

NOTICE OF MOTION**MILLICENT FAWCETT & THE FAWCETT CHARTER**

“This Council notes that:

1. The Fawcett Society is the UK’s leading organisation promoting equality for women. It campaigns for women’s representation in politics and public life; equal pay and pensions, and the fair treatment of women in the workplace.
2. Having begun as the National Union of Women’s Suffrage Societies (NUWSS) in 1866, the Fawcett Society takes its name from Dame Millicent Garrett Fawcett, who made it her life’s work to lead the peaceful campaign for women’s votes.
3. Millicent Fawcett was married to Henry Fawcett, MP for Brighton from 1865 to 1874, and in 1897 she spoke to the NUWSS Conference in Brighton Town Hall.
4. Today the Fawcett Society continues to campaign for equality for women in all areas of life, and is currently calling for employers to sign up to the Fawcett Charter, which represents a coalition of firms and organisations committed to challenging the objectification of women at work. Signatories include BT, Barclays Wealth, Matrix Chambers, and Oxfam GB.

As one of Brighton & Hove’s largest employers, with a stated commitment to equalities for all in the workplace, this Council therefore resolves to ask the Cabinet to consider:

1. Signing up to the Fawcett Charter, demonstrating:
 - Support for Fawcett’s aim of challenging the objectification of women;
 - A commitment to audit employee expenses to ensure local authority money is not being spent in lap dancing clubs;
 - A commitment to review internal policies and procedures to ensure they adequately address potential occurrences of objectification.
2. Request that the Commemorative Plaques Panel considers erecting a blue plaque outside Brighton Town Hall to honour the memory of Millicent Fawcett.

Proposed by: Cllr Amy Kennedy

Seconded by: Cllr Vicky Wakefield-Jarrett

Supported by: Cllr Rachel Fryer, Cllr Georgia Wrighton, Cllr Ian Davey, Cllr Ben Duncan, Cllr Jason Kitcat, Cllr Bill Randall, Cllr Sven Rufus, Cllr Paul Steedman and Cllr Pete West.

