

Mr. John Barradell  
Chief Executive  
King's House  
Grand Avenue  
Hove  
BN3 2LS

**Date:** 9 December 2009  
**Our Ref:** WM/EB  
**Your Ref:**

9 DEC 2009

Dear John,

I am writing to express my concern about the future of youth provision in Whitehawk and to seek assurances from the city council and the Children and Young People's Trust over the location and continuity of services by the authority and voluntary sector providers in the area.

The Whitehawk Youth Centre shares the same site as Whitehawk Library, and both are due to be demolished in late 2011 following the completion of the Whitehawk Hub / Co-location Project. Along with the Crew Club, the Whitehawk Youth Centre is essential in providing services to improve health and well being, boost opportunities for training and employment, and reduce anti-social behaviour and teenage pregnancy rates.

In addition to the CYPT services offered at the Centre focussed primarily around targeted youth work, a range of other community activities take place there including Whitehawk After School Project outreach youth provision for under 12's, karate for children, boxing, line dancing, indoor bowling and children's parties in the soft play area. A number of voluntary sector groups such as Safety Net are tenants of long standing in the building and are very concerned about their future. I share their concerns.

I would like a clear commitment from the authority and the CYPT that they will begin work now with those staff and groups based at the Centre, and with the young people who use the services provided from that building, on where those services will be housed once the current building is demolished. I would seek assurances that options around the re-provision of space for these groups and services within any housing built on the site will be examined fully.

I remain concerned that funding for the Crew Club was apparently refused on the grounds that another "youth club" would form part of the Hub Project; this is clearly not the case. Clarity on these issues is vital if future youth provision in Whitehawk is not to be put at risk.

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The Whitehawk Hub Project should lead to increased partnership working and links between all statutory and voluntary organisations in the area, providing linked-up services to children and young people. I would like to see every effort made to reassure staff, voluntary sector groups, service users, young people and the broader community that the future of youth services in Whitehawk are secure and that there is no uncertainty around where and how these services are provided.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Warren Morgan" followed by a horizontal line.

**Councillor Warren Morgan**  
**Labour & Co-operative Member for East Brighton Ward**