

Brighton & Hove City Council

Council

Agenda Item 87

Subject: Co-Operative Housing

Date of meeting: 29 January 2026

Proposer: Cllr Goldsmith

Seconded: Cllr Lademacher

Ward(s) affected: All

Notice of Motion

Green Group Amendment

This Council notes:

- 1) That locally, nationally and internationally, co-operative housing schemes provide sustainable, genuinely affordable housing solutions that can help towards easing the homeless crisis as well as creating vibrant and cohesive communities.
- 2) That Brighton & Hove is home to a number of successful housing co-operative schemes, including Two Piers, Bunker Housing, Rosa Bridge and Seasalt.
- 3) That such schemes have historically been seen as a small scale, somewhat 'niche' form of housing in the UK, whereas in Zurich for example, 20% of all residents live in a co-op, and co-operative developments also include shops, nurseries, hotels, restaurants and workspaces.
- 4) That the current Government is working with the **Confederation of Co-operative Housing** and other sector stakeholders to legislate for a co-operative form of tenure putting such tenants on the same footing as other social housing tenants; amending the Localism Act to provide more support; and provide access to low-cost capital finance for co-operative organisations currently priced out of the market.
- 5) **That the council is currently disposing of a significant number of assets, some of which may be suitable for co-operative housing**

This Council Resolves to:

- 1) Request that Place Overview & Scrutiny Committee considers setting up a Task & Finish Group to make recommendations on how BHCC can:
 - a. Actively raise the profile of and seek to grow the co-operative housing sector through promoting the benefits to residents and through City Plan.
 - b. Engage with other councils regarding best practise and government regarding the legislative picture.
 - c. Develop a practical strategy to remove barriers and facilitate new affordable, community-led co-ops in the city.

- 2) Requests that any current or future council-owned buildings due to be disposed of are assessed for their suitability to become co-operative housing and, where they are, work with local groups to help enact this where possible

Recommendations to read if carried:

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