

NOTICE OF MOTION**GREEN GROUP****END RIGHT TO BUY
AND OFFER HELP TO BUY PREFERENCE TO COUNCIL TENANTS**

In view of the pressing circumstances faced by the city, this council resolves to request the Chief Executive to write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government asking them to:

- (A) End the Right to Buy;
- (B) Top slice the Help to Buy budget to make help available to council tenants to buy homes on the open market, thus releasing their council homes for others in need, and to make extra help available to council tenants buying new homes for sale or shared ownership to support the building industry, creating jobs, apprenticeships and training - while not depleting the number of council homes.

Proposed by: Councillor Randall Seconded by: Councillor Hawtree

Supported by: Councillors Buckley, Bowden, Davey, Deane, Jarrett, Jones, Kennedy, A Kitcat, J Kitcat, Littman, Mac Cafferty, Phillips, Powell, Shanks, Rufus, Sykes, Wakefield and West.

Supporting information:

Brighton and Hove is in the middle of a perfect housing storm. Almost 20,000 households, many of them families with children, have their names on the housing register and are in need of decent and affordable homes. Street homelessness rises relentlessly and has, for example, doubled among under-25 year olds in our city in the past year.

Meanwhile, the council lets only about 600 homes a year. Home ownership and much private rented housing are beyond the pocket of those on low income households and, increasingly, those on middle incomes. Against this background the council sold 107 council homes in 2011/13, 76 in the second year of that period - and can use only about 25 % of the capital receipts received to build new homes.

