

NOTICE OF MOTION**CONSERVATIVE GROUP AMENDMENT****SUPPORT APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMMES IN BRIGHTON AND HOVE**

Insert text in bold italics and delete text crossed out:

~~“The number of people completing apprenticeships in England has risen from 50,000 to 112,000 in the last 4 years, due to the Government’s rapid expansion of apprenticeships.~~

~~Brighton and Hove has seen some of the biggest increases in the numbers of completed apprenticeships in the country. Apprenticeships in Hove alone have increased by over 500%.~~

Nationally, over 130,000 employers now offer apprenticeships across 80 different industry sectors including retail, manufacturing and the public sector and it is widely recognised that apprenticeships offer a valuable and worthwhile contribution to business, especially during an economic downturn.

This Council notes

- £140m has been made available to fund a further 35,000 apprenticeship places in 2009/10 with 21,000 of these will be in the public sector, across the country.
- Local Authorities like Kent CC, London Borough of Barking and Dagenham and Warwickshire have benefitted from apprenticeships.
- The Government is supporting a construction clearing house to help keep apprentices who fear losing their jobs employed and in training.

This Council actively supports the possible advantages and benefits of entering in to an apprenticeship programme. ***In October 2008, the Council’s Apprenticeship Programme was moved to the Local Employment & Opportunities Team and since then, 21 new apprenticeships have been created in the authority. This represents a significant expansion of the Council’s programme. Furthermore, a dedicated Apprenticeship Officer was employed in January 2009, and in February 2009 the first citywide apprenticeship strategy event was held bringing together local stakeholders.***

~~This Council requests that the Acting Chief Executive complete the online enquiry form at <https://apprenticeships.broadsystem.com/EmployerEnquiryForm.aspx> to get free information and advice on how the council could benefit more from apprenticeships and how best to promote apprenticeships across the city, amongst local businesses.~~

This Council requests that Cabinet members consider the following;

- ***Continuing the current programme of work to develop the Council's Apprenticeship Programme and Local Employment Partnership still further and updating the Secretary of State for Innovation, Universities and Skills on our progress in this regard.***
- Using the Council's positive influence on more local businesses to encourage the take up of apprenticeship schemes.
- Providing citywide information on the council's website about apprenticeships available in Brighton and Hove.
- ~~Expanding its own apprenticeship programme within the Council and increasing the numbers of apprentices within the Local Authority."~~

Proposed by Cllr Ayas Fallon-Khan

Seconded by Cllr Ted Kemble