

Brighton & Hove City Council

Council

Agenda Item 65

Subject: Keep the £2 Bus Fare Cap

Date of meeting: 19th December 2024

Proposer: Councillor Davis

Seconder: Councillor Earthey

Notice of Motion

Green Group & Brighton & Hove Independent Group

This council notes:

- 1) The significant benefit that the £2 bus fare cap has provided to residents, making public transport more accessible and affordable for many, especially those on lower incomes;
- 2) Accessible and affordable public transport is vital to achieving the city's carbon neutrality goals by 2030 and encouraging sustainable travel behaviours;
- 3) The removal of the cap is likely to disproportionately impact residents from poorer backgrounds, exacerbating social inequalities;
- 4) That the removal of the £2 bus cap is likely to reduce the total of number of people travelling by bus, having an impact on the income of local bus companies;
- 5) Ultimately the responsibility of funding the £2 bus cap in the long-term should lie with the national government.

Therefore, resolves to:

- 1) Request that a report is brought to a future Cabinet meeting which:
 - a. outlines the estimated cost of maintaining the £2 bus fare cap locally;
 - b. explores potential funding streams which could be utilised to support the subsidy, including the Carbon Neutral Fund and the Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP).
- 2) Request that the Cabinet Member for Transport meet with local bus companies to discuss how we could work together to keep the £2 bus fare cap, at the lowest possible cost to the Council;
- 3) Request that the Leader of the Council writes to the government, expressing our disappointment at the removal of the £2 bus fare cap, and asking them to reverse their decision.

