across different areas over time. It is hoped that this will encourage a diverse range of nominations, which reflect the diversity of the City of Brighton & Hove.

2.3.3 The above requirements could be met through activity in one of the following examples (a list which is not exhaustive):

- business life and economic growth and prosperity
- artistic and cultural endeavours
- improvement to the built and natural environment
- charitable work
- sporting activity
- religious and spiritual work
- challenging inequality, poverty and discrimination
- promoting a positive image of the city regionally, nationally and internationally
- significantly contributing to upholding the values, life and the image of the city

2.3.4 No nomination shall be considered unless accompanied by the completed form (attached as Appendix 1) together with any supporting information considered

relevant. Each nomination is required to be supported by at least one named supporter(s).

- 2.3.5 Any queries regarding this protocol should be sent to [democratic.services@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.services@brighton-hove.gov.uk)



### 3. APPENDIX 1 - NOMINATION FOR FREEDOM OF THE CITY

This form is to be used for nomination of an individual or specified (and clearly defined) group of individuals for the honorary award of Freedom of the City of Brighton & Hove.

**Name and address of person being nominated for the honorary title of Freedom of the City:**

Title: Forename(s):

Surname:

Occupation:

Address:

Postcode:

Email address:

**Please describe how the nominee meets the essential requirements by supplying as much information as possible about the candidate here.**

*For reference the essential requirements are:-*

*That the individual or clearly defined group:-*

*(i) meets the statutory criteria by having in the opinion of the council rendered eminent services to the city, and*

*(ii) was born, lives or works in, or has strong links to, the city of Brighton & Hove.*

*To satisfy requirement (i) above the relevant individual will have:*

*(a) acted in a way which enhances the city's reputation, for instance through innovation, sporting excellence and/or achievement in the cultural sphere, and/ or*

*(b) otherwise contributed positively to the lives of the people of Brighton & Hove, whether by improving the lives of those less able to help themselves or by acting as 'trailblazers': people whose actions serve as an inspiration to others.*

Please attach at least one further letter or email in support of the nomination by a named individual or organisation, confirming their name(s) and date(s) of any documents in support.

Please list any other documents or information provided in support of this nomination. You may include links if relevant, as well as any attachments considered helpful.

**Name and address of the person submitting the nomination:**

Title: Forename (s):

Surname:

Address:

Resident of B&H/ work in B&H/ other stakeholder (please delete as applicable).

Signed: .....

Dated: .....

**Under no circumstances should candidates be informed that their name is under consideration. Details will only be divulged if and when the Council**

**has decided to support the nomination and the proposed recipient has agreed to accept the award).**

Please return the completed form via email to [democratic.services@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.services@brighton-hove.gov.uk)

**NOTE**

Power to appoint Honorary Freemen is contained within Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972.

The Section provides that the following may be admitted to be Honorary Freemen: "persons of distinction and persons who have, in the opinion of the Council, rendered eminent services to the city."

The title may only be conferred by a resolution of the Council passed by at least a 2/3 majority of members present at a specially convened meeting.



**List of recipients of the award of honorary Freedom of the City from Brighton & Hove City Council as at June 2025**

**Adam Trimmingham: 2004**

That the honour and title of Honorary Freeman of the City of Brighton and Hove be bestowed on Mr. Adam Trimmingham in grateful recognition of his eminent and distinguished service and dedication to professional journalism rendered to the City of Brighton and Hove during his illustrious and distinguished career.

**Henry Allingham: 2009**

Mr. Allingham is a World War One Veteran and the last surviving member of the British Air Services, having been a founder member of the Royal Air Force. He is also the oldest living person in the country and has resided at St. Dunstan's in Ovingdean since May 2006 following the loss of his sight.

Mr. Allingham has worked with the veterans associations to ensure that later generations would not forget the loss and destruction caused by World War 1. He has been the recipient of a number of honours and awards, including the Gold Medal of Saint-Omer, Freedom of Eastbourne, the Legion d'honneur (France's highest military award), Pride of Britain Award and honorary membership of the Fleet Air Arm Association.

Mr Allingham has come to symbolise the sacrifices made by generations of British men and women and is a person of distinction recognised nationally. Through his work and example, he has rendered exceptional services to the Country and the City, which is where he resides. It is therefore proposed that the Council honours him by admitting him to be a Freeman of the City.

**Aung San Suu Kyi: 2011 (REMOVED IN 2023)**

**Flight Lieutenant Marc Heal: 2011**

Flight Lieutenant Marc Heal who comes from Brighton is the Captain of the Chinook helicopter Immediate Response Team, and during their term of service in Afghanistan, led his crew in successfully extracting 29 casualties from the battlefield. He was awarded the prestigious Distinguished Flying Cross in 2010, which is one of the highest awards that can be given. Through his connections with the city and his achievements he helped set an example of gallantry and professionalism.

**Steve Ovett: 2012**

Steve Ovett was born in Brighton and had a successful athletics career representing local clubs before being picked for the national team, where he went on to represent the country at international and Olympic level. He has been regarded as one of the best middle-distance runners to be produced by the country, culminating with winning gold at the 800 metres Olympic final in Moscow.

**Roger French: 2013**

Roger French has spent nearly 30 years at the wheel of Brighton and Hove Buses, and has had long and distinguished career which has included his tireless work in promoting the spirit of partnership in the city and his selfless work for charities, notably as chair for nine years of the trustees of the Martlets Hospice.

**Dick Knight: 2013**

The proposal to confer the title of Honorary Freeman on Mr. Knight has been made in recognition of the role he played in securing the future of Brighton & Hove Albion and using the power of sport to develop one of the country's leading club community schemes.

**Tony Bloom: 2017**

Mr. Tony Bloom has been the chairman of Brighton & Hove Albion since 2009, succeeding Mr. Dick Knight and has invested £93 million in the development of the club's new ground, the American Express Community Stadium; as well as a new training ground and facilities in Lancing. He has been a long-term fan of the club and grew up in Brighton.

**Chris Hughton: 2017**

Mr. Chris Hughton is the Manager of the first team and having been appointed midway through the 2014-15 season, secured the club's safety in the Championship. In the 2015-16 season he led the team to 3<sup>rd</sup> place and narrowly missed promotion before leading the team to the league title and promotion to the Premier League in the 2016/17 season and the club's return to top flight football since 1983.

**Sir Peter Field: 2021**

Peter Field has served as HM Lord Lieutenant of East Sussex for thirteen years, having been appointed in August 2008. He has also served as a Magistrate for over 20 years and chaired the highly successful Brighton and Hove Business Community Partnership. Having lived in Brighton and served the city throughout his career it is proposed that he be duly recognised by the city for his distinguished service.

**All those who helped during the Covid-19 Pandemic: 2021**

A large number of individuals from the public, business and voluntary sector contributed to the fight against the Covid-19 pandemic and showed inspirational, selfless devotion in supporting the City during what has been one of the most challenging periods in its history. (No names).

**Brighton and Hove Albion Football Club: 2023**

In recognition of the club's achievements and their contribution to the city. In particular, in recognition for finishing sixth in the Premier League last season and qualifying for Europe and, in doing so, adding more than £600m to the local economy and raising the profile of Brighton globally.

**Mary Clarke: 2023**

Mary Clarke became an organiser for the Women's Social and Political Union (WSPU) Brighton branch in 1909. During her time in Brighton, she helped build the WSPU operation in the south east and organise

the campaigns for the general election, regularly addressing crowds of supporters on the seafront. She was known for her gentleness, good humour, composure and wit, even when dealing with hecklers and abuse. She was one of the 300 women to demonstrate outside the Houses of Parliament during what is now known as 'Black Friday', where she was injured and beaten by the police. Throughout years of campaigning, she was arrested 3 times and, in Holloway Prison, was subjected to force feeding – a cruel practice inflicted upon those on hunger strikes. She died on Christmas Day in 1910, 2 days after her release from Holloway.





# Brighton & Hove City Council

## Council

## Agenda Item 25

**Subject:** 2025/26 Minimum Revenue Provision Policy - Update

**Date of meeting:** 10 July 2025

**Report of:** Director of Finance and Property

**Contact Officer:** Name: Haley Woollard  
Steven Bedford  
Email: [haley.woollard@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:haley.woollard@brighton-hove.gov.uk)  
[steven.bedford@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:steven.bedford@brighton-hove.gov.uk)

**Ward(s) affected:** All

### For general release

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

- 1.1 The report seeks approval to amend the council's Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Policy Statement for 2025/26 to ensure the council's provision for debt remains prudent. The changes are being made to ensure the policy reflects both updated statutory guidance issued by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) and changes required for accounting for the loan to the i360 company.

#### 2. Recommendations

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

#### 3. Context and background information

- 3.1 The council is required under Regulation 27 of the Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting) (England) Regulations 2003 (as amended), where it has financed capital expenditure by borrowing, to pay off an element of the accumulated General Fund capital spend (prudential borrowing) each year through a revenue charge (a MRP). Regulation 28 provides local authorities with some flexibility in how they calculate MRP, providing the amount is 'prudent'. The MHCLG statutory guidance requires the council to approve an MRP Policy Statement in advance of each financial year. This can be amended during the year, by presenting a revised MRP Policy Statement to council for approval.
- 3.2 The Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement for 2025/26 forms part of the council's Treasury Management Strategy 2025/26 which was formally approved at Budget Council on 27 February 2025, and is provided at Appendix 1.

- 3.3 The updated statutory guidance on Minimum Revenue Provision was published by the MHCLG in April 2024 following extensive consultation with the sector. The guidance applies for accounting periods from 1 April 2025, with the exception of new capital loans, where the guidance is applicable from 7 May 2024 following Parliamentary approval of a new associated statutory instrument..
- 3.4 The report recommends updates to the council's Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement for 2025/26 to ensure prudent provision is maintained and policy is clarified following the write-off of a capital loan and to comply with other technical changes following updated MHCLG statutory guidance. The statutory guidance issued by MHCLG allows for MRP methodologies to be varied during the year if reported to the next full Council or equivalent meeting through a revised MRP Policy Statement.
- 3.5 The recommended revised Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement for 2025/26 is provided at Appendix 2 to this report. Updates include the following revisions:
- Clarification that provision for debt relating to a capitalisation direction will be made for a maximum of 20 years in accordance with statutory guidance;
  - A change in the policy for setting aside MRP for capital loans to third parties in accordance with updated statutory guidance. The guidance requires authorities to determine whether capital loans are commercial or service related in nature, and differing MRP requirements relate to each, including providing authorities with the freedom to apply a statutory exemption for setting aside MRP on service loans so long as no expected credit loss is recognised against that loan.
  - Following the sale of the i360 and subsequent write off the loan to the i360 company, a clarification in the wording in policy for debt relating to the i360 to set aside MRP over the life of the original loan agreement (to June 2041) to ensure that the charge remains prudent and in accordance with the latest statutory guidance. The MRP profile remains the same as that being applied through the previously approved MRP Policy Statement, with MRP continuing to be set aside on an annuity basis over the period to June 2041.
  - The removal of a previous policy for debt relating to the Living Wage Joint Venture where assets are retained for future rental streams. This policy no longer reflects the current joint venture strategy and has been removed. Further clarity is also being provided in relation to applying a statutory exemption for setting aside MRP for service related loans to the Living Wage Joint Venture in accordance with the latest statutory guidance.
  - Recognition that any Voluntary Revenue Provision (VRP) made shall be disclosed in future MRP Policy Statements to enable this to be offset against MRP in future years. There has been no VRP made to date.
- 3.6 The above changes have been applied to the draft 2024/25 Statement of Accounts published on 30 June 2025 in accordance with statutory deadlines. The Statements of Accounts can be amended prior to the statutory final deadline of 30 November 2025 if required.

#### **4. Analysis and consideration of alternative options**

- 4.1 The recommendation ensures that MRP charges remain prudent and in accordance with statutory regulation and guidance. Officers have made reference to the most recent statutory guidance and sought advice from the council's external treasury management advisors as part of this review.
- 4.2 The recommended changes to the council's Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Policy Statement for 2025/26 are largely technical in nature and will have a minimal financial impact, as detailed in the Financial Implications section.

#### **5. Community engagement and consultation**

- 5.1 No community engagement has been undertaken. The council's treasury advisors have been consulted on the changes recommended within this report.

#### **6. Financial implications**

- 6.1 The council is required to set aside Minimum Revenue Provision for the repayment of debt. This report recommends updates to the MRP policy that provide technical clarity around accounting for the repayment of debt under the revised MRP Guidance issued by MHCLG and following the administration and subsequent sale of the i360.
- 6.2 The proposed revision does not alter the profile of MRP from the previous iteration of the policy as approved in February 2024 (for 2024/25 accounts) or February 2025 (for 2025/26 accounts). Therefore there are no anticipated changes to the value of MRP set aside within revenue as a result of the recommendations in this report.

Name of finance officer consulted: Haley Woollard  
Date consulted: 30/06/25

#### **7. Legal implications**

- 7.1 The Minimum Revenue Provision Policy forms part of the Council's Budget. As a result it (and any changes to it) must be approved by full Council: a legal requirement which is reflected in the Council's Constitution. No other legal implications have been identified.

Name of lawyer consulted: Victoria Simpson  
Date consulted 30/06/25

#### **8. Risk implications**

- 8.1 There are no risk implications arising as a result of this report.

#### **9. Equalities implications**

- 9.1 There are no equalities implications arising as a result of this report.

## **10. Sustainability implications**

- 10.1 There are no sustainability implications arising as a result of this report.

## **11. Other Implications**

- 11.1 No other implications have been identified as arising as a result of this report

## **12. Conclusion**

- 12.1 The report recommends for Council to approve changes to the Authority's Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement. The policy statement is being updated to clarify the council's MRP Policy Statement and ensure that the council is accounting for MRP in a way that remains prudent and in line with revised statutory guidance issued by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.

## **Supporting Documentation**

### **Appendices**

1. Current 2025/26 Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement (as approved at Budget Council on 27/02/25)
2. Proposed revised 2025/26 Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement for approval

**Current 2025/26 Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement**

*(approved by Budget Council on 27 February 2025)*

**For all debt where the government has provided revenue support (supported capital expenditure), the MRP policy will be:**

- Provision on a straight-line basis over 50 years.

**For all debt where the government does not provide revenue support:**

- Where the debt relates to an asset, the council will set aside a sum equivalent to repaying the debt over the life of the asset either in equal instalments or on an annuity basis over a maximum life of 50 years. The method to be adopted will be determined according to which is the most financially beneficial to the council over the life of the asset.
- Where the debt relates to expenditure which is subject to a capitalisation direction issued by the government, the council will set aside a sum equivalent to repaying the debt over a period consistent with the nature of the expenditure on an annuity basis.
- Capital expenditure financed by borrowing will not be subject to an MRP charge until the financial year after the expenditure has been incurred, or in the case of assets under construction, MRP will be delayed until the relevant asset becomes operational.

**Where the debt relates to capital loans to a third party:**

- The repayments of principal will be set aside as capital receipts to finance the initial capital advance in lieu of making a MRP.
- Where the debt relates to the i360 Limited, the council will set aside MRP on an annuity basis over the shorter of the remaining asset life or remaining loan period.

**Where the debt relates to the Living Wage Joint Venture:**

- Where the Living Wage Joint Venture develops housing but disposes of these assets on completion, the council will set aside the capital receipt at the point of transfer in lieu of making an MRP payment.
- Where the Living Wage Joint Venture develops or acquires housing and retains these assets and future rental streams, the council will set aside, in equal instalments, a sum which is equivalent to repaying the debt at the end of year 40 within the 60 year business plan. Set aside will commence, at the latest, in the year in which net surpluses are modelled for each individual tranche of borrowing.

**For on-balance sheet PFI schemes and leases, the MRP policy will be:**

- MRP will be measured as being equal to the element of the principal repayment that goes to write down the equivalent balance sheet liability.

There is the option to charge more than the prudential provision of MRP each year through a Voluntary Revenue Provision (VRP).

**Proposed revised 2025/26 Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement**  
(for approval)

**For all debt where the government has provided revenue support (supported capital expenditure), the MRP policy will be:**

- Provision on a straight-line basis over 50 years.

**For all debt where the government does not provide revenue support:**

- Where the debt relates to an asset, the council will set aside a sum equivalent to repaying the debt over the life of the asset either in equal instalments or on an annuity basis over a maximum life of 50 years. The method to be adopted will be determined according to which is the most appropriate over the life of the asset.
- Where the debt relates to expenditure which is subject to a capitalisation direction issued by the government, the council will set aside a sum equivalent to repaying the debt over a period consistent with the nature of the expenditure on an annuity basis for a maximum of period of 20 years in accordance with the Statutory Guidance.
- Capital expenditure financed by borrowing will not be subject to an MRP charge until the financial year after the expenditure has been incurred, or in the case of assets under construction, MRP will be delayed until the relevant asset becomes operational.

**Where the debt relates to capital loans to a third party:**

- Where capital loans are provided to a 3rd party incorporating an annual repayment structure such as annuity or equal instalments of principal, the principal repayments will be set aside annually as capital receipts to finance the initial capital advance in lieu of making MRP over the loan term.
- Where capital loans are provided on a maturity basis, then the following approach will apply in accordance with the revised MHCLG MRP Guidance:
  - Commercial Loans – MRP provided over the associated asset life of the underlying assets acquired by the 3<sup>rd</sup> party
  - Service Loans – the authority will
    - apply a statutory exemption in making MRP, recognising any future Expected Credit Loss in accordance with proper accounting practices, or
    - provide MRP using the same methodology as for commercial loans
- Where the debt relates to the i360 Limited, the council will set aside MRP on an annuity basis for a period equal to the original loan period.

**Where the debt relates to the Living Wage Joint Venture:**

- For loans to the Living Wage Joint Venture to develop housing and subsequently dispose of these assets on completion, the council will set aside the capital receipt at the point of transfer in lieu of making an MRP payment. Loans to the Living Wage Joint Venture are considered to be service related and as such the council can apply a statutory exemption for setting aside MRP.

**For on-balance sheet PFI schemes and leases, the MRP policy will be:**

- MRP will be measured as being equal to the element of the principal repayment that goes to write down the equivalent balance sheet liability.

There is the option to charge more than the prudential provision of MRP each year through a Voluntary Revenue Provision (VRP). The cumulative amount of any future VRP will be included in the MRP Policy Statement to enable the Authority to 'offset' this against future MRP charges. As at 31 March 2025 no VRP has been made by the Authority.



# Brighton & Hove City Council

## Council

## Agenda Item 28

**Subject:** Looking after our heritage

**Date of meeting:** 10 July 2025

**Proposer:** Councillor McNair

**Seconder:** Councillor Meadows

**Ward(s) affected:** All

### Notice of Motion

### Conservative Group

This council notes:

- 1) Brighton & Hove is home to nationally significant cultural treasures, from Saxon churches to the Royal Pavilion;
- 2) Although there are 18 at-risk sites listed by Historic England across the city, many others, perhaps less well-known, were not included;
- 3) Patcham is in the Domesday book and is home to Brighton's oldest church, All Saints. However, it is also home to a 16<sup>th</sup> century dovecote surrounded by fencing; a rare 1930s clocktower with structural weakness; Patcham Place sports pavilion vandalized and closed down; and Patcham Peace Gardens with its neglected and dilapidated Doric Temple and gardens which the U3A work hard to maintain;
- 4) Tourists and residents note the poor state of the city's heritage which Brighton & Hove City Council is responsible for: the art deco bus shelters in Old Steine complete with smashed windows and graffiti; the shocking state of disrepair of the seafront shelters;
- 5) The significant reputational damage the council suffers when heritage treasured by residents and in full view of tourists is left to deteriorate;
- 6) That officers have recommended a review be completed of all council-owned heritage assets because the extent of the problem is widespread but also not fully known.

Therefore, resolves to:

- 1) Request that the Place Overview & Scrutiny Committee considers a cross-party Task & Finish Group review is undertaken of all council-controlled heritage assets, addressing potential timelines for restoring and maintaining our assets, to be undertaken by December 2025;

**Supporting Information:**

<https://www.theargus.co.uk/news/24724533.18-sites-brighton-historic-england-heritage-risk-register/>



# Brighton & Hove City Council

## Council

## Agenda Item 29

**Subject:** Recognising Unpaid Carers

**Date of meeting:** 10 July 2025

**Proposer:** Councillor Goldsmith

**Seconder:** Councillor Earthey

**Ward(s) affected:** All

### Notice of Motion

#### Green Group & Brighton & Hove Independent Group

This council notes:

- 1) Unpaid carers are estimated to save the government £162 billion every year<sup>[1]</sup>
- 2) 44% of adults providing unpaid care for over 35 hours a week are in poverty, with nearly 8% of people receiving Carers Allowance relying on food banks<sup>[2]</sup>
- 3) Carers Allowance is entirely deducted from Universal Credit payments and there is a 'cliff edge' when hitting the £196/week part-term earnings limit
- 4) The uncertainty remaining for those being prosecuted due to 'overpayments' of Carers Allowance, which for many was due the complexity of calculating allowances
- 5) Unpaid carers play a vital role in our City and should be recognised and compensated for the work they do
- 6) The government must take swift action to tackle poverty among unpaid carers and not worsen this with prosecutions

Therefore, resolves to:

- 1) Request that the Leader of the Council writes to the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care calling on them to:
  - a) Urgently address how money from Carers Allowance is treated in relation to Universal Credit;
  - b) Change rules around part-time earnings to allow unpaid carers to do more work and remove the 'cliff-edge';
  - c) Cease all current and future prosecutions of Carers Allowance overpayments;
  - d) Enable currently unpaid carers to be able to be paid as carers for family members; and
  - e) Simplify the system for unpaid carers to calculate allowances and expenses.
- 2) Request that a report is brought to Cabinet to consider the option of carrying out a consultation to assess the needs of unpaid carers locally and to explore what the council can do to better support them.

## Supporting Notes

[1] Unpaid care in England and Wales valued at £445 million per day:  
<https://www.carersuk.org/press-releases/unpaid-care-in-england-and-wales-valued-at-445-million-per-day/>

[2] Heading for crisis: Caught between caring and rising costs:  
[https://www.carersuk.org/media/x5sfjlbx/heading\\_for\\_crisis\\_report.pdf](https://www.carersuk.org/media/x5sfjlbx/heading_for_crisis_report.pdf)

# Brighton & Hove City Council

## Council

## Agenda Item 30

**Subject:**               **Academisation of Woodingdean Primary school**

**Date of meeting:**   **10 July 2025**

**Proposer:**           **Councillor Simon**

**Seconder:**          **Councillor Daniel**

**Ward(s) affected:** **All**

### Notice of Motion

#### Labour Group

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.

