

NOTICE OF MOTION**GREEN GROUP AND LABOUR GROUP****SUPPORTING THE ANTI-HARRASSMENT CLUB**

That this council recognises the work of the local organisation the Anti-Harassment Club to bring to light more than 120 testimonies of gender-based street harassment in Brighton & Hove since June 2020. We call on all Councillors to express their support for this important local campaign group and its message;

This Notice of Motion therefore:

- Requests that the Chief Executive writes with urgency to Katy Bourne PCC, to request that, in line with a similar pilot undertaken by Nottinghamshire Police in 2016, that she commit to adopting a pilot 'misogyny as a hate crime' policy locally, in order to enable our city to:
 - collect the data necessary to understand and evaluate the prevalence and nature of public sexual harassment in our community;
 - utilise such data to understand the impact of this on our local community and how this can be addressed;
 - to establish work with partners to establish support for victims of public sexual harassment

And further requests that:

- the Chief Executive writes to the government to request that misogyny is made a hate crime in England and Wales as part of an overhaul of legislation, as recently recommended by the Law Commission.

Proposed by: Cllr Powell

Seconded by: Cllr Grimshaw

Supporting information:

The Anti-Harassment Club is an activist organisation based in the city. It is dedicated to combating, eradicating, and raising awareness of sexual and gender-based harassment in public spaces, thereby making the city's streets safer for everybody. In August 2020 the Argus reported that: *"Girls who are 12 years old onwards have had people approaching them taking pictures, up-skirting and committing sex acts at them on the beach."*

Following the pilot 'misogyny hate crime policy' in Nottinghamshire, research undertaken by the University of Nottingham and Nottingham Trent University has recommended national roll-out, a request also supported by the Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-nottinghamshire-44740362>

The Law Commission's consultation launched 23rd September 2020 has recommended that misogyny is added to the understanding of 'hate crime' in England and Wales: <https://www.lawcom.gov.uk/project/hate-crime/>

The next reading for misogyny as a hate crime is a Private Members' Bill in the House of Commons on 13th November 2020: <https://services.parliament.uk/bills/2019-21/hatecrimemisogyny.html>

