

Council	Agenda Item 65(b)
26 January 2012	Brighton & Hove City Council

NOTICE OF MOTION

GREEN GROUP AMENDMENT

RAIL FARE RISES

Delete the wording in paragraph 5 as struck through and replace with the wording shown in bold italics below:

“This council notes with regret the recent rises of up to 11% on rail fares, and how this will impact on many of the 33,500 residents of Brighton and Hove who commute out of the city on a daily basis, many of them to London. Rises in the next two years could be up to 13%.

A Brighton to London season ticket on Southern has risen 7.76%, going up from £3,556 to £3,832, while some off-peak Brighton to London day returns have risen 10.18% to £24.90. A weekly First Capital Connect season ticket from Brighton to London has gone up from £77.60 to £80, and an annual ticket from £3,104 to £3,200 (3.1%).

This council believes that investment by the taxpayer in the rail network, whether the individual is a user of the rail system or not, is an essential part of encouraging the use of one of the more sustainable forms of transport, and that the cost of investment in the network should not be borne disproportionately by rail users.

This council further believes that the Government’s decision to side with the powerful private train operator lobby against commuter and passengers, for example by train companies more freedom to rig the system of fares, so that the busiest routes get biggest fare increases, shows they are desperately out of touch with the spiralling cost-of-living crisis facing so many hard-working families.

This council further believes that ~~a co-operatively owned rail network~~ **a publicly-owned and publicly-run rail network run for social, economic and environmental goals**, where passengers have a stake and a say in the transport they use, would be a better solution to the long term issues involved in promoting this form of transport.

This council asks the Chief Executive to write to the Secretary of State for Transport, asking her to review the application of the full increase in fares in the interests of the Brighton & Hove economy, and to consider limiting future rises to 1% above the rate of inflation, as supported by Transport Minister Norman Baker when in opposition.”

Proposed by: Cllr Ian Davey

Seconded by: Cllr Phelim MacCafferty

Supported by: Cllrs Buckley, Bowden, Deane, Duncan, Follett, Hawtree, Jarrett, Jones, A Kitcat, J Kitcat, Kennedy, Littman, Phillips, Powell, Randall, Rufus, Shanks, Summers, Sykes, Wakefield and West.