

Council	Agenda Item 94(f)
24 March 2011	Brighton & Hove City Council

NOTICE OF MOTION

GREEN GROUP

REDUCING THE EFFECTS OF ALCOHOL ABUSE ON THE CITY

“This council expresses its concern about alcohol consumption in Brighton and Hove, its cost to the local economy and its damaging effect on the well-being of the local community.

It notes that:

- The number of licensed premises in the city increased from 1099 in 2006 to 1427 in 2010, an increase of nearly 50 per cent, following the introduction of the Licensing Act 2003; ⁽¹⁾
- 45 per cent of all crime in the city is fuelled by alcohol ⁽²⁾ including crimes of violence, among them domestic violence;
- The city has almost double the regional rate of alcohol related crime;
- The annual financial cost to the city is estimated at more than £106 million;
- 57 per cent of adults in the city are estimated to be hazardous or harmful drinkers;
- Many of those at highest risk live in deprived areas;
- 13 per cent of all 10-15 year-olds reported being drunk at least once.

Locally, this council welcomes the work in hand by the council to address the problems associated with alcohol consumption in the city. However, it deplores the ineffectual ‘Responsibility Deal’ introduced by the Government, which depends on self-regulation through voluntary agreements on issues such as promotions and labeling.

It therefore:

- (1) Joins the British Medical Association, The Royal College of Surgeons, The British Liver Trust, Alcohol Concern, the Institute of Alcohol Studies and the Royal College of Physicians in condemning the ‘Responsibility Deal’;
- (2) Calls on the Chief Executive to write to the Government on behalf of the city council urging it to:
 - Produce a coherent and comprehensive strategy to deal with alcohol calling on the expertise of health professionals and others;
 - Engage with the drinks industry, *after the strategy is produced*, to establish what contribution it can make to implementing the strategy.”

Proposed by: Cllr Bill Randall

Seconded by: Cllr Ben Duncan

Supported by: Cllrs Kennedy, Wrighton, Wakefield-Jarrett, Steedman, West, Kitcat, Fryer, Deane, Davey, Rufus and Phillips.

- (1) All figures from Brighton and Hove City Council except
- (2) a Sussex Police Authority figure.