

Brighton & Hove City Council

Council

Agenda Item 31

Subject: Net Zero & Climate Adaptation in Brighton & Hove

Date of meeting: 23 July 2026

Proposer: Councillor Rowkins

Seconded: Councillor Guilman

Ward(s) affected: All

Notice of Motion

Labour Group

This Council notes:

- 1) The work undertaken to accelerate the city's progress to Net Zero, including large scale rooftop solar generation, nation-leading EV charging, the development of a Strategic Energy Partnership to fund and deliver the decarbonisation project pipeline.
- 2) That city's leadership in the establishment of Sussex Energy to achieve zero carbon energy for the whole of Sussex by 2040 and the importance of this work continuing.
- 3) That the UK recently recorded its hottest June day on record, with temperatures reaching 37.3°C, and that heatwaves are becoming more frequent, longer-lasting and more intense as a result of climate change
- 4) That climate change is already affecting residents in Brighton & Hove through overheating, pressure on health and care services, disruption to transport and public services, impacts on schools and workplaces, and increased risks to vulnerable people.
- 5) The work done to date on climate adaptation, including the Climate Risk & Vulnerability Assessment and the Climate and Nature Action Plan.

This Council resolves to:

- 1) Request officers to explore creating and maintaining a publicly accessible "Cool Spaces" map, identifying libraries, community hubs, parks, public buildings and other locations where residents can find respite during periods of extreme heat;
- 2) Requests officers to review actions from the Climate Risk & Vulnerability Assessment and Climate & Nature Action Plan and consider whether a standalone action plan focused on increasing resilience to heat is required;
- 3) Request officers to explore the establishment of a Heatwave Partnership, bringing together the council, NHS, universities, schools, housing providers, emergency services, community groups and businesses to coordinate preparedness and response.

