

Brighton & Hove City Council

Council

Agenda Item 46d

Subject: Inequality and Life Outcomes in Brighton & Hove

Date of meeting: 13 October 2025

Proposer: Councillor Taylor

Seconder: Councillor Guilmant

Ward(s) affected: All

Notice of Motion

Labour Group

This council notes:

- 1) That the UK remains one of the most unequal countries in the developed world, with child poverty rising sharply under the previous government.¹
- 2) That inequality is particularly stark in Brighton & Hove, with a recent Sutton Trust report highlighting that parts of our city have some of the lowest social mobility in the country.²
- 3) The steps already taken locally to tackle inequality; creating a fairness fund to directly support residents; priority school admissions for those on Free School Meals; new school bus routes and free bus passes for Whitehawk families; free school meals for those educated at home.
- 4) Government's steps to alleviate child poverty including expanding eligibility for Free School Meals and signals that the former Coalition Government's two child benefit cap will be scrapped.
- 5) The welcome news from government of £20m for Whitehawk through the Pride in Place programme, with local residents directly shaping how funding will be invested.

This council resolves to:

- 1) Request the relevant Cabinet Member to consider a formal review of inequality in the city, and the impact it has on life chances; drawing on lived-experience, and welcoming input from residents and experts in a 'call for evidence'

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/tackling-child-poverty-developing-our-strategy/tackling-child-poverty-developing-our-strategy-html>

² <https://www.suttontrust.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/The-Opportunity-Index.pdf>

