POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 126 (d)

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject: Items referred from the Council meeting held on

the 30 January 2020

Madeira Terrace – Notice of Motion Fuel Poverty – Notice of Motion

Date of Meeting: 13 February 2020

Report of: Executive Lead Officer for Strategy, Governance

& Law

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Wards Affected: All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

1.1 To receive the following Notices of Motion which were debated at and referred from the full Council meeting held on the 30 January 2020.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the Committee responds to the motion concerning Madeira Terrace either by noting it or where it is considered more appropriate, calls for an officer report on the matter as requested, which may give consideration to a range of options; and
- 2.2 That the Committee responds to the motion concerning Fuel Poverty either by noting it or where it is considered more appropriate, calls for an officer report on the matter as requested, which may give consideration to a range of options.

3. CONTEXT / BACKGROND INFORMATION

Madeira Terrace, Notice of Motion

3.1 To receive the following extract from the minutes of the full council meeting held on the 30 January 2020 setting out the motion and recommendation for the committee to consider as detailed below:

(3) Madeira Terrace

This Council resolves to request the Policy & Resources Committee:

- To call for a report to its meeting on the 19th March 2020 fully detailing all options available to the Council to ensure the full restoration of Madeira Terraces.
- For this report to make specific reference to the delivery of the three crowdfunded arches as well as exploration of proposals for the restoration of the remaining arches from external organisations.

• For this report to also explore the viability of joint public and private investment for the Committee's consideration.

Fuel Poverty, Notice of Motion

3.2 To receive the following extract from the minutes of the full council meeting held on the 30 January 2020 setting out the motion and recommendation for the committee to consider as detailed below:

(6) Fuel Poverty

This council resolves to request the Policy & Resources Committee to call for a report to a future meeting of the committee detailing a strategy to alleviate fuel poverty in the City of Brighton & Hove by 2030 and that the report includes proposals on:

- 1) Improving energy efficiency of Council / housing association housing stock;
- 2) Better enforcement of existing regulations on energy efficiency and property standards:
- 3) Publishing a statement of intent to access Energy Company Obligation funding via LA Flex;
- 4) Continuing the ongoing work to switch council properties over to the Your Energy Sussex scheme that ensures new tenants have access to cheaper energy tariffs, and resolving to continue exchanging pre-payment meters with credited smart meters, and offering this option to tenants;
- 5) Improving tenants' rights;
- 6) Providing information advice and guidance to those most in need;
- 7) Becoming a member of the End Fuel Poverty Coalition.
- 3.3 The extracts relating to the two motions above from the full Council meeting are detailed below:

COUNCIL

4.30pm 24 OCTOBER 2019

HOVE TOWN HALL - COUNCIL CHAMBER

MINUTES

Present: Councillors Phillips (Chair), Robins (Deputy Chair), Simson, Allcock, Appich, Atkinson, Bagaeen, Barnett, Bell, Brennan, Brown, Childs, Clare, Davis, Deane, Druitt, Ebel, Evans, Fishleigh, Fowler, Gibson, Grimshaw, Hamilton, Heley, Henry, Hill, Hills, Hugh-Jones, Janio, Knight, Littman, Lloyd, Mac Cafferty, Mears, McNair, Moonan, Nemeth, Nield, O'Quinn, Osborne, Peltzer Dunn, Pissaridou, Platts, Powell, Rainey, Shanks, C Theobald, Wares, West, Wilkinson, Williams and Yates.

PART ONE

72. NOTICES OF MOTION

(3) MADEIRA TERRACE

- 72.1 The Notice of Motion as listed in the agenda was proposed by Councillor Mears on behalf of the Conservative Group. Councillor Mears noted various attempts had been made to raise the funds required to enable the restoration of the terraces but stated that time was running out and action needed to be taken before it was too late. She believed that the council should look at its own assets and determine whether there was an opportunity to sell any and use the receipts to help fund the restoration of Madeira Terrace. The council had a responsibility as the custodians to maintain and protect the city's heritage.
- 72.2 Councillor Nemeth formally seconded the motion and stated that there was a need to review the assets held by the council, and to find a solution to enable the full restoration of Madeira Terrace.
- 72.3 Councillor Rainey moved an amendment on behalf of the Green Group which was formally seconded by Councillor Mac Cafferty.
- 72.4 Councillor Platts moved an amendment on behalf of the Labour Group which was formally seconded by Councillor Robins.
- 72.5 Councillors Janio, Fishleigh, Simson Bagaeen, Gibson, Peltzer Dunn, Hamilton, Littman and Yates spoke on the motion and the amendments and expressed their support for the restoration of Madeira Terrace and the need to ensure that the necessary funding could be secured to enable a restoration programme to be agreed.
- 72.6 Councillor Mears thanked everyone for their comments and the support for the aims of the motion. She stated that she was happy to accept the amendment from the Green Group but not the amendment from the Labour Group.
- 72.7 The Mayor noted that the Green Group amendment had been accepted, but that the Labour Group amendment had not and therefore put the Labour amendment to the revised motion to the vote, which was carried.
- 72.8 The Mayor then put the following motion to the vote:

This Council resolves to request the Policy & Resources Committee:

- To call for a report to its meeting on the 19th March 2020 fully detailing all options available to the Council to ensure the full restoration of Madeira Terraces.
- For this report to make specific reference to the delivery of the three crowdfunded arches as well as exploration of proposals for the restoration of the remaining arches from external organisations.

- For this report to also explore the viability of joint public and private investment for the Committee's consideration.
- 72.9 The Mayor confirmed that the motion had been carried unanimously.

(6) FUEL POVERTY

- 72.10 The Notice of Motion as listed in the agenda was proposed by Councillor Platts on behalf of the Labour and Green Groups. Councillor Platts stated that the current council policy needed to be reviewed and noted that the issue cut across several services. She also noted that a number of councils and organisations had signed up to the coalition and hoped that council would agree to Brighton & Hove City Council joining.
- 72.11 Councillor Mac Cafferty formally seconded the motion and stated that people should not have to choose between heating their homes and providing food for their families. The council and the city should be able to provide affordable heating and noted that Nottingham supplied 5,000 homes with low cost renewable energy.
- 72.12 Councillors Mears, Janio, O'Quinn, Brennan, Williams, Grimshaw, Shanks and Bagaeen spoke on the motion and supported the need for a review of the policy.
- 72.13 Councillor Platts welcomed the comments and stated that there was a need to highlight the issue of fuel poverty and to seek the government's support to address the issue.
- 72.14 The Mayor put the following motion to the vote:

This council resolves to request the Policy & Resources Committee to call for a report to a future meeting of the committee detailing a strategy to alleviate fuel poverty in the City of Brighton & Hove by 2030 and that the report includes proposals on:

- 1) Improving energy efficiency of Council / housing association housing stock;
- 2) Better enforcement of existing regulations on energy efficiency and property standards;
- 3) Publishing a statement of intent to access Energy Company Obligation funding via LA Flex:
- 4) Continuing the ongoing work to switch council properties over to the Your Energy Sussex scheme that ensures new tenants have access to cheaper energy tariffs, and resolving to continue exchanging pre-payment meters with credited smart meters, and offering this option to tenants;
- 5) Improving tenants' rights:
- 6) Providing information advice and guidance to those most in need;
- 7) Becoming a member of the End Fuel Poverty Coalition.
- 72.15 The Mayor confirmed that the motion had been carried unanimously.