

Council	Agenda Item 91(d)
22 March 2012	Brighton & Hove City Council

NOTICE OF MOTION

LABOUR & CO-OPERATIVE GROUP

TENANTS WITH DISABILITIES AND THE BRIGHTON & HOVE STANDARD

“This council notes the Brighton and Hove Standard relating to the replacement of kitchens and bathrooms in council owned homes.

According to the policy the standard has a test to ensure the home is in a reasonable state of repair. A kitchen will fail this test if it is 30 years or older and in poor condition. A bathroom will fail this test if it is 40 years or older and in poor condition. Kitchens and bathrooms are considered as ‘other’ building components and one is allowed to fail and still meet the Decent Homes Standard. This means that two need to fail to have one replaced.

This council notes that the test is not made based on individual circumstance but only on the condition of the property. Whether the property has been adapted or not, if the bathroom passes decency then so does the property.

This council notes that the effect of this policy is to disqualify any tenant with disabilities or mobility issues who has had adaptations carried out to their bathroom by the council’s social care team from having their kitchen replaced, regardless of condition.

This council believes that this policy could therefore be judged to discriminate against tenants with disabilities or mobility issues, and requests that the Cabinet Member for Housing to consider asking officers to bring a report on this issue to the first meeting of the Housing Committee in the next municipal year.”

Proposed by: Cllr Leigh Farrow Seconded by: Cllr Warren Morgan

Supported by Cllrs: Mitchell, Marsh, Turton, Lepper, Pissaridou, Fitch, Gilbey, Robins, Carden, and Hamilton.

