

**NOTICE OF MOTION
GREEN GROUP****OUR SERVICES, OUR SAY**

This Council requests that the Leader of the Council:

1. Write to the We Own It campaign to express our support for their 'Our Services, Our Say' campaign;
2. Write a statement, to be made available through both the Council's and the We Own It websites; explaining what the Council is doing in practical terms to support and protect the principles of transparency, accountability, and people before profit; and
3. Write to the Cabinet Office to propose that the FOI regime be extended to cover contracts with private providers, including the scope for an FOI provision to be included in standard contract terms.

Proposed by: Cllr Littman

Seconded by: Cllr Sykes

Supported by the Green Group

Supporting information

1. The 'Our Services, Our Say' campaign by 'We Own It.' (<https://weownit.org.uk/about-us>)
2. Private companies are not held democratically accountable to the public, and that public trust in outsourcing to private companies is low (<https://weownit.org.uk/privatisation-doesn%E2%80%99t-work/whats-problem-outsourcing-companies>)
3. Freedom of Information (FOI) legislation does not apply to private providers. This provides an uneven playing-field and lack of transparency.
4. All public service providers must be accountable to their service-users and the wider public and this should be acknowledged in regard to the the importance of implementing the Brighton and Hove Social Value Framework: ([https://present.brighton-hove.gov.uk/Published/C00000912/M00006397/AI00051935/\\$20160713113212_009343_0038669_BrightonandHoveSocialValueFramework.docx.pdf](https://present.brighton-hove.gov.uk/Published/C00000912/M00006397/AI00051935/$20160713113212_009343_0038669_BrightonandHoveSocialValueFramework.docx.pdf))
5. The needs of people, and the quality of service, not the profit motive, must be the overriding priorities in public service delivery. It is acknowledged that in-house or third sector provision often provide better value for money and more flexibility at times of severe budget cuts, where outsourcing to private providers often fails to deliver savings or service improvements.

