

Brighton & Hove City Council

Council

Agenda Item 30

Subject: Resisting Hostile Immigration Policies

Date of meeting: 23 July 2026

Proposer: Councillor Barton Ahmad

Seconder: Councillor Goldsmith

Ward(s) affected: All

Notice of Motion

Green Group

This Council notes:

1. The current government's immigration strategy, which represents a regressive and callous shift that targets vulnerable refugees and asylum seekers, many of whom are fleeing war, persecution and climate destruction.
2. The recent counter-protests, which demonstrate that the vast majority of our city reject the far-right hate that drives these hostile immigration policies.
3. Brighton and Hove's longstanding status as a City of Sanctuary, recently recognised by the Council of Sanctuary award.

This Council resolves to:

1. Officially condemn the increase in immigration raids and the regressive settlement and asset-seizure policies put forward by the current Government, which can function as a form of State intimidation, dividing communities and instilling fear amongst our residents.
2. Request a report to Cabinet which:
 - a. outlines the council's legal obligations when it comes to immigration enforcement;
 - b. explores situations in which the Council can legally refuse to provide assistance to the Home Office or Immigration Enforcement teams - including via Council licensing and environmental health - to avoid council resources being used to facilitate raids wherever possible;
 - c. outlines any data-sharing or service agreements with the Home Office that are in place, reviewing them wherever legally possible to reduce our complicity in creating a digital hostile environment and creating a clear firewall around Council services where this is in line with the Council's legal obligations; and
 - d. considers partnership working with organisations like Voices in Exile and local anti-raids groups to support migrant businesses and those targeted by raids to ensure they are aware of their legal rights in relation to immigration enforcement and raids.

Supporting Information:

[Immigration raids - Guide for local councillors](#)

