

Council	Agenda Item 52(g)
29 January 2009	Brighton & Hove City Council

NOTICE OF MOTION

GREEN GROUP

RETAIL

“This Council gives its fullest support to Brighton and Hove’s unique, independent traders and wishes to ensure their long term viability.

This Council notes that:

- Brighton and Hove’s smaller, independent traders are central to the appeal of the city to visitors and residents alike, and thus central to the creation and retention of local jobs;
- The recession is making life particularly tough for these unique shops as people re-evaluate their spending and the Council has recently launched a Be Local, Buy Local campaign to support local traders;
- The Centre for Cities recently estimated that Brighton is likely to lose up to 7400 jobs in the period to 2011, with up to 40% of these coming from the retail and leisure sector;
- The very significant expansion of the city’s chainstore retail sector projected in the Council’s 2006 Retail Study, written at the height of the debt-fuelled boom, may be unrealistic and create further threats to the continued viability of our local, independent traders.

This Council therefore:

- Expresses its support for Brighton and Hove’s unique, independent retailers in these difficult financial circumstances;
- Requests that the Cabinet take a fresh look at the assumptions behind, and conclusions of, the present Retail Strategy (a key background document to the emerging Local Development Framework), to make certain that they are still sound.

Proposed by: Cllr Paul Steedman

Seconded by: Cllr Amy Kennedy

Supported by: Cllrs,

