

<b>Council</b>	<b>Agenda Item 51(c)</b>
15 December 2011	Brighton & Hove City Council

## NOTICE OF MOTION

### LABOUR & CO-OPERATIVE GROUP

#### DROP THE BILL

“The Coalition: Our Programme for Government”, promised:

- a) “that health spending increases in real terms in each year of the Parliament”; and,
- b) to, “stop the top down reorganisation of the NHS”.

However, this council notes that just over one year later:

- a) the NHS has been cut in real terms by £800 million; and,
- b) the Health and Social Care Bill includes the biggest reorganisation in the history of the NHS, at a cost of £2 billion.

Moreover, this council is concerned that the Health and Social Care Bill risks:

1. breaking up the NHS and creating an unfair postcode lottery with no national standards;
2. increasing waiting times and a two-tier NHS as it scraps the cap on hospitals treating private patients at the same time as watering down guarantees on NHS waiting times;
3. turning the NHS into a full-blown commercial market, putting competition before patient care, allowing private companies to cherry-pick quick profits;
4. undermining the bond of trust between doctors and patients as it creates conflicts of interest where financial incentives could interfere with medical decisions;
5. wasting money and creating bureaucracy in spending £2 billion on a re-organisation at the same time as asking the NHS to find £20 billion worth of efficiency savings.

Patients in Brighton & Hove are already starting to see the NHS going backwards, with more local people having to wait longer for vital tests- for example, over 2,000 local people waited over six weeks for hospital cancer tests after being referred by their GP, compared to just over 100 patients facing similar delays last year.

Furthermore, many thousands of people have already called on the Government to stop, including 1,500 local people who recently signed a local petition to ‘Save the NHS’ and this council fully supports city residents in this campaign.

For the reasons outlined above, this council believes that this Government should drop the Health and Social Care Bill.

Therefore this council resolves to:

1. Write directly to the Prime Minister and the Health Secretary urging them to drop the Health and Social Care Bill; and
2. Call on the Members of Parliament representing Brighton & Hove to actively oppose the Health and Social Care Bill in Parliament.

Proposed by: Cllr Warren Morgan

Seconded by: Cllr Mo Marsh

Supported by: Cllrs Gill Mitchell, Warren Morgan, Les Hamilton, Bob Carden, Brian Fitch, Jeane Lepper, Craig Turton, Mo Marsh, Leigh Farrow, Penny Gilbey, Ann Pissaridou, Alan Robins