

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL

4.30pm 18 OCTOBER 2018

COUNCIL CHAMBER, HOVE TOWN HALL

MINUTES

Present: Councillors Simson (Chair), Phillips (Deputy Chair), Atkinson, Barford, Barnett, Bell, Bennett, Brown, Chapman, Cobb, Daniel, Deane, Druitt, Gibson, Gilbey, Greenbaum, Hamilton, Hill, Horan, Hyde, Inkipin-Leissner, Janio, Knight, Lewry, Littman, Mac Cafferty, Marsh, Meadows, Mears, Miller, Mitchell, Moonan, Morgan, Nemeth, A Norman, K Norman, O'Quinn, Page, Peltzer Dunn, Penn, Platts, Robins, Sykes, C Theobald, G Theobald, Wares, Wealls and Yates.

PART ONE

25 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

26 MINUTES

26.1 The minutes of the last ordinary meeting held on the 19th July, 2018 were approved and signed by the Mayor as a correct record of the proceedings.

27 MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS.

27.1 The Mayor stated that she wished to share news of the passing of two former Councillors and Mayors, Mr. Bob Cristofoli, Mayor of Brighton 1985, who passed away on 18 August, and Mr. Cruickshank-Robb, Mayor of Hove 1987, who passed away on 8 August. She asked everyone to stand for a minute's silence as a mark of respect for these former councillors?

27.2 The Mayor thanked the council and stated that she was aware that there were a number of items on the agenda which related to each other. She was therefore minded to amend the order of business to account for this and would take item 29 (2) - Public Question from Mr. Greenstein, Item 30 (2) – Deputation from Nadia Edmond, Item 30 (4) – Deputation from Fiona Sharpe and Item 34 (1) – the Joint Notice of Motion as the first set of business immediately after concluding her communications.

- 27.3 Following this she would then revert to the order of items on the agenda but would also take item 34 (6) – Notice of Motion on Brexit at the same time as Item 31 (2) – Petition for debate as again these related to the same subject matter.
- 27.4 The Mayor also noted that a report concerning Housing Services contracts was approved at the Policy, Resources & Growth Committee meeting last week and had also been referred to the Council for information. The extracts from the Policy, Resources & Growth and Housing & New Homes Committees were listed in the addendum papers as Item 33 (a) on pages 37 -58 and the full report was available as a supporting document online.
- 27.5 The Mayor stated that she had a number of charity events that were forthcoming and hoped that councillors would be able to join her at these. She also noted that she had been able to welcome the Duke and Duchess of Sussex to the city and to receive them at the Royal Pavilion. It had been a real honour and she hoped that they had enjoyed their time in the city.
- 27.6 The Mayor then invited Mr. Greenstein to come forward and to put his question to the Leader of the Council.
- 27.7 Mr. Greenstein thanked the Mayor and asked the following question, “The IHRA ‘definition of anti-Semitism’, with its 11 examples, 7 of which refer to Israel, comprise over 500 words. The Oxford English Dictionary [definition](#) ‘Hostility to or prejudice against Jews’ is just 6 words.

Bearing in mind the searing [criticism](#) of the IHRA from Jewish former Court of Appeal Judge Sir Stephen Sedley, ‘*not a definition, indefinite*’, Hugh Tomlinson QC ‘a potential chilling effect on public bodies’ and Geoffrey Robertson QC, ‘*not fit for purpose*’ perhaps Daniel Yates can spell out the IHRA’s advantages over the common-sense definition of antisemitism, ‘*someone who doesn’t like Jews.*’?”

- 27.8 Councillor Yates replied, “It is true to say that definitions are very difficult and this isn’t a definition that we as a Council are trying to create, this is a definition that we have been asked to adopt by a group of individuals who feel that it is the appropriate definition for us, and other organisations, across the city to be using to allow them the opportunity to self-define, but I will give them the opportunity to self-describe a little bit later as I understand they are going to be speaking to us.

A definition is difficult I had a look at the definition of a thief and apparently it’s a person who steals another person’s property especially by stealth and without the use of force or threat of violence but then I had a look at the Theft Act 1968 which not only defines a basic definition of theft but then goes on to sub define dishonesty, appropriation, property what belonging to another means, what intention to permanently deprive means and then goes on to further define a number of different forms of theft, robbery, burglary, aggravated burglary, removal of articles from places open to the public, taking a motor vehicle or other conveyance without authority, obtaining property by deception, obtaining pecuniary advantage by deception, false accounting and further goes on to talk about the liability of company officers for certain offenses by that company, false statements by company directors being theft, suppression of

documents being part of theft, blackmail being part of theft , the handling of stolen goods being part of theft, advertising reward for returns of goods stolen or lost.

Definitions are difficult but self-definition is easiest I am going to listen to the people who choose to self-define, I am going to listen to what they request us to do about the problem that they have identified in the city that we understand in the city and that they wish us to address within the city.”

- 27.9 Mr. Greenstein asked the following supplementary question, “I can’t think of a more bizarre answer I didn’t ask you for the legal definition of theft if you look at the IHRA definition it starts off by saying this is a non-legally binding definition so really it has got nothing whatsoever to do with theft. The IHRA definition says “criticism of Israel similar to that levelled against any other country cannot be regarded as anti-semitic. The problem is that Israel is not like any other country, no other country do you have a state dis-possessing one section of the population, the Palestinians in order to replace them by Jewish settlers.

My question is why are you supporting the only apartheid state in the world to date, and I think it is a shame and I especially speak for the Greens that you have come in with a Tory, a historic party of anti-semitism who oppose the immigration of Jewish refugees in the 30s and oppose refugees from Czarist Russia and today you are in alliance with anti-semitic parties.”

- 27.10 Councillor Yates replied, “As far as I am aware we were asked by Sussex Jewish Representative Council which represents thousands of Jews across this city and across Sussex who have asked us as their City Council to take action against a crime which they are aware of and to deal with an issue that they wish us to deal with – that is democracy which is what we have been asked to do and that is why we are doing it.”
- 27.11 The Mayor thanked Mr. Greenstein for attending the council meeting and his questions and invited Nadia Edmond as the spokesperson for the first deputation, concerning the IHRA definition of Anti-Semitism to come forward and address the council.

30 (2) THE IHRA DEFINITION OF ANTISEMITISM

- 27.12 Ms. Edmond thanked the Mayor and stated that on October 18th 2018, councillors will debate a proposal to ‘adopt’ a definition of antisemitism framed by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA). On behalf of numerous civil society organisations in the City – working to combat racism in all its forms – we urge Councillors to vote *against* this proposal.

Charges of antisemitism have recently been levelled at many groups and individuals, including some politicians and campaigners. With the issue of antisemitism prominent in the media, the IHRA definition appears to offer local councils an opportunity to signal clearly their repudiation of this odious form of race hatred.

There are several reasons to reject the proposal to ‘adopt’ the IHRA definition. First, the City Council’s existing policies already make clear its unambiguous opposition to racism. Moreover, we understand that the Council will consider adopting an even stronger anti-racist policy at its October meeting, and we naturally applaud this. We

feel that to single out antisemitism for special or additional treatment will send the wrong message to other members of our community who also face racism. Antisemitism is a pernicious form of race hatred, which undoubtedly exists in the city. But it is no more and no less pernicious than other forms of race hatred. If the Council's anti-racism policies are adequate for some parts of our community, they are surely adequate for *all* parts of our community. And if the Council's policies are inadequate for some parts of our community, they must be strengthened for *all* parts of our community.

Second, the IHRA definition goes far beyond a definition of anti-Jewish hatred and discrimination. It explicitly links antisemitism to criticism of the Israeli government. We are profoundly concerned by this attempt to position legitimate *political* criticism as *religious* or *ethnic* discrimination or stereotyping. The effect of adopting the IHRA definition would be to silence legitimate criticism of Israel by labelling it as antisemitism. (*see supporting information)

Third, Brighton and Hove City Council has a responsibility to uphold the provisions of Article 10 of the European Convention on Human Rights, including the right to freedom of expression for all its citizens. This freedom of expression must include the right to condemn Israel's repeated violations of international humanitarian law, UN resolutions, and the Fourth Geneva Convention. The IHRA definition, in conflating antisemitism with criticism of Israel, risks being seen in law to limit such freedom. There are therefore profound civil liberties implications in adopting the IHRA definition.

Finally, we state again our unwavering opposition to all forms of racism, and applaud the City Council for its resolve on this issue. We strongly urge City Councillors to resist the pressure to adopt the IHRA definition of antisemitism – not in a negative spirit, but in the positive spirit of standing together against racism.

- 27.13 Councillor Yates thanked Ms. Edmond for attending the meeting and speaking on behalf of the deputation. He stated that the arguments were well thought out and he respected the views expressed; however he did not believe that the IHRA definition curtailed free speech but rather was aimed at curtailing hate speech. He accepted that no definition was perfect but the council had been asked by the local community to adopt a working definition and to do nothing was effectively accepting anti-Semitism and that would be wrong.
- 27.14 The Mayor thanked Ms. Edmond for attending the meeting and speaking on behalf of the deputation. She explained that the points had been noted and the deputation would be referred to the Neighbourhoods, Inclusion, Communities & Equalities Committee for consideration. The persons forming the deputation would be invited to attend the meeting and would be informed subsequently of any action to be taken or proposed in relation to the matter set out in the deputation.

(4) IHRA DEFINITION

- 27.15 The Mayor then invited Ms. Sharpe as the spokesperson for the second deputation concerning the IHRA definition to come forward and address the council.

- 27.16 Ms. Sharpe thanked the Mayor and stated that she was speaking on behalf of Sussex Jewish Representative Council and the vast majority of the 3000 people who make up the Jewish community in Brighton, Hove and Sussex.

We fully support and encourage the adoption of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's working definition on Antisemitism and all its examples by this Council, bringing them in line with the 141 other councils across the country.

The adoption of the IHRA definition gives my community the protection it needs against the growing tide of antisemitism we are seeing in this country. The latest hate crime figures once again show that antisemitism hate crimes have risen.

We, like all minority communities and those with protected characteristics, are fully entitled to self-define hate against us. We do not seek to tell other minorities what is or is not an attack on them. We see no reason why others feel better equipped to tell us what is or isn't antisemitism.

We stand shoulder-to-shoulder with other faith groups and minority communities against all hate, racism and bigotry.

The IHRA definition in no way limits an individual's freedom of speech and is equally clear that robust, legitimate criticism against the government of Israel is perfectly permissible. But as MP Gareth Snell so clearly stated last weekend, 'If you're not able to criticise Israel without breaching IHRA, it isn't IHRA stopping you, it's probably that you're an antisemite.'

We welcome the strong and principled stand taken by the leaders of all three parties here in Brighton and Hove in doing what is right. This in no way affects any other minority community or the people of Brighton and Hove or any causes they wish to support and champion. The decision today to adopt the IHRA without any amendments or caveats will be welcomed by the majority of our 3000 strong community. Brighton and Hove's Jewish community has thrived and contributed to this city for more than 250 years. This motion demonstrates that we are valued, heard, respected and protected by this Council in our welcoming City of Sanctuary. We are grateful for your support and solidarity.

- 27.17 Councillor Yates thanked Ms. Sharpe for attending the meeting and speaking on behalf of the deputation. He stated that it was clear that self-definition was a crucial aspect and he respected the request to the council to recognise that. He was aware of the support taken by various organisations against hate crime such as the local bus company and believed that people needed to speak out against such crime. He was therefore supportive of adopting the IHRA definition as requested.
- 27.18 The Mayor thanked Ms. Sharpe for attending the meeting and speaking on behalf of the deputation. She explained that the points had been noted and the deputation would be referred to the Neighbourhoods, Inclusion, Communities & Equalities Committee for consideration. The persons forming the deputation would be invited to attend the meeting and would be informed subsequently of any action to be taken or proposed in relation to the matter set out in the deputation.

27.19 The Mayor then invited Councillor Yates to move the cross-party Notice of Motion, listed as Item 34(1) IHRA Definition for Anti-Semitism on the agenda.

27.20 The joint Notice of Motion as listed on the agenda was proposed by Councillor Yates on behalf of the Labour & Co-operative, Conservative and Green Groups. Councillors Janio and Mac Cafferty seconded the motion.

27.21 The Mayor then asked for the electronic voting system to be activated and put the following motion to the vote:

“This council approves the use of the IHRA working definition of Anti-Semitism, and its illustrative examples, by the City Council as its working definition of Anti-Semitism.”

27.22 The Mayor confirmed that the motion had been carried by 47 votes to 0, with 1 abstention as detailed below:

		For	Against	Abstain			For	Against	Abstain
1	Allen	Not Present			28	Marsh	✓		
2	Atkinson	✓			29	Meadows	✓		
3	Barford	✓			30	Mears	✓		
4	Barnett	✓			31	Miller	✓		
5	Bell	✓			32	Mitchell	✓		
6	Bennett	✓			33	Moonan	✓		
7	Bewick	Not Present			34	Morgan	✓		
8	Brown	✓			35	Morris	Not Present		
9	Cattell	Not Present			36	Nemeth	✓		
10	Chapman	✓			37	Norman A	✓		
11	Cobb	✓			38	Norman K	✓		
12	Daniel	✓			39	O’Quinn	✓		
13	Deane	✓			40	Page	✓		
14	Druitt	✓			41	Peltzer Dunn	✓		
15	Gibson	✓			42	Penn	✓		
16	Gilbey			Ab	43	Phillips	✓		
17	Greenbaum	✓			44	Platts	✓		
18	Hamilton	✓			45	Robins	✓		
19	Hill	✓			46	Simson	✓		

20	Horan	✓			47	Sykes	✓		
21	Hyde	✓			48	Taylor	Not Present		
22	Inkpin-Leissner	✓			49	Theobald C	✓		
23	Janio	✓			50	Theobald G	✓		
24	Knight	✓			51	Wares	✓		
25	Lewry	✓			52	Wealls	✓		
26	Littman	✓			53	West	Not Present		
27	Mac Cafferty	✓			54	Yates	✓		
						Total	47	0	1

27.23 The Mayor noted that the various matters in relation to the IHRA definition of anti-Semitism had been dealt with and she would therefore revert back to the order of items on the agenda.

28 TO RECEIVE PETITIONS AND E-PETITIONS.

28.1 The Mayor invited the submission of petitions from councillors and members of the public. She reminded the Council that petitions would be referred to the appropriate decision-making body without debate and the person presenting the petition would be invited to attend the meeting to which the petition was referred.

28.2 Mr. Stewart presented a petition signed by 42 people concerning parking in Saxon Road.

28.3 Councillor Wealls presented a petition on behalf of Mr. Hawtree signed by 202 residents concerning Hove Carnegie Library.

28.4 Mr. Russell-Moyle MP presented a petition signed by 119 residents concerning speeding on Falmer Road.

29 WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

29.1 The Mayor reported that 7 written questions had been received from members of the public and noted that the question from Mr. Goldstein relating to the IHRA definition for anti-Semitism had been taken earlier in the meeting. She then invited Mr. Stack to come forward and address the council.

29.2 Mr. Stack thanked the Mayor and asked the following question; "I am aware the council has an amount budgeted for discretionary Business Rates relief each year. Can you please advise how much of that budgeted amount was unspent as of the 2nd of October 18, the day before I sent this question for inclusion to the meeting, the day it was announced that the Sticky Mike's Frog Bar music venue was to close at the end of the year?"

- 29.3 Councillor Hamilton replied; “There are several schemes available to help with Business Rates, but the main discretionary scheme is for charities and non-profit making organisations. Following the government’s revaluation in 2017, other national measures were put in place to protect businesses, including transitional relief and pub relief, although neither of these involved discretionary decisions and would have been given to qualifying ratepayers automatically. Finally, local authorities were given funding by government to set up local discretionary schemes to support businesses most affected by the 2017 Revaluation. This scheme was agreed at committee and the amount allocated by government for 2018-19 is £546,000. All the relief has been earmarked for qualifying businesses, including the business you refer to and is in the process of being applied to accounts.”
- 29.4 Mr. Stack asked the following supplementary question; “It is a big problem in parliament last week evidence was given to a cultural select committee that business rates is the biggest single killer of music venues. Losing Sticky Mike’s is the bottom rung it is where 90% of bands have their first gig, you really need to look at how you are going to support the grass roots music venues scene in this coming year and as you go into the next election. You saw how many people were behind me at the petition when I did it four years ago, you know how vocal that sector is, I ask you please take note and support the grass roots music venues, there are six or seven core venues left that are so important please protect those.”
- 29.5 Councillor Hamilton replied; “It is very sad of course when any kind of event or organisation has to be closed down and any building like this which I know has done a great deal of service to the young musicians in this city. As I understand it there are several factors involved and obviously this, strictly speaking, would come more under our Cultural Department than under me but, nevertheless, I think there are several factors involved in these situations and it would not be right for me at this meeting to discuss some information that I have been given about this particular establishment because this is reasonably confidential. I am quite happy to give you a written answer saying what is confidential about this. I do agree we must keep all these music places available because there is a lot of music in Brighton in all sorts of places and there can never be too much and so I do hope that something can be done to keep this operation in existence, but that is not going to be easy. I will get back to you with information I have got and you can perhaps correct me if the information I have is incorrect.”
- 29.6 The Mayor thanked Mr. Stack for attending the council meeting and his questions and invited Ms. Montgomery to come forward and address the council.
- 29.7 Ms. Montgomery thanked the Mayor and asked the following question; “For the last 8 years, please can you provide a table with details for each of the housing developments granted planning permission of:
- Number of housing units approved
 - Number of ‘affordable’ housing units as a condition of the approval
 - How many of the ‘affordable’ units were for rent and at what level of rent?
 - How many ‘affordable’ units were for shared ownership
 - Any payment contribution made towards providing ‘affordable’ housing

- The date the planning permission was granted
- The date the development was completed
- What if any variance there was between the actual units of housing provided overall and affordable”

- 29.8 Councillor Meadows replied; “As you have asked for a great deal of information in a table format I would not be able to read that out properly as it would just be a jumble of numbers so I will ensure that you are sent a written response in the format that you have requested.”
- 29.9 Ms. Montgomery asked the following supplementary question; “I would like to ask why does the council still give planning permission to those developers who continually fail to fulfil the percentage of affordable housing allocations for which they were originally given planning permission, basically they renege on the original planning permission and we have had examples of that recently and I would like to know that I didn’t receive a reply to my supplementary question from July 19 Full Council.”
- 29.10 Councillor Meadows replied; “No, unfortunately I don’t do planning I am standing in for a colleague but I will ensure that you are sent a written response, not only from this council meeting but from the previous question.”
- 29.11 The Mayor thanked Ms. Montgomery for attending the council meeting and her questions and invited Ms. Hynds to come forward and address the council.
- 29.12 Ms. Hynds thanked the Mayor and asked the following question; “On 16th August, The Argus reported that new flats at the Davigdor Rd and former City College developments are being changed from ‘affordable’ rent to shared ownership in part "due to lack of interest from the council’s preferred social landlords". How many social landlords were approached before this decision was taken?”
- 29.13 Councillor Meadows replied; “We have an affordable housing delivery partnership which currently includes five registered providers in the city.”
- 29.14 Ms. Hynds asked the following supplementary question; “In the event of social landlords being unavailable would the council consider bringing those services back in house rather than losing much needed social rented properties in our city?”
- 29.15 Councillor Meadows replied; “I am delighted to be able to say that the council recently approved a policy where the council can be one of those registered list of providers and if the other five providers won’t take those affordable homes we will.”
- 29.16 The Mayor thanked Ms. Hynds for attending the council meeting and her questions and invited Mr. Furness to come forward and address the council.
- 29.17 Mr. Furness thanked the Mayor and asked the following question; “In your attempt to get this Council to impose the Transgender Inclusion Schools Packs, Councillor Daniel, you state that: "A small number of children are gender confused" by which implication the vast number are not. I would like you to tell me if this represents the tyranny of the minority?”

- 29.18 Councillor Daniel replied; “You miss-quote me but in the written version you are more accurate with “a small number of children struggle with gender identity”. My short answer is “no it is not”. My slightly longer answer is “We work to ensure in this city that every single child gets the same chance of achieving in education but also having good self-esteem and confidence, and that is across a whole range of protected characteristics.” This is just one of the pieces of inclusion work we do and I will 100% stand-by because it is the right thing to do.”
- 29.19 Mr. Furness asked the following supplementary question; “This issue about every child must be protected. Schools as I understand it are places, or are supposed to be place of education not indoctrination, or Soviet Union style. I would like to know what you have to say as I am a former health professional, there is a difference of course between boys and girls and men and women when they get to puberty that is when people start to realise exactly who they are, that is a medical fact which cannot be denied. What you are doing Cllr Daniel with this proposal is causing further confusion it goes against the tenet of something I have fought for all my life which is women’s equality are we to have no more if mixed games in schools is to be taken to its logical conclusion, is this recognised – this is the tyranny of the minority.”
- 29.20 Councillor Daniel replied; “It is not the tyranny of the minority, it is about equality for all which does not mean the same service for all. It means sometimes one makes reasonable adjustments to ensure that everyone has the same chance. I thank Mr Furness for his medical knowledge and expertise that he has brought to council. I further thank him for his expertise on women’s issues which is something I enjoy taking lectures from him on.”
- 29.21 The Mayor thanked Mr. Furness for attending the council meeting and his questions and invited Ms. Paynter to come forward and address the council.
- 29.22 Ms. Paynter thanked the Mayor and asked the following question; “A serious loss of the most frequently specified type of taxi needed by passengers has arisen because of taxi licensing policies that prioritise wheelchair vehicles. To what extent is the Council aware of the damage this has caused to the trade and to disenfranchised people needing saloon car access?”
- 29.23 Councillor O’Quinn replied; “The council recognises the importance of having a mixed fleet which includes the provision of wheelchair accessible vehicles (WAVs). As part of our 3 yearly review of the Taxi Handbook (Blue Book) we have commissioned an Unmet Demand Survey (UMDs) which, amongst other things, looks at the type of vehicles that make up the taxi fleet, including the number of WAVs as a proportion of the overall fleet. The UMDs has been completed by independent consultants and the report will be submitted to officers.
- When we have received the report the contents and recommendations will be put before Members of the Licensing Committee at the November meeting, to consider whether any changes are required to the current taxi policy.”
- 29.24 Ms. Paynter asked the following supplementary question; “I will be interested to know what it says because I don’t know who you asked for their opinion and their views and their expertise. I use taxis all the time because I have absolutely no choice and

increasingly there are very grave difficulties in getting a saloon car which is the only kind of car I can get into, and taxi drivers over many years have told me that they are most frequently asked for saloon cars being specified and what happens now is that quite frequently one of those great big vans will actually hijack the call and turn up and I have to send them away and start again. It is now becoming a problem for me to actually go out because saloon cars are becoming rare as 'hens teeth' in taxi trade. How many users have you asked for opinion let alone people within the trade there has been no public consultation that I am aware of."

- 29.25 Councillor O'Quinn replied; "I think you will find there was consultation when this policy was introduced as it was introduced because there was the demand for it from people. I have received letters from people who are concerned that they can't get into the WAVs and I have raised this myself with Licensing and I do recognise the problems that there are and I think that we have now reached a very good level of WAVs so I expect that our policy will be adjusted to reflect that so if you come to the November Licensing Committee you will see what is going to be put forward."
- 29.26 The Mayor thanked Ms. Paynter for attending the council meeting and her questions and invited Mr. Lowe to come forward and address the council.
- 29.27 Mr. Lowe thanked the Mayor and asked the following question; "What progress has been made on the 'Autism Strategy' that was in the Fairness Commission report?"
- 29.28 Councillor Barford replied; "I can confirm that the contents of the draft Children's and Adults Autism Strategy has recently been reviewed and as a result of this a plan has been developed to highlight key actions to take forward and develop further. We continue to work collaboratively with stakeholders, including our Clinical Commissioning Group colleagues in the development and delivery of the Strategy and hope to be in a position to report this back to the Health & Wellbeing Board in the first half of 2019 and in addition a broader paper on autism is going to the Children, Young People & Skills Committee this November."
- 29.29 Mr. Lowe asked the following supplementary question; "When the report comes to Health & Wellbeing Board & then to Children's committee will it include engagement with children and young people who have autism?"
- 29.30 Councillor Barford replied; "Yes it will include that engagement."
- 29.31 The Mayor thanked Mr. Lowe for attending the council meeting and his questions and noted that concluded the item.

30 DEPUTATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

- 30.1 The Mayor reported that four deputations had been received from members of the public and noted that two had been taken earlier in the meeting as part of the debate on the IHRA definition for Anti-Semitism. She noted that the remaining two deputations would now be considered and invited Ms. Ortiz. as the spokesperson for the first deputation to come forward and address the council.

(1) Child Refugees

- 30.2 Mr. Al Yousef thanked the Mayor and stated that he was attending on behalf of Ms. Ortiz and would like to start by thanking Brighton & Hove council for welcoming him as a refugee and for the brilliant work done already in supporting refugees. Our council have really shown leadership on refugee resettlement by resettling 28 refugees (as far as I know) through the Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme. You have taken on the serious responsibility of working with families and supporting them to create a new life here. Thank you for taking the decision to transform the lives of families. You've also supported young people like me to come and make a new life in Brighton -- I've been able to make a home here -- so thank you for helping to make that happen.

This year is the 80th anniversary of the Kindertransport, the scheme through which Britain welcomed 10,000 child refugees over two years. This anniversary marks the best of what Britain is about: helping those fleeing war and terror make a new life.

As part of this anniversary, we are joining a national campaign led by Lord Alf Dubs, himself a Kindertransport child, to call on central Government to start a fully-funded scheme for 1,000 child refugees to be resettled in the UK every year. If the UK were to take 1,000 children a year, spread across the UK, each local authority would support just three children.

We want to recreate now what happened then. People like me from across Britain are speaking to councils over the UK, from Perth and Kinross in Scotland down to Lewes, to ask them to offer places for child refugees in a new fully-funded scheme.

We think local authorities like ours, who represent welcoming places, can show leadership on the issue and offer more than three places a year. Hammersmith and Fulham Council have offered 100 places for child refugees; Scotland's Perth and Kinross Council have offered 20 places; and Barnet has pledged 30 places for child refugees.

We think in Brighton and Hove we are a welcoming place, so we want to work with our Council to resettle 100 child refugees over 10 years -- just 10 children every year. So we are here to ask one question:--

1. Will Brighton and Hove City Council commit to resettle 10 child refugees a year if central Government were to create a new fully-funded scheme?

We would be happy to support the council to make this happen. It would help newer refugee children and children currently in care find a home.

We would be happy to meet with the Council to discuss how we could support you in this.

- 30.3 Councillor Daniel thanked Mr. Al Yousef for attending the meeting and speaking on behalf of the deputation. She stated that Brighton and Hove was proud to be a city of sanctuary and she was grateful to all the organisations involved in supporting refugees and was happy to commit to receiving 10 unaccompanied children per year as part of the Dubs Scheme. She noted that the city had already received a number of asylum seeking children and spontaneous arrivals; however the biggest barrier was the need

for foster carers and funding for mental health services to support children and families arriving in the city.

- 30.4 The Mayor thanked Mr. Al Yousef for attending the meeting and speaking on behalf of the deputation. She explained that the points had been noted and the deputation would be referred to the Neighbourhoods, Inclusion, Communities & Equalities Committee for consideration. The persons forming the deputation would be invited to attend the meeting and would be informed subsequently of any action to be taken or proposed in relation to the matter set out in the deputation.

(2) THE IHRA Definition of Anti-Semitism

- 30.5 Note: The deputation had been taken earlier in the meeting and is detailed under Item 27 in the minutes.

(3) Transparency, Accountability & Community Involvement

- 30.6 The Mayor invited Mr. Parry as the spokesperson for the deputation to come forward and address the council.
- 30.7 Mr. Parry thanked the Mayor and stated that, "It is 12 months since the Brighton and Hove Housing Coalition was launched and the Committee is aware of questions and deputations submitted over this period together with wider activity on the housing crisis generally and within our City in particular.

There is no doubt that issues of importance have been raised, the political agenda influenced, and interesting information made available. Examples of specific areas of concern raised by the Coalition are noted below as background information.

However, we must express our concern at the absence of meaningful responses to many questions, "Yes Minister" turgid replies, and a generally defensive attitude to proposals, new ideas, and open informed discussion. The current procedure appears to prevent involvement of the committee as a whole and does little to encourage community involvement. The Chairperson reading a prepared response and, usually, being unable to answer any supplementary question is not constructive.

The style and length of the committee agenda together with the time allowed for public scrutiny is not conducive to accountability and transparency.

We must also highlight the abysmal record of the Housing Department in relation to Freedom of Information requests and the underlying impression of the department's desire to withhold information rather than share it. Initial viewing of data shows B&HCC to have one of the worst records in the country for refusals, time taken to respond, and non-compliance with FOI legislation.

The Coalition requests the Committee initiates a review of its procedures dealing with questions, deputations, petitions and FOI requests with the objective of establishing an example of good practice that highlights transparency, accountability and community participation.

Further, the Coalition urges the Committee to hold a special meeting in May 2019 on this issue to discuss detailed proposals for change.

We suggest BHHC submits a detailed document to the Committee by 3 May based upon information, advice, and ideas from the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO), mySociety, the Campaign for Freedom of Information, and community based groups throughout Brighton & Hove. The Coalition also seeks to involve a representative from each group on the Council to work with the team drawing up the submission."

- 30.8 Councillor Marsh thanked Mr. Parry for the deputation and stated that it had raised a number of interesting points which she intended to take to the Constitution Working Group for consideration and review. Any recommendations would then be referred to the Policy, Resources & Growth Committee and full Council as appropriate. She also stated that the Council complied with freedom of information requests and regular reports were submitted to the Governance Board on departmental performance in relation to FOI requests and Subject Access referrals.
- 30.9 The Mayor thanked Mr. Parry for attending the meeting and speaking on behalf of the deputation. She explained that the points had been noted and the deputation would be referred to the Constitution Working Group for consideration and its recommendations would then be reported to Mr. Parry as the Spokesperson in due course.

(4) IHRA Definition

- 30.10 Note: The deputation had been taken earlier in the meeting and is detailed under Item 27 in the minutes.

31 PETITIONS FOR COUNCIL DEBATE

- 31.1 The Mayor stated that where a petition secured 1,250 or more signatures it could be debated at the council meeting. She had been made aware of 2 such petitions. She also noted that there was an amendment to the covering report's recommendation for Item 31(1), Improve Brighton & Hove's Recycling Scheme from the Green Group.
- 31.2 The Mayor then invited Tea Meneghetti and Alizee Staes to come forward and present the first petition.

(1) Improve Brighton & Hove's Recycling Scheme

- 31.3 The petitioners thanked the Mayor and stated that the petition resulted from the need to improve the council's recycling scheme and to encourage people to recycle a wider range of plastics and to be able to make better use of home composting for food waste. There was a need to provide better information to people so that they could improve their own recycling and to look at how schools could be encouraged to get involved in educating children. M noted that of the 353 councils in the UK, Brighton & Hove was 326th for waste recycling and this needed to improve and could with support from residents, organisations and the council.

- 31.4 Councillor Mitchell thanked both petitioners for bringing the petition to the council meeting and noted that it was a wide-ranging petition and that the council was already taking some action in relation to the options outlined. She stated that more plastics could be collected, but there was a need for a national approach to this as collections differed across the country. She also noted that reprocessing plants were becoming increasingly selective about the materials they would accept and demand for low-grade materials was falling. A number of authorities had taken steps to change their collections and were not taking low-grade plastics. She stated that there was a need for a co-ordinated approach and investment in how plastics could be recycled but that had to come from the government at a national level.
- 31.5 Councillor Littman welcomed the petition and moved an amendment on behalf of the Green Group, which called for a report to the November meeting of the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee detailing how matters could be progressed to meet the aims of the petition. He stated that the amendment sought to be constructive and to enable residents to have a clear understanding of what could and could not be recycled. He also suggested that Veolia as the waste contactor would be willing to invest in their equipment to improve the recycling of plastics if the council made steps to improve collections.
- 31.6 Councillor Littman stated that there had been discussions prior to the meeting and a suggestion that if the three recommendations were taken separately, there could be support for some of them. He therefore queried whether the Mayor would be willing to put each recommendation in the amendment to the vote on an individual basis rather as a whole.
- 31.7 The Mayor noted the request and stated that given the length of amendment she was minded to take it in its entirety rather than separate out the recommendations.
- 31.8 Councillor Gibson formally seconded the amendment and stated that it reflected a change in the public's attitude towards recycling and single-use plastics. He noted that current recycling rates were at 29% and the target was 50% by 2020 and stated that there was a need to listen to the community and to improve recycling rates.
- 31.9 Councillor Wares welcomed the petition and stated that the need to address the issue of the use of plastics was something that had to be addressed by everyone, including the government, manufacturers, and residents. He believed that it would take two years to get back to previous recycling rates and that the frequency of collection rates could not be reduced.
- 31.10 Councillor Hill stated that there was a need for manufacturers and retailers to look at how goods were packaged and to reduce the use of plastics. She acknowledged that the council had a part to play and would need to look at sustainable options and that residents would also need to support the council with recycling.
- 31.11 Councillor Mitchell stated that she was not minded to accept the amendment as it would impact on available resources and divert them away from other service considerations that needed to be addressed. She stated that new garden waste customers were being taken on and that there were no plans to reduce household waste collections.

- 31.12 Councillor Littman stated that he wished to revise the amendment and to remove recommendation 2.1 (iii) so that the Mayor could then put the whole amendment to the vote.
- 31.13 The Monitoring Officer confirmed that the mover of a motion could either withdraw it or seek to amend it subject to the consent of the council.
- 31.14 The Mayor noted the request from Councillor Littman to revise the amendment by removing recommendation 2.1 (iii) and put it to the vote, which was carried by 27 votes to 18 with 2 abstentions.
- 31.15 The Mayor thanked the petitioners for attending the meeting and presenting the petition, and noted that the Green Group's amendment as amended had been approved. She therefore put the revised amendment to the vote which was carried by 28 votes to 19.
- 31.16 The Mayor then put the recommendations as amended to the vote which was carried by 28 votes to 19.
- 31.17 **RESOLVED:**
- (1) That the petition be noted and referred to the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee for consideration at its meeting on the 27th November 2018, with the report to this meeting to include:
 - (i) a costed investigation into increasing the range of plastics the Council collects;
 - (ii) a costed investigation into the set-up of a food waste collection trial;
 - (iii) a costed investigation into options for a 'Service Guarantee,' allowing residents to know what level of recycling service they can expect the Council to provide;
 - (2) That with the above investigations to include the exploration of external funding sources e.g. DEFRA, Local Enterprise Partnership, Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government and others; and
 - (3) That for such a report to provide further detail on:
 - (i) how the Council may seek to ensure events granted permission in Brighton and Hove are 'single-use plastic free' by 2020;
 - (ii) an action plan, including timescales, setting out how the council will contribute to the achievement of the Waste Framework Directive target of 50% recycling by 2020.
- 31.18 The Mayor then noted that the meeting had been in session for two hours and stated that she intended to call an adjournment for a refreshment break.
- 31.19 The Mayor then adjourned the meeting at 6.25pm.

31.20 The Mayor reconvened the meeting at 6.55pm and stated that the next item was the second petition for debate, concerning Brexit listed as Item 31 (2) on the agenda

(2) A People's Vote on Brexit

31.21 The Mayor then invited Councillor Greenbaum to present the second petition on behalf of Councillor West.

31.18 Councillor Greenbaum thanked the Mayor and stated that she was presenting the petition on behalf of Councillor West and noted that it had 1, 399 signatures. She stated that the petition called on the Government to allow a People's Vote on the issue of Brexit. The referendum in 2016 had been the start of the process with a narrow majority in favour of a single choice on limited information. The position had since changed and it was only right that the people should have the opportunity to review the situation and decide on how to proceed.

31.19 Councillor Yates noted the petition and stated that he agreed with the petitioner and noted that the city having voted in favour of remaining in the EU, was likely to support the petition and that the council had already written to the Secretary of State on the matter as a result of a previous notice of motion. He was therefore happy to note the petition in this instance.

31.20 The Mayor then called on Councillor Sykes to move the notice of motion listed as Item 34 (6) on the agenda.

34. (6) BRIGHTON AND HOVE BREXIT UPDATE

34.1 The Notice of Motion as listed in the agenda was proposed by Councillor Sykes on behalf of the Green Group. He noted the Leader of the Council's comments to the petition and stated that there was a clear need for a people's vote on the issue as it was evident that a number of people had not understood what they were voting for at the time of the referendum. He also noted that a number of politicians in the House of Commons were supportive of a people's vote and accepted that it would be the morally correct thing to do. As things stood it appeared that the country was heading towards political and economic uncertainty which would directly impact on Brighton and Hove. He suggested that as a city, more could be done to prepare for the exit and the possibility of a no deal situation and for Members to be aware of the potential impact.

34.2 Councillor Deane formally seconded the notice of motion and stated the no-one had anticipated the result of the referendum at the time and there had been no plan b for such a result. It was also clear that the claims made by the leave campaign had not come to fruition and should the country leave the EU then it would lose a great deal. She noted that there was always a possibility to reconsider any decision that was taken and yet there appeared to be no such option in this respect, which was not democratic. She believed there was a need to take people's views into account at this time and hoped that the motion would be supported.

34.3 Councillor Janio stated that a people's vote was held in 2016 and the outcome was clear in that the democratic choice was to leave the EU. He did not see the need to

ask the people again and suggested that there was a need to support the government in achieving the best outcome for the country.

- 34.4 Councillor Yates noted that the people of Brighton and Hove had given a clear desire to remain in the EU and as such this should be taken into consideration by the city council. The situation should be a concern for all Groups as custodians of services within the city and there was a need for more understanding of the potential of a Brexit and what a soft or hard Brexit and a short or long transition period would imply. There was a need for the council to understand what the implications of Brexit were for the city and to prepare for the outcome.
- 34.5 Councillor Inkpin-Leissner stated that he did not understand the Government's position and believed that it was not being taken seriously by the other Member States in Europe. He believed a people's vote would unite the country and make it clear for the Government on how to progress matters.
- 34.6 Councillor Bell referred to the principal behind the motion and noted that at the last council meeting the Labour and Green Groups had voted together against staff at the Royal Pavilion having a meaningful vote about their position. He also noted that the decision on the Mears housing contract had also been prevented from coming to full Council and yet there was now a call for a people's vote to be held which contradicted the actions taken by the council.
- 34.7 Councillor G. Theobald stated that he had voted to remain but overtime had changed his mind and believed that a considerable number of people in the country just wanted to get on with the process of leaving. He believed a decision had been made and that the Prime Minister should be supported in seeking to implement that decision. If a second vote was taken with a different result what would prevent the argument to hold third vote and so on. In the end he believed the result would be the same and therefore everyone needed to get on with preparing for the impact of leaving.
- 34.8 Councillor Littman stated that there was a need to recognise the democratic right for people to call for a further vote having had the opportunity to consider the matter and potential implications of Brexit.
- 34.9 Councillor Druitt suggested that if the Prime Minister was to be supported to get the best possible deal then it should be to stay in the EU.
- 34.10 Councillor Sykes stated that a people's vote would enable the country to decide one way or the other and for that result to then be taken forward and future trade deals to be negotiated as necessary. He therefore put the motion forward and hoped it would be supported.
- 34.11 The Mayor noted that the debate had concluded and thanked Councillor Greenbaum for presenting the petition and stated that she would take the petition first and then the notice of motion in terms of the voting procedure. She noted that the petition was calling on the Government to agree to a people's vote on the issue of Brexit and therefore it was recommended to note the petition. She then put the recommendation to the vote which was carried by 27 votes to 15 with 3 abstentions.

34.12 The Mayor then asked for the electronic voting system to be activated and put the recommendation to note the petition to the vote which was carried by 27 votes to 15 with 3 abstentions as detailed below:

		For	Against	Abstain			For	Against	Abstain
1	Allen	Not Present			28	Marsh	✓		
2	Atkinson	✓			29	Meadows		x	
3	Barford	✓			30	Mears		x	
4	Barnett	Not Present			31	Miller		x	
5	Bell		x		32	Mitchell	✓		
6	Bennett	Not Present			33	Moonan	✓		
7	Bewick	Not Present			34	Morgan	✓		
8	Brown		x		35	Morris	Not Present		
9	Cattell	Not Present			36	Nemeth		x	
10	Chapman	✓			37	Norman A			Ab
11	Cobb		x		38	Norman K			Ab
12	Daniel	✓			39	O'Quinn	✓		
13	Deane	✓			40	Page	✓		
14	Druitt	✓			41	Peltzer Dunn		x	
15	Gibson	✓			42	Penn	✓		
16	Gilbey	Not Present			43	Phillips	✓		
17	Greenbaum	✓			44	Platts	✓		
18	Hamilton	✓			45	Robins	✓		
19	Hill	✓			46	Simson		x	
20	Horan	✓			47	Sykes	✓		
21	Hyde		x		48	Taylor	Not Present		
22	Inkpin-Leissner	✓			49	Theobald C		x	
23	Janio		x		50	Theobald G		x	
24	Knight	✓			51	Wares		x	
25	Lewry		x		52	Wealls			Ab
26	Littman	✓			53	West	Not Present		
27	Mac Cafferty	✓			54	Yates	✓		

						Total	27	15	3

34.13 **RESOLVED:** That the petition be noted.

34.14 The Mayor then asked for the electronic voting system to be activated and put the following motion to the vote:

“This Council notes:

- the background of considerable political uncertainty, and continuing evidence of damage, that any form of Brexit will cause to the national economy;
- its previous position agreed in December 2017 in favour of a People’s Vote.

This Council further notes that more detail is now available on the potential impact of Brexit on our local and regional economy, such as on our local tourism and hospitality sector

This Council therefore requests:

- That the Chief Executive write to James Brokenshire, Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, reaffirming this Council’s desire for a People’s Vote;
- That Policy Resources & Growth Committee request the Chief Finance Officer and the Executive Director for Economy, Environment & Culture to consider strategic risks arising from Brexit that will affect the council and city, and report on this before year end;
- That further to the above, that the Constitution Working Group be requested to review whether future BHCC committee reports are expanded to include a ‘Brexit Implications’ section in the body of the report, offering an assessment and analysis of any Brexit impact; and
- That Policy Resources & Growth Committee request the Chief Finance Officer to consider the advantages and disadvantages of accepting income from fees, charges and council tax denominated in Euros to protect this city’s income stream and services.

34.15 The Mayor confirmed that the motion had been carried by 24 votes to 19 with 2 abstentions as detailed below:

		For	Against	Abstain			For	Against	Abstain
1	Allen	Not Present			28	Marsh	✓		
2	Atkinson		x		29	Meadows		x	
3	Barford	✓			30	Mears		x	
4	Barnett		x		31	Miller		x	

5	Bell		x		32	Mitchell	✓		
6	Bennett	Not Present			33	Moonan	✓		
7	Bewick	Not Present			34	Morgan	✓		
8	Brown		x		35	Morris	Not Present		
9	Gattell	Not Present			36	Nemeth		x	
10	Chapman	✓			37	Norman A			Ab
11	Cobb		x		38	Norman K		x	
12	Daniel	✓			39	O'Quinn			Ab
13	Deane	✓			40	Page	Not Present		
14	Druitt	✓			41	Peltzer Dunn		x	
15	Gibson	✓			42	Penn	✓		
16	Gilbey	Not Present			43	Phillips	✓		
17	Greenbaum	✓			44	Platts	✓		
18	Hamilton	✓			45	Robins	✓		
19	Hill	✓			46	Simson		x	
20	Horan	✓			47	Sykes	✓		
21	Hyde		x		48	Taylor	Not Present		
22	Inkpin-Leissner	✓			49	Theobald C		x	
23	Janio		x		50	Theobald G		x	
24	Knight	✓			51	Wares		x	
25	Lewry		x		52	Wealls		x	
26	Littman	✓			53	West	Not Present		
27	Mac Cafferty	✓			54	Yates	✓		
						Total	24	19	2

32 WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS.

32.1 The Mayor reminded Council that written questions from Members and the replies from the appropriate Councillor were taken as read by reference to the list included in the addendum which had been circulated prior to the meeting as detailed below:

(1) Councillor Inkpin-Leissner – Wild Park:

- 32.2 Could Councillor Mitchell please explain how was the funding that BHCC have been receiving from Natural England to maintain Wild Park precisely been used and why did Rangers not check on the pond in Wild Park, when it was drying out?

Reply from Councillor Mitchell, Chair of the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee

- 32.3 The council receives agricultural subsidies for some sites in the city, including Wild Park. We receive two payments towards management of these sites; the Higher Level Stewardship (HLS) payments which are designed to offset the increased costs of managing areas of wildlife importance and an area payment from the Basic Payment Scheme (BPS). Overall each year, with the significant help of our fantastic volunteers, the conservation, general management, fencing maintenance and grazing works are able to be covered by the subsidy received.

On the Downland Estate the council has a number of Dew Ponds. The council does not stock these with fish because the ponds dry out and Dew Ponds are not a natural habitat for fish. They are also detrimental to the amphibians and other creatures that we are trying to encourage at these sites.

Dew Ponds will typically dry out periodically and this is a natural occurrence. They are dependent on rain falling into the bowl that the ponds are built within to fill them. Unfortunately, members of the public do deposit unwanted fish and other pets in them and because up till this year we have had a series of wet summers, the ponds have held water for longer and fish numbers have built up. We have no practical or affordable method of filling them up but if we are draining one of the permanent ponds in a park then we do make provision to relocate the fish.

(2) Councillor Phillips – HIV & Sexual Health Services

- 32.4 Since 2015 what has been the annual council spend on HIV and sexual health services, year by year?

Reply from Councillor Barford, Chair of the Health & Wellbeing Board

- 32.5 Annual spend on HIV and sexual health budget from the public health budget was:

2015/16	£5,018,582
2016/17	£5,032,375
2017/18	£5,134,041

The budget for 2018/19 is £4,455,624

During the same period (2015/16-2018/19), excluding the funding adjustment for the transfer of health visiting and school nursing from the NHS to Local Authorities, the ring-fenced public health grant for Brighton & Hove has been reduced by £2,815,502 per year*. In response to this funding for HIV and sexual health services was reduced for 2018/19. This reduction was achieved by extending the contract with the provider for two years on the basis of a reduction in the service tariff price paid to the provider and by extending provision of home STI testing.

*PH ringfenced grant reduction

year:	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18	18/19
grant reductions:	£0	£0	£1,289,945	£1,289,945	£1,289,945	£1,289,945
				£475,786	£475,786	£475,786
					£521,000	£521,000
						£528,771
cumulative total of grant reductions			£1,289,945	£1,765,731	£2,286,731	£2,815,502

(3) Councillor Gibson

32.6 Please can you indicate:

- when each of the current contracts with Baron Homes, Helgor Trading, Colgate and Gray to provide temporary/emergency accommodation are due to end?
- when consideration of extension or replacement (recommissioning) of each of these contracts will commence?
- how members of the housing committee will be involved in decisions around future provision?

Reply from Councillor Meadows, Chair of the Housing & New Homes Committee

32.7 The contracts for Baron Homes and Helgor Trading expire in 2021; the Colgate & Gray contract expires in 2019, each with a six month extension clause.

32.8 Preliminary discussions will begin shortly with our colleagues in Corporate Procurement to establish a preferred contract pathway for renting Emergency Accommodation in future. We will also be considering the impact of our strategy to reduce the use of emergency accommodation in terms of how long we need to procure any further contracts for.

32.9 Any further contracts that are required will go through the Procurement Advisory Board. The provision of accommodation for homelessness households is a statutory function and Members delegated responsibility for decisions on leasing for up to 10 years to officers in 2009.

(4) Councillor Gibson - Providing council owned emergency accommodation.

32.10 Last year there was unanimous support for looking into providing council owned emergency accommodation as a "matter of urgency."

To progress this, a subsequent Housing & New Homes agreed to:

“call for a report on the business case modeling for a “spend to save” purchase of emergency accommodation, so that the council may directly provide its own emergency accommodation.

That this modeling:

- a) Estimates revenue savings on current expenditure of private provision
- b) Estimates the capital appreciation that would flow to the council through ownership of Emergency accommodation
- c) Explores the potential to offer greater support to residents of emergency accommodation from any savings achieved

Since the provision of council owned emergency accommodation has the potential to save money and improve the quality of provision and the motion received unanimous support in Council and in Housing Committee, can you indicate when the report will come to Housing & New Homes Committee?

Reply from Councillor Meadows, Chair of the Housing & New Homes Committee

- 32.11 The council have been investigating providing council owned temporary accommodation and members of HNHs Cttee will be aware of the recent provision of Stonehurst Court which was re-purposed sheltered accommodation that was no longer fit for purpose. The information called for regarding the financial modelling requires significant work and so a report will be forthcoming in June 2019.

(5) Councillor Phillips

- 32.12 How many educational psychologist assessments for primary aged children have been undertaken in the city over the past six months, and of those how many resulted in statements being issued?

Reply from Councillor Chapman, Chair of the Children, Young People & Skills Committee

- 32.13 Over the last six months there have been a total of 172 educational psychology assessments of which 64 were statutory assessments. This resulted in the development of 47 Education Health and Care plans.

(6) Councillor Sykes

- 32.14 Please could a statement be provided on progress this financial year with the negotiations with Network Rail, repairs and refurbishment of Hove Station footbridge, including investment projections for the next 18 months?

Reply from Councillor Mitchell, Chair of the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee

- 32.15 Thank you for your question – I can inform you that negotiations with Network Rail as to the future maintenance requirements and responsibilities for future maintenance are

still on going. As you will be aware the Council has set aside funding from the Capital Pot once the scale and scope of future maintenance responsibilities have been agreed. Further meetings are set to take place in the coming months.

(7) Councillor Sykes

- 32.16 Please could a statement be provided on progress this financial year with Brighton Town Hall Workstyles, including investment projections for the next 18 months?

Reply from Councillor Hamilton, Deputy Chair (Finance) of the Policy, Resources & Growth Committee

- 32.17 Options for Brighton Town Hall that fit with the Administration's priorities of supporting business and encouraging inward investment, while also looking to address the issue of an under-occupied and ageing building, have been explored during the current financial year. This work will support the development of a business case, which will be presented back to Policy, Resources & Growth for consideration and a decision at a later date. Until a decision is made by committee, no further investment in the building will be made beyond that identified through the Planned Maintenance Budget.

(8) Councillor Sykes

- 32.18 Please can an update be provided on the status and progress this year of any work being undertaken by BHCC on district heat initiatives, and what is planned over the next year?

Reply from Councillor Meadows, Chair of the Housing & New Homes Committee

- 32.19 Initial feasibility works have been carried out in the Hove Station area focussed on the council housing blocks located here. Since the feasibility study was commissioned wider re-development considerations for this area have evolved including the potential to offer greater opportunities by embedding a District Heat approach at the outset of future development. Accordingly this feasibility will be considered alongside major project considerations for the area including any master planning that will include.

(9) Councillor Sykes

- 32.20 Please can an update be provided on the status and progress this year of any work being undertaken by BHCC on a Solar Farm on BHCC land, and what is planned over the next year?

Reply from Councillor Hamilton, Deputy Chair (Finance) of the Policy, Resources & Growth Committee

- 32.21 Property & Design are assessing a site in Falmer for the possible construction of a solar farm. Specialist advice is being sought from suitably qualified and experienced consultants to support us in completing a feasibility study. We have gone out to the market twice to local consultants at the end of 2017 and in Spring of this year but although interest was expressed verbally, no quotations were submitted to undertake

the feasibility study. The brief has additionally been sent to our rural estate consultants and to the local Lewes & Eastbourne Council renewables framework consultant.

It is thought that this apparent lack of interest may at least be partly due to the impending end of the Feed In Tariff in 2019 and the consequential demands on consultants time. It is now considered that this market activity will have peaked and so our intention is to go out to the market again later this year and we are working closely with the sustainability team to review the brief and draw up a list of suitable consultants and potential framework partners.

(10) Councillor Sykes

- 32.22 Please can an update be provided on the status and progress this year of any work being undertaken by BHCC on food waste collection initiatives in the city, and what is planned over the next year?

Reply from Councillor Mitchell, Chair of the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee

- 32.23 In July 2015 as part of the Cityclean Service Plan and Priorities Report, opportunities for food waste collection were explored in detail but were not pursued due to the high cost which was in excess of £1 million per year. In light of the reductions in funding it is not possible to introduce a food waste collection at this time.

The council has always encouraged residents to compost garden waste at home and provides subsidised compost bins and food waste composters. Since 2007, over 20,000 compost bins have been sold through the council's scheme, further information of which is on the council's website. We have a total of 35 current sites in the scheme supported by BHCC plus another 3 in schools/community gardens that have set up their own schemes based on the model. Of the 35 sites approximately 60% are at capacity and in the 35 sites we have 1005 households involved as users. These sites divert approximately 89 tonnes from landfill each year. The target for new sites is to have a total of 50 sites by 2020 and we have a potential of 6 new sites that we are currently working on.

The council and partners have been developing the Food Strategy and Action Plan 2018-22, and are exploring ways to reduce food waste such as:

- innovative approaches in order to prevent food waste in first place – move to a 'Food use' not a food waste agenda
- better redistribution of surplus food to people (and if not people, then animals)
- failing that, more composting / anaerobic digestion.

(11) Councillor Sykes

- 32.24 Please can a statement be given on the status of and projections for Warm Safe Homes grants, an element of the revised Disabled Facilities Grant?

Reply from Councillor Meadows, Chair of the Housing & New Homes Committee

- 32.25 Warm, Safe Homes grant is available to help low income home owners and private tenants where the household is in fuel poverty measured by the Low Income High Cost indicator or in receipt of any one of the pass-porting benefits for DFG.

The funding contributes to delivery of our Housing Strategy priorities - improving housing quality, housing conditions and energy efficiency, and our Fuel Poverty and Affordable Warmth Strategy - effectively targeting vulnerable fuel poor households and those at most risk of the health impacts of cold homes.

The vast majority of referrals have come via Brighton & Hove Energy Services Co-operative (BHESCo.) Warm, Safe Homes grant is a discretionary grant, available subject to funding; the maximum amount of assistance available increased from £5k approved by H&NHC Sept '17 to £7.5k approved by H&NHC Sept '18.

In 2017/18 (Q4) we completed 16 Warm, Safe Homes grants

Projections:

This year to date (Q1&2) we completed 19 Warm, Safe Homes grants, total spend: £39,642.20, average cost: £2,086.43; projected for the year: 38 completions, total spend £80k. Works to date include: providing extended warranties for equipment funded under DFG such as hoists, stair-lifts & clos-o-mat toilets (x10), window replacement (x 2), secondary glazing (x 1), boiler replacement (x 3), central heating (x 1), level access shower & stair lift repair/upgrades (x2) .

(12) Councillor Sykes

- 32.26 Please can the lead Councillor state how many BHCC sheltered housing schemes have access to Wi-Fi for residents?

Reply from Councillor Meadows, Chair of the Housing & New Homes Committee

- 32.27 The City council has two seniors housing blocks of flats in which wi-fi is available for residents in the communal lounge - they are Brook Meade extra care scheme and Leach Court. Council staff are currently looking into the possibility of extending this provision to further schemes, and have requested information from other sheltered housing providers who we can learn from. This has been through the housing benchmarking organisation, Housemark.

The council is very keen to support work that ensures that no-one is digitally excluded, particularly those who are disadvantaged and/or isolated, and who stand to benefit immensely from something that many people in the city are able to take for granted. As well as supporting Digital Brighton & Hove, around 300 seniors housing residents have attended 'Get Digital' events and gadget drop-in sessions.

Some of the issues the council faces with the provision of free wi-fi include data management and ownership, cost, potential recharge or service charge, and suitable contracts with suppliers that do not leave residents with high future participation costs after an initial period. The issues are by no means insurmountable.

- 32.28 Once officers have finalised this accessibility work as part of a digital strategy for Housing, a report will come to the Housing & New Homes Committee with potential proposals.

(13) Councillor Taylor - School Crossing Officers

- 32.29 Can the chair of the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee echo our support for the campaign by Withdean residents in securing the much loved lollipop service for students of Stanford Infants and Junior School and outline what the Administration will do to assist residents and schools in getting this vital service back up and running?

Reply from Councillor Mitchell, Chair of the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee

- 32.30 There is a national issue with the recruitment of school crossing patrol officers due to the nature of the role and the unsociable hours. However BHCC are committed to recruiting SCPO's and often appeal to schools and local residents to support the recruitment process.

Unfortunately the site at Millers Road has been vacant since December 2017 but we are continuing to try and recruit an officer for this position and we will be approaching Stanford Governors and Stanford PTA, in addition to looking at alternative design solutions such as pedestrian refuges to assist pedestrians and school children crossing safely.

(14) Councillor Nemeth – King Alfred

- 32.31 Given the estimated £669,000 that has already been expended by the Council on the latest King Alfred project (£409,000 officer costs and £260,000 consultant costs), what further costs are envisaged between now and project completion, and are such funds already in place?

Reply from Councillor Yates, Leader of the Council

- 32.32 As with the expenditure profile to date, activity and therefore cost to the Council is dependent on the phase the project has reached. Subject to completion of the Development Agreement in the coming months, the cost to the Council during the next two years is expected to be akin to that incurred during the past year. As with all projects managed by the Council's Major Projects Team, resource requirements are reviewed at least annually and financial resources are allocated as part of the budget setting process. The King Alfred project is one of the Council's strategic priorities. Appropriate financial provision has therefore been made and this is considered to be sufficient based on the currently anticipated delivery timetable.

(15) Councillor Mac Cafferty

- 32.33 Further to my written question to Councillor Cattell two years ago about the roof audit study of 2014* which found that the equivalent of up to 100 Olympic swimming pools of

water could be held back from the city's roads and drains, could I ask how this study is informing the city's future resilience?

*<https://building-green.org.uk/2015/01/24/huge-potential-for-green-roofs-to-improve-the-centreof-brighton/>

Reply from Councillor Cattell, Chair of the Planning Committee

32.34 BHCC is the lead partner on The Living Coast UNESCO Biosphere programme, for which green and blue infrastructure is one of the main priorities identified for action.

Brighton & Hove City Plan Part One recognises the importance of green infrastructure and green roofs in enhancing biodiversity, energy efficiency and mitigating climate impacts. These impacts include urban heat island effect and flash floods caused by heavy rainfall events. It is recognised that green roofs can offer multiple benefits of helping to reduce surface water runoff, making buildings more sustainable, and enhancing biodiversity and the green network.

There are direct and indirect references to green roofs throughout City Plan Part One which have facilitated and encouraged the inclusion of green roofs within a number of development schemes in the city, especially major developments.

Some examples of where green roofs have been secured through planning consents are:

- Former Texaco Garage (Kingsway/ Victoria Terrace)
- Preston Barracks
- Anston House

This approach is further developed through the design policies of the Draft City Plan Part Two and will also be considered as part of taking work forward on preparing the Urban Design Framework Supplementary Planning Framework.

A high profile green roof was installed on The Level Cafe as part of the HLF-funded project.

As part of the New Homes for Communities Programme, there are green roofs on:

- Robert Lodge, Whitehawk
- Brooke Mead, City Centre
- Rotherfield Crescent, Hollingbury
- And a green wall at Kite Place

The council's Architecture Team also explores opportunities for green roof applications and these have been successfully installed at:

- Downsview Link College
- Balfour Junior School
- Whitehawk Hub

- Roundabout Children's Centre

(16) Councillor Mac Cafferty

32.35 Further to my written question to last full council about the Council Tax Protocol, new figures from debt help charity StepChange tell us that in the first half of 2018, more than 30 per cent of new clients were behind on their council tax - by far the highest category of debt arrears. Given that paying council tax continues to be a struggle for many in the city can I ask for an update on how this is being understood by the administration the Corporate Debt Board?

Reply from Councillor Hamilton, Deputy Chair (Finance) of the Policy, Resources & Growth Committee

32.36 The Corporate Debt Policy is currently being redrafted and will be taken for approval to the Policy resources & Growth Committee on 24 January 2019. The Corporate Debt Board oversees the collection of debt in the Council and the application of the Policy. It has four stated principles, to:

- establish a proportionate, fair and effective end to end approach to debt management;
- use analytics to understand the debt portfolio and drive best practice for debt management;
- instil an ethos of fairness, built upon principles that recognise the impact debt collection has on the vulnerable; and
- have a proportionate enforcement response to those who do not pay on time.

32.37 Principles of fairness are at the centre of the Council's approach to debt collection. Within this the Council Tax service takes an approach to debt recovery that is proportionate, fair, recognises the impact that debt collection has upon the vulnerable, and is aimed at preventing long term debt. Under the direction of the Board a newly formed corporate debt team is analysing the council's debt portfolio to identify residents who have large debt or multiple debt and instigating early intervention, recognised universally as most effective way to support people in debt. The team will provide the appropriate direct support to people in debt including signposting to voluntary organisations who can offer specialist and independent assistance for people in debt. This work builds on the support mechanisms that are already extensively used across Council services. These include the Council Tax Debt Prevention team, the Welfare Rights Team, the Discretionary Help and Advice Team (including Local Discretionary social Fund) and the Homeless Prevention Trailblazers.

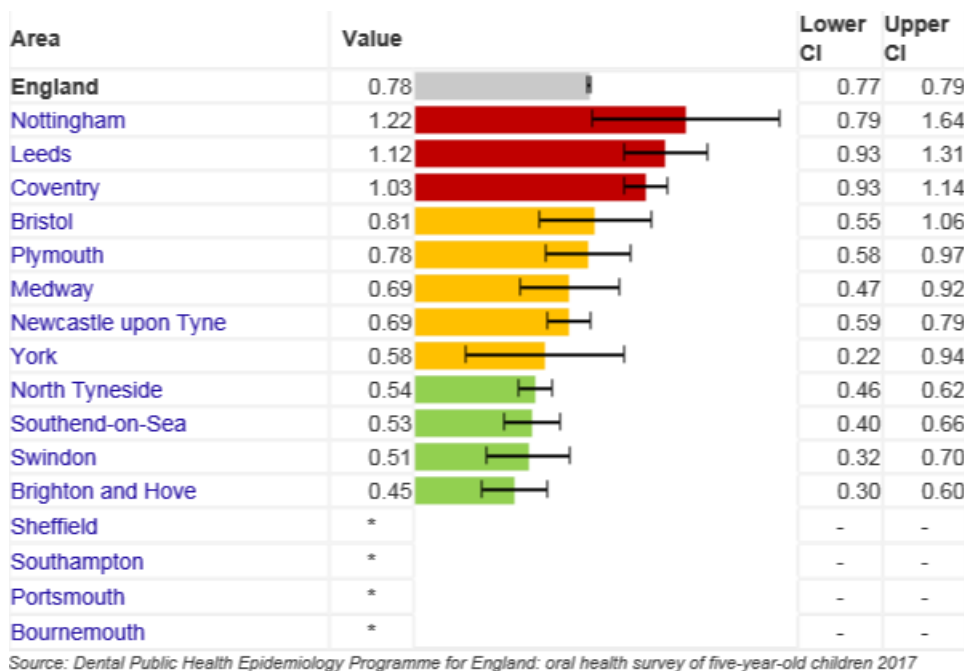
(17) Councillor Mac Cafferty

32.38 A survey this month by childcare.co.uk reveals that 3 in 4 teachers have daily teeth brushing sessions for primary pupils who do not do it at home. In Brighton & Hove 131 of the 305 children admitted to hospital for teeth extraction in 2015 /16 were aged 5-9 years. Given the importance of dental hygiene and increased knowledge about its connection to heart conditions later in life, can the administration inform me of what work they are doing to bring down this number of largely preventable hospital admissions and improve dental hygiene for primary pupils?

Reply from Councillor Chapman, Chair of the Children, Young People & Skills Committee

Brighton & Hove Oral Health Programme for Children

32.39 Brighton & Hove local authority has lower levels of dental decay than the average for England. The most recently reported survey of 5 year old children’s dental health took place in 2016/17, when the average decayed, missing and filled teeth per child was 0.45 . This is lower than the England average of 0.78 and CIPFA comparators.



Not all childhood admissions to hospital for dental extractions will be due to dental decay (caries), which is preventable. Eighty-eight children aged 5-9 years were admitted to hospital for dental extractions due to decay in 2016/17, and the rate is comparable to the England average.

	Brighton & Hove	England
	% and number of dental extractions in 5-9 year olds with a primary diagnosis of caries	% of dental extractions in 5-9 year olds with a primary diagnosis of caries
2016/17	0.6% (n 88)	0.7%
2015/16	0.8% (n 110)	0.7%
2014/15	0.8% (n 115)	0.7%

Source: Public Health England Dental Public Health Intelligence Programme. Hospital Episodes Statistics. Extractions data: 0-19 year olds, 2011-12 to 2016-17.

Good oral hygiene practices need to be adopted as soon as a baby’s milk teeth start to appear, this includes regular tooth brushing with the appropriate amount of fluoride

toothpaste, as well as healthy eating and drinking, with low sugar consumption and regular dental check-ups. BHCC are working with our providers Sussex Community Foundation NHS Trust, to protect children's teeth through a range of oral health programmes.

Oral health promotion (OHP) interventions take place in a range of children's settings. These include Early Years Nurseries, Children's Centres, Child Health Clinics, Primary Schools, and Special Schools. In 2017/18, one hundred and twenty one OHP sessions took place across these settings, reaching approximately 5,000 people.

Tooth brushing schemes are running in the eight Children Centre hubs, and Moulsecoomb and St. Nicholas Primary Schools. These reach approximately 500 children per week. The primary school schemes are linked to breakfast clubs. All nurseries are supplied with a toolkit to support supervised tooth brushing. Child Health Clinics are supplied with toothbrushes and toothpaste, together with six monthly visits by the OHP Team.

- 32.40 The OHP Team is piloting a "Link Champion" programme with the Health Visiting Service to encourage dental attendance by young children in line with the national campaign of "Dental Check by One" and providing parents with oral health information and a checklist for their baby's teeth.
- 32.41 The OHP Team also target vulnerable children through home visits to families at the request of health visitors; delivering healthy eating and tooth brushing sessions in Special Schools; supporting the Pre School Special Educational Needs Service and making monthly visits to Gypsy and traveller sites to give oral health advice to parents, as well as distributing tooth brushes and tooth paste.
- 32.42 Other work that has targeted young children's oral health has included the delivery of Sugar Smart Assemblies as part of the Public Health Schools Programme. Twenty-eight sessions were delivered by the OHP Team in 2017/18. Public Health has also piloted a Sugar Smart Dental Toolkit with 19 dental practices. This included tooth brushing charts, sugar smart challenges and sugar swaps and colourful stickers, leaflets and posters supporting the national Top Tips for Teeth campaign. It is currently being evaluated.
- 32.43 General Dental Practitioners (GDPs) are also preventing decay in young children through the application of fluoride varnish to teeth.

(18) Councillor Mac Cafferty

- 32.44 According to the Grimsey Review* from July this year, lease lengths for high street shops have decreased and will continue to do so creating increased uncertainty for investors "which will have an impact on investment decisions." What assurances can I have the Administration will absorb this information in good time for any major development decision involving retail?

*<http://www.vanishinghighstreet.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/GrimseyReview2.pdf>

Reply from Councillor Robins, Chair of the Tourism, Development & Culture Committee

- 32.45 The Administration are in continual discussion with Aberdeen Standard Investments regarding the Waterfront project, and ASI have been sharing their thinking about the future of retail. We will also be continuing to have these discussions as the project is progressed, including receiving from ASI regular updates in the financial viability of the project, as required within the legal agreement. It is ASI's contention that Brighton remains their top performing asset in the UK and for this reason they remain very confident about its future. They also have pent up demand from retailers, particularly overseas retailers, to be part of the city's retail offer. As a shopping centre trust, ASI are very aware of the issues affecting retail and will not be choosing to continue with this proposal if they believe the risks from the retail sector are going to have a detrimental impact. ASI believe retail is changing rapidly and they will be embracing these changes as part of their new offer.

The Grimsey report also talks about the importance of community spaces and places to dwell. ASI will be focussing on this in terms of their final mixed use development and we fully expect to see leisure, food and beverage and retail as part of the new spaces, albeit in new forms that will provide a new offer in new ways. We all accept this is a time of transition for retail and we fully expect to see ASI communicating their ideas about this as the project begins to shape during next year. We must remember this is at their risk, so the council are not taking development risk on this project.

33 ORAL QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

- 33.1 The Mayor noted that 13 oral questions had been received and that 30 minutes were set aside for the duration of the item. She then invited Councillor Janio to put his question to Councillor Yates.

(1) Councillor Janio - *The Future of Local Democracy*

- 33.2 Councillor Janio asked the following question, "Can the Leader of the Council confirm that it is not his nor any future Labour administrations' policy to attempt to set a budget that requires a referendum of city residents?"
- 33.3 Councillor Yates replied, "I don't believe that that is a matter that has been decided yet by council and as such I can't describe whether or not it is a matter of council policy."
- 33.4 Councillor Janio asked the following supplementary question, "The social media outlook for Labour candidates in the next election suggests they will stand up to the Conservative government on budgets so if you haven't made that decision yet are they lying?"
- 33.5 Councillor Yates replied, "I will wait until next time for Cllr Janio to come up with a proper question about proper policy at this Council."

(2) Councillor Mac Cafferty - *Bins*

- 33.6 Councillor Mac Cafferty asked the following question, “The anxiety that residents of Brunswick Square, Brunswick Terrace, Palmeira Square and Adelaide Crescent have about communal bins and recycling bins has proven sadly to be right. Fly tipping, overflowing bins are up and litter is mounting in the streets. Promises for collection 3 times a week have not been fulfilled. Residents in Brunswick Square waited a whole week last week for their recycling bins to be collected with no evidence to suggest that neither waste collections have been more effective nor recycling increased. Would you agree with me, Councillor Mitchell, that the roll out of communal bins in the Regency Squares and Brunswick and Adelaide has been nothing short of a disaster?”
- 33.7 Councillor Mitchell replied, “Well it wasn’t this administration that rolled them out and what I will say is that thinking of returning to individual waste bins per household I think would lead to an even greater degree of refuse on the street. We can all remember what the place used to look like when people just simply dumped black sacks on the pavement. What we have got to do is to make the communal bin recycling and refuse scheme work, which we are committed to do as detailed in the report that was considered by ETS Committee recently”.
- 33.8 Councillor Mac Cafferty asked the following supplementary question, “I am glad Cllr Mitchell has referred to the report at Environment Committee as that brings me on to my supplementary. It has reminded us of the growing number of complaints that this Labour administration has resided over that we are supposed to derive comfort from the fact that residents might have to wait two whole years for results. In the 2015 manifesto Labour stated “We will make collecting refuse, increasing recycling and cleaning the streets a top priority the Leader and senior councillors will directly oversee work to improve the service”. Can you explain to me what you have done to directly oversee the work and given the mess that we are in, whether you think that you have been effective? As lots of my residents do not believe you have.”
- 33.9 Councillor Mitchell replied, “Residents will not have to wait two years for improvements to the frontline services, those are the services that are being concentrated on, if you had read the report I think that would have given that impression. There is a project team hard at work at the City Clean depot which is overseeing a number of strands of work, all of which will bring improvements to the front line.”

(3) Councillor K Norman - Brighton and Hove Heritage

- 33.10 Councillor K. Norman asked the following question, “Over a number of recent years we have seen the destruction of a number of buildings across the city that I would describe as part of our Brighton & Hove heritage and I am pleased to see the continued efforts to retain, maintain, improve and protect the Royal Pavilion. We have many more heritage sites that need those actions. Can we know what actions the Council is taking to protect and enhance more of our heritage sites?”
- 33.11 Councillor Robins replied, “The Cultural Framework agreed by the TDC committee at its meeting on 27th September included a commitment for the Council to lead on the development of a Heritage Strategy with our partners, and work on this will start during the coming months. This will enable us to agree strategic priorities with other

stakeholders and to address the broad spectrum of heritage issues from the physical and material heritage assets to the wider issue of Community Heritage and Identity.”

- 33.12 Councillor K Norman asked the following supplementary question, “One of the most important heritage sites for me is the Madeira Drive Arches, so what is the Council, in its new ‘Strategy’ or when it is up, doing to make sure the Madeira Drive Arches are restored to their former glory and not allow them to be turned into housing development?”
- 33.13 Councillor Robins replied, “The Heritage Strategy will be developed over the coming months so, until it has developed, I can’t tell you what the plan is, but I don’t think it will turn into housing.”

(4) Councillor Phillips - Brighton and Hove Fast Track City

- 33.14 Councillor Phillips asked the following question, “Is the Council on track to meet the 90:90:90 target, 90% of them being on antiretroviral treatment and 90% of those having undetectable viral loads by 2020 and what financial plan sits behind this?”
- 33.15 Councillor Barford replied, “The first annual report towards the HIV taskforce which will include the action plans for years two to five are to be presented to the Health & Wellbeing Board in November this year and one of the first actions is to look at and address stigma. I don’t have the financial information for you here but that is something that can be provided. We know that performance against the 90:90:90 target is strong and we know that 88% of people living with HIV knowing their status (based on national data); 98% of those being on treatment and 98% of those on treatment having no detectable virus in their blood stream. It is worth noting that Bertrand Audoin, Vice President of the Strategic Partnerships of the International Association of Providers of AIDS Care visiting our city on 21 June this year and he told members of the ‘Towards Zero HIV Taskforce’ that he was very impressed with all the work of the city.”
- 33.16 Councillor Phillips asked the following supplementary question “Is the Council on track towards zero new HIV infections, zero HIV related deaths and Zero HIV stigma in Brighton & Hove by 2020 which is only 12 months away and what financial plan sits behind this?”
- 33.17 Councillor Barford replied, “Towards Zero?, we were talking about the challenge we have made to achieve the 95:95:95 by 2030 so it wasn’t around the Zero then. We are on track for what we said that we would do which is the 90:90:90 for 2020. Absolutely though there will be a lot more information available when the report comes out.”

(5) Councillor Inkipin-Leissner - Brighton Pride Saturday

- 33.18 Councillor Inkipin-Leissner asked the following question, “As we all know this years’ Brighton Pride was the most successful and the most visited one in our history. I pay tribute to Councillor Warren Morgan to sort the problem with the War Memorial out which is safe from Brighton Pride, however I was contacted (*nb: unf. This bit of text was not audible*) we think of mainly young people coming to pride but there are elderly coming as well and they had a problem that there were not enough public toilets available and that can be a problem for anyone whether disabled or not. I would like to ask is there a way to increase the number of portaloos at strategic important points where lots of people pass. (We know the stream of visitors).”
- 33.19 Councillor Mitchell replied, “This is something that can certainly be picked up in the debrief following the amazing Pride celebrations which actually saw 400,000 additional people coming into Brighton & Hove to enjoy the city and wonderful weather.”
- 33.20 Councillor Inkipin-Leissner asked the following supplementary question, “In the aftermath we saw something that is not nice during Pride, the amounts of rubbish laying around everywhere. Obviously we can’t educate all the visitors but I am very

sure the workers of City Clean did all they could to get rid of the rubbish as quickly as possible. But I think for the reputation of our City, especially as the next day is a Sunday and other visitors might come as well, it is important to have it cleaned up. Are there any more plans coming up to have more City Cleaners available to get rid of the rubbish as quickly as possible?"

- 33.21 Councillor Mitchell replied, "There was a huge clean up during and after Brighton Pride and Cityclean were closely involved in the pre-event planning. This included Communications messaging to encourage people, planning to attend Pride, to enjoy themselves but help keep our City clean. An additional 30 employees worked to ensure that we could meet the demand placed on the City as far as possible. The 400,000 visitors and party goers, in addition to tourists already here, enjoying the good weather plus the school holidays all added to the challenge. Additional bins were placed along the route, in parks and on the seafront and beaches, but the sheer volume of rubbish dumped by people who could not be bothered to use a bin or to take it home with them, did mean that some areas took more time to clear than we would have liked. Given the amount of waste collected and the numbers in the city that weekend our staff did an excellent job and have rightly received public praise. But, as I said to you earlier, there is always a debrief and we look at we could do better."

(6) Councillor Nemeth - *Train Cancellations*

- 33.22 Councillor Nemeth asked the following question, "Given the missed opportunity by the Administration to effectively lobby on behalf of the local tourism and hospitality sector for mitigating measures prior to the announcement of 34 days of closure of the Brighton main line over, what should be, busy weekends for businesses. What exactly is the Council doing to ensure that visitors to Brighton have information about easy access during these times. Significant resources were mentioned by Councillor Robins during TDC Committee but all that is evident so far are posters advertising line closures."
- 33.23 Councillor Robins replied, "The Brighton Main Line rail improvement project is a key part of a £300m government-funded programme to tackle delay hotspots and boost the reliability of the railway in the south east. The work currently being carried out will cut delays and provide a better, more reliable rail service to the 300,000 passengers who travel on the Brighton Main Line each day. The work includes upgrades to track, signalling and tunnel drainage which will lead to fewer delays owing to equipment faults or problems caused by flooding inside the Victorian tunnels.

It is recognised that this work is essential for the long term sustainability of rail travel to the City, however during the days affected it is also recognised that there will be impacts to the City during the days of rail disruption. An action plan has been developed, the plan aims to mitigate the effects of planned rail closures, endeavouring to optimise visitor numbers during the period and minimising impacts on tourism related businesses.

The objectives of the plan are to;

- Maximise the use of communications channels to optimise visitor numbers.

- To engage with stakeholders and partners and ensure that messaging is cohesive and collaborative
- To keep key stakeholders fully informed of developments.
- To lobby for improved services for passengers.

In conjunction with this Action Plan, VisitBrighton have instigated the 'Breeze to Brighton' marketing campaign which promotes travel East and West of the City during the periods affected by the rail disruption. I would also add that I recently held a meeting with City Tourism businesses at the offices of Peter Kyle MP where the concerns of the industry were heard and discussed, from this Peter Kyle MP has been asked to take the concerns of the industry and lobby the Secretary for Transport for additional support during the periods of disruption.

From that meeting it was highlighted that the sector was looking for support from Network Rail and GOVIA, in terms of promoting East / West travel to the City, to help mitigate the impacts of travel from the London to Brighton. Currently National Rail and GOVIA are offering the following promotional opportunities:

National Rail will:

- amplify visit Brighton social media messaging from Brighton Mainline Twitter, Thames twitter and Southeast groups.
- facilitate press trips for social media promoter Geoff Marshall.
- support promotions for Brighton Stake holders special offers.
- place shopping, eating and drinking guides on rail replacement buses and on closure information boards at the rail station and put adverts in the October/January and editions of Business Edge published by the Brighton & Hove Chamber of Commerce and the equivalent publications in the Adur and Worthing Chamber

GOVIA will:

- rank VisitBrighton Shopping, eating, drinking guides in the East West coast stations.
- Govia are offering free advertising panels at 6 key East/West coast stations.. They will conduct a 'Thank You' campaign in May to include promotions from stakeholders.

They have also asked if there is any official marketing support that could be levadged at higher level from within National Rail and GOVIA as it is perceived that what they are currently offering is fairly minimal.

We have also asked for them to promote the City outside the disruption days with promotions and marketing supporting travel from London to Brighton. Finally we have asked Peter Kyle to lobby the Secretary of State for Transport in terms of reducing the fare from Victoria to be more in line with that of other London Stations, such as Blackfriars and London Bridge, our understanding is that GOVIA have no influence in setting the cost of travel as this is set by the Department of Transport and what we have found is that it is often twice the price to travel from Victoria than other London

Stations. We would ask if it is possible for some reduction in fare during the disruption periods and for a 2 year period after to restore confidence in travel to the City.”

33.24 Councillor Nemeth asked the following supplementary question, “If the principle of resources for measures to say ‘That we are open for business’ is agreed, what resources are envisaged to encourage motorists to keep coming during Valley Gardens works?”

33.25 Councillor Robins replied, “No”

(7) Councillor Gibson - *New Affordable Housing*

33.26 Councillor Gibson asked the following question, “I appreciate the answer that I have had for a previous question about the number of affordable homes achieved in the City in the first 3 years of Labour which, according to my calculations amount to 89 new homes a year compared to 127 under the previous Green Administration. How many new council houses do you expect to achieve in your last year 2019?”

33.27 Councillor Meadows replied, “As Councillor Gibson has had so many briefings on this he probably knows the answer and I don’t to date, but I can tell you that we are planning 570 new homes from the 3 sites with the Living Wage. We have ‘Hidden Homes Program’ with a potential to deliver another 36 units, we have our Home Purchase policy which, so far, has delivered us 6 but we are hoping to escalate that. We have 12 additional units to be provided at Oxford Street, 15 units with the Property Purchase from Orbit and we have 2 further with Co-op Bunker, 96 homes that were being delivered by registered providers. There are lots of homes of all types and tenure being delivered in the City.”

33.28 Councillor Gibson asked the following supplementary question, “Clearly the answer didn’t relate particularly to my question as I asked, very specifically, about the last year of the administration and I appreciate that I can be provided with a written answer and I could probably calculate it. The reasons that I asked about the last year and council houses is because of this document that was presented to the voters before the last election and, when we get the answer to the number of council houses that are going to be produced, it will be interesting to compare it with this document because this is Labour’s contract with Brighton & Hove to tackle the City’s housing crisis aiming to build at least 500 council houses every year.

Given that I know, and Councillor Meadows knows, that we are not going to go anywhere near 500 council houses by 2019 is this the reason why in a recent tv interview you said that you won’t be voting Labour next time around?”

33.29 Councillor Meadows replied, “It is a shame that he seems to have got hold of the wrong Labour Manifesto Pledge because it was 500 units over 4 years. However we may have delivered that, if the Green administration had stopped playing their party games. Unless we have their support, as a minority Administration, that could never happen and if we don’t deliver it is their fault.”

(8) Councillor Mears - *HRA Cap*

- 33.30 Councillor Mears asked the following question, “Following on from the Government’s recent announcement for the removal of the Housing Revenue cap, as a matter of policy, will the Council be looking at all general funds sites coming forward for the joint venture to be offered to the HRA first?”
- 33.31 Councillor Meadows replied, “I would be happy to agree to that.”
- 33.32 Councillor Mears asked the following supplementary question, “Will the Council’s policy support housing regeneration to deliver council housing who cannot afford to buy even shared ownership when renting in the private sector is too expensive, and we are due to get an announcement on 29 October with a date when the Cap will be removed?”
- 33.33 Councillor Meadows replied, “I do hope that the Government scrap the Cap because it will allow us to build even more of those affordable homes that the Greens don’t like us to build and then complain about it. I really feel that it is important that the officers have spent 6 months putting a case together to put in a bid for £80 million for affordable homes to be built in the City if they relax the Cap a little. But if they scrap the Cap we can go ahead, providing I have the Green support because that is always the worry.”

(9) Councillor Page - Housing at Brighton General Hospital

- 33.34 Councillor Page asked the following question, “We unanimously supported a proposal at the last Council for truly affordable housing on the Brighton General Hospital site with the redevelopment. We have not received a reply to our CE letter dated 1 August from the NHS Trust. What representations or actions have the administration made or taken through the City Wide Forums on this matter before it is too late for the wholesale sell off of this public asset for the highest bidder?”
- 33.35 Councillor Yates replied, “This question almost relates to Council policy and I note comes from his very best determination to look after residents in Hanover, Elm Grove and elsewhere in the city. I can advise that the process by which the NHS Trust may be able to answer the question that was sent is well underway. He will know that the overall brief has been consulted on. They had over 700 representations to their engagement from patients about the changes that they were planning around that site usage and I think 200 from staff as well. In June 2018 there were 22 community meetings across much of East Brighton that were arranged and I know that the business case itself is now nearing completion and is due for submission to the Sussex Community Foundation Trust Board in October. That approval is also required by Trust regulators in NHS improvement and it may well require approval from both the Department of Health and from the Treasury.

That is not the answer to the question that Cllr Page wants – ‘What have we the Council been doing?’ We have been working alongside the Community Trust, my answer above was part of the ‘One Public Estate Report’ that went to the Brighton Greater Economic Board only this week, because the site is identified as part of the One Public Estate Programme. Officers met with representatives in August and are working very hard to support the Trust to be able to identify what its needs are for the future use of that site and to make sure it brings to us the greater benefits that are a potential for the city. I have also recommended that there should be consideration on that site by the joint venture because it is a great opportunity site to increase the

amount of affordable housing that is delivered through that site and we are going to expect them, whatever happens, to be working and meeting the requirements of the City Plan Part 1 in terms of achieving decent housing density in terms of the heritage and the listed buildings on site and have also been working alongside them as part of developing a 'Planning Performance Agreement' (PPA) to manage that complex and interplaying planning issues. Officers are working on redevelopment, to protect the heritage, to put in place PPA so that we can demonstrate that we are getting the maximum value delivered out of this important NHS site, not just for the NHS buildings that are being developed for the future but also for the housing requirements of this city for the future."

33.36 Councillor Page asked the following supplementary question, "It is good to hear that something is going on in the One Public Estate Programme, I think that Labour party policy is to resist further privatisation of the NHS. Is he confident that the wish of the spirit of our motion last meeting, which is truly affordable housing, housing for key workers, NHS workers, even possibly extra care housing, NHS Trust is going to respond to that or are they just going to sell it off to the highest bidder?"

33.37 Councillor Yates replied, "I am confident that we are going to really try, I mentioned that a number of the people that are going to have to approve this business case are not under my control. Unfortunately they are under the control of Conservative Government and they may well decide not to provide sufficient funding, to not support the business case in the right way, to enable the right amount of public sector and affordable housing to be delivered. I don't have control of that the Conservatives have control of that, Theresa May could call a general election, then I would be far more confident about what Labour could deliver."

33.38 The Mayor noted that the 30 minute period for Members' oral question had been reached and therefore the remaining 4 questions listed in the agenda and detailed below, would not be taken and would be carried over to the next council meeting in December:

(10) Councillor Barnett - *Rough Sleepers*

(11) Councillor Littman - *Pride Festival*

(12) Councillor Bell - *Women Suffrage*

(13) Councillor Sykes - *Waterloo Street Community Garden.*

OPTIONS FOR FUTURE DELIVERY OF HOUSING REPAIRS PLANNED MAINTENANCE AND CAPITAL WORKS

Report Referred for Information

33.39 Councillor Mears stated the report had been referred for information to ensure that all Members were aware of the decision taken at the Policy, Resources & Growth Committee. The Labour and Green Groups had refused to refer the matter to full Council for decision and the decision taken at committee had implications for tenants. The original contract had started well as outlined in the report to committee in 2010 but it had then been badly managed during 2011-2015. She believed that unless the new contract had clear management responsibilities and control it would not provide for tenants expectations.

- 33.40 Councillor Gibson stated that the recommendations approved at committee brought the responsive repairs and empty homes programme in-house which had to be beneficial. He stated that price was not the only factor that had to be considered, there was also a need to value the workforce and provide better security and conditions. He believed that management control was crucial and having services in-house would avoid costly disputes and noted that the repairs contractor at Wealden at gone bust. He also felt that the service could be improved by being in-house and that would see increased tenant satisfaction. The right decision was taken at the committee meeting.
- 33.41 Councillor Yates stated that he wanted to thank everyone involved in bringing the report to the committee and the decision taken at the committee meeting. It had given a level of certainty for tenants and he wanted to thank Councillor Meadows for all her hard work and direction to deliver the decision. He noted that he had previously been a councillor for another authority which had a DSO and lost the repairs service, but fortunately it had been picked up by the in-house service and delivered. He accepted that no service was perfect but with an in-house provision, the council can ensure that highest level of training and support could be provided. He also hoped that all councillors had confidence in the decision-making of colleagues at committee.
- 33.42 The Mayor noted that the report had been referred for information and moved that it be noted.

33.43 **RESOLVED:** That the report be noted.

34 THE FOLLOWING NOTICES OF MOTION HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED BY MEMBERS FOR CONSIDERATION:

(1) IHRA Definition for Anti-Semitism

35.16 Note: The Notice of Motion was considered earlier in the meeting and is detailed under Item 27 of the minutes.

(2) Hate Crimes

35.17 The joint Notice of Motion as listed in the agenda was proposed by Councillor Daniel on behalf of the Labour & Co-operative and Green Groups. Councillor Mac Cafferty formally seconded the motion.

35.18 The Mayor then put the following motion to the vote:

“This council deplores the negative long term impacts of hate crime across the world, our communities and our city. We also recognise the complex range of hate crimes which are currently addressed by strong joint working within the Community Safety Partnership.

This council calls on the Chief Executive to write to the Community Safety Partnership asking that they consider producing a glossary of terms or definitions which may help all those directly or indirectly affected by, or working to combat, hate crime.”

- 35.19 The Mayor confirmed that the motion had been carried by 28 votes to 10 with 4 abstentions.

(3) Grasscrete

- 35.20 The Notice of Motion as listed in the agenda was proposed by Councillor Bell on behalf of the Conservative Group and seconded by Councillor Barnett.
- 35.21 Councillor Littman moved an amendment on behalf of the Green Group which was seconded by Councillor Knight.
- 35.22 The Mayor noted that the amendment had been accepted by Councillor Bell and put the following motion to the vote:

“This Council notes that grass verges add to the aesthetic appeal of numerous neighbourhoods in the city, as well as performing an important role for the city’s ecology.

This Council calls on the Chief Executive to bring a report to Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee to consider; measures that will reduce damage done by vehicles in roadside verges across the city where off road parking is limited. These measures must be considered both environmentally sustainable and hard-wearing in the long term.

This Council also calls on the Chief Executive to write to the Secretary of State, requesting that Brighton & Hove be afforded those powers granted to London Boroughs under the Greater London (General Purposes) Act that prohibit pavement and verge parking.

- 35.23 The Mayor confirmed that the motion as amended had been carried unanimously.
- 35.24 The Mayor noted that the Council meeting had been in session for four hours and in accordance with procedural rule 17 she was obliged to put a closure motion to the vote.
- 35.25 The Mayor put the motion to end the meeting to a vote and confirmed that it had been lost by 17 votes to 20; and therefore she would move to the next item on the agenda.

(4) Licence and Insurance Regulations for Delivery Drivers

- 35.26 The Notice of Motion as listed in the agenda was proposed by Councillor Lewry on behalf of the Conservative Group and seconded by Councillor Miller.
- 35.27 Councillor Mitchell moved an amendment on behalf of the Labour & Co-operative Group which was seconded by Councillor Horan.
- 35.28 The Mayor noted that the amendment had been accepted by Councillor Lewry and put the following motion to the vote:

“This Council resolves to request a report be presented to Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee detailing the current regulations governing the use of L-plated motorised scooters for commercial activities, where the police not the council is the enforcing authority. This report could explore whether there is any further action to ensure commercial businesses are acting within the law and with corporate responsibility that the Council and other Authorities can take.”

35.29 The Mayor confirmed that the motion as amended had been carried unanimously.

(5) Fracking and Exploratory Drilling

35.30 The Notice of Motion as listed in the agenda was proposed by Councillor Mac Cafferty on behalf of the Green Group and seconded by Councillor Littman.

35.31 The Mayor then put the following motion to the vote:

This Council notes with concern:

Government proposals to allow the exploration phase of hydraulic fracturing (fracking) by letting companies drill without applying for planning permission,

- the proposed reclassification of drilling as ‘Permitted Development’ (PD) - rights designed for home improvements, not major drilling infrastructure,
- proposals will bring the production phase of fracking under Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIP), to be decided centrally by government and the Planning Inspectorate;
- the dangerous precedent that taking decisions away from local planning authorities would constitute, as it takes planning decisions away from our city’s communities.

This Council agrees that Councillors and communities represented in local plans should retain democratic control of local mineral and fossil fuel development.

This Council therefore requests that the Chief Executive:

- (1) Responds to the government consultation, and in writing to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government:
 - expresses concern for so-called ‘fast-track’ fracking permissions for onshore shale gas operations;
 - reaffirms Brighton and Hove City Council’s opposition to fracking;
 - rejects the changes proposed for PD and NSIP as inappropriate, as such proposals will undermine local democracy and accountability; and
 - with the view that local Minerals Planning Authorities retain local control and primacy for all planning decisions at all stages for all types of oil and gas exploration.
- (2) Writes to the city’s three MPs, asking them to object to the proposals.

35.32 The Mayor confirmed that the motion had been carried by 23 votes to 17 with no abstentions.

(6) Brighton and Hove Brexit Update

35.33 Note: The Notice of Motion was taken earlier in the meeting as part of the debate under Item 31(2) and is detailed in the minutes under Item 31.

35 CLOSE OF MEETING

36.1 The Mayor thanked everyone for attending the meeting and closed the meeting.

The meeting concluded at 9.25pm

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of

2018