



**Brighton & Hove
City Council**

**COUNCIL
ADDENDUM**

4.30PM, THURSDAY, 12 DECEMBER 2013

COUNCIL CHAMBER, BRIGHTON TOWN HALL

ADDENDUM

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DEPUTATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

A period of not more than fifteen minutes shall be allowed at each ordinary meeting of the Council for the hearing of deputations from members of the public. Each deputation may be heard for a maximum of five minutes following which one Member of the Council, nominated by the Mayor, may speak in response. It shall then be moved by the Mayor and voted on without discussion that the deputation be thanked for attending and its subject matter noted.

Notification of two Deputations has been received. The spokesperson is entitled to speak for 5 minutes.

Deputation concerning Article 4 Planning Requirements & HMOs**(Spokesperson) – Ms J Harding**

“There seems to be a lack of (correct, up-to-date) information about which houses are HMOs, which means that decisions based on this data may be inaccurate.

The *Register of Licensed HMOs* published on the council’s website shows 14 HMO properties in Hollingbury Rd. These include properties for which required planning permission has not yet been applied for, or has been refused. This would make around 10% of the households in the street HMO’s [Source 1]

This deputation urges the council agree to investigate this matter and consider how it can be made clear to all parties concerned that relevant information is made available to ensure that any decisions affecting properties are taken on the basis that such information has been taken into account. Examples might include making more use of internal information (e.g. council tax records), promoting more inter-departmental discussion (e.g. between private housing and planning) or conducting a more detailed audit of the areas.

There is also a need for clarification as to whether when a licence for an HMO is applied for in the City, applicants are automatically told, if it is in one of the Wards covered by the Article 4 Directive, that they will have to apply for ‘change of use’ planning permission as well. If the Private Sector Housing automatically passed on that information to the Planners, they could check whether properties have been converted without necessary permission in place and take appropriate action.

It seems odd to have a data sensitive decision in planning without an up-to-date and accurate set of records.”

Source 1: <http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/sites/brighton-hove.gov.uk/files/Register%20of%20Licensed%20HMOs%20-%20web%20page%20Nov%2013.pdf>

Councillor Randall, Chair of the Housing Committee will reply.

Supporting Information:

The *HMO and Student Housing Density: Hollingdean and Stanmer Ward* map shows between 10 and 20.4% of houses in Hollingbury Rd being HMOs. [Source 2]

The residents’ own audit suggested that there are at least 29 HMO properties, with a further 35 being unknown. This would make at least 21% of the households in the road HMOs. [Source 3]

Source 2: http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/sites/brighton-hove.gov.uk/files/downloads/ldf/Appendix_2_-_Hollingdean_and_Stanmer_HMO_and_Student_Housing_Density.pdf

Source 3: Full spreadsheet sent to private housing October 2013 – summary as contains names.

HMO	29	0.21
SHO	76	0.54
UNKNOWN	35	0.25

Note:
The people that I spoke to at Planning and Private Housing were both very helpful; this is not a complaint about council services.

Deputation concerning the Brighton Speed Trials**(Spokesperson) – Mr Watts**

“We are contacting you to ask for your support to save the Brighton Speed Trials. The event is the oldest motor sport event in the UK (and possibly the world) and has become a popular highlight on the seafront entertainment calendar. The event has the full support of the MSA; motorsport’s governing body in the UK as well as local retailers

A decision has been made by Brighton and Hove Council to not accept the Brighton and Hove Motor Club application to run the 2014 Brighton Speed Trials on Madeira Drive.

From the comments made this is predominantly due to the current Green Council’s view that this event does not “fit in” with their view of a modern Brighton.

We The Brighton and Hove Motor Club have reason to believe this decision is purely ideological and has little if any foundation in fact.

The loss of this Event will mean the loss of over 100 years of history; this event has been running in Brighton since 1905, and the reason that Madeira Drive was first given a road surface.

It will also mean considerable loss of income to retailers; the Brighton Speed Trials has become a popular attraction to tourists and local residents bringing thousands of people to the seafront for a day trip. We have letters of support from traders highlighting the negative impact the decision will have on their business.

It will also result in the closure of the Brighton and Hove Motor Club and the subsequent loss to the Council of a long standing Tennant in respect of the Club’s Madeira Drive Headquarters. This situation will leave the Council ultimately as being seen as anti motorsport.

We further believe that this ideology will not go away and indications are already in place that it will become a significant factor in the up and coming elections in 2015.

We therefore ask for your support in overturning this decision to end one of Brighton’s oldest events.”

Councillor Bowden, Chair of the Economic Development & Culture Committee will reply.

WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

The following questions listed on page 39 of the agenda have been received from Councillors and will be taken as read along with the written answers listed below:

(a) Councillor Cox

“In relation to the new City Clean bin rounds: a) How many refuse/recycling/communal bin vehicle breakdowns have there been since the introduction of the new rounds; b) How are staff deployed when their vehicles do break down; c) does the Council have ‘reserve’ vehicles or other effective contingency measures for when breakdowns do occur?”

Reply from Councillor West, Chair of the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee.

a) How many refuse/recycling/communal bin vehicle breakdowns have there been since the introduction of the new rounds?

“There have been 169 defects on vehicles ranging from 30 minutes to 5 days (approximately) to rectify from 7th October until 29th November. On average over the period this is 4.23 per day. There were 12 with accident damage which is included in the 169 which were longer to rectify. This figure includes spare vehicles used for extra operational requirements.”

b) How are staff deployed when their vehicles do break down?

“Collection Crews either remain with the vehicle or in the depot waiting for a vehicle to be repaired and brought back into service. In the rare event that it looks like there will not be a vehicle available all day the staff are allocated to help out on other collections rounds.”

c) Does the Council have ‘reserve’ vehicles or other effective contingency measures for when breakdowns do occur?

“Yes. There are spare vehicles to cover defects and service inspections. Refuse collection have had 6 spare RCV’s with the addition of 2 from Lewes and 1 vehicle held back from disposal. Recycling has had 6 spare vehicles and an additional 3 vehicles held back from disposal. We held back the vehicles for disposal to help with the bedding in of rounds. There are contingency measures for breakdowns which include the use of Manufacturers service engineers and subcontractors, although most vehicle defects were, and are, rectified in-house. In addition, contingency measures may involve double shifting collection vehicles by sending out the vehicle again usually with an agency crew once it has finished its original round and, if necessary, collecting outstanding work over the weekend.”

(b) Councillor G. Theobald

“Does the Leader of the Council think that it is appropriate in a hung Council, and in the spirit of open government which he espouses, to hold a press briefing on his Budget proposals just before going abroad to represent the Council, and fully three days before the detailed report was released to opposition councillors and members of the public?”

Reply from Councillor J. Kitcat, Leader of the Council.

“In recognition of our desire to be as open and inclusive as possible we have used the cross-party Budget Review Group to brief the group leaders and finance spokespeople on the budget proposals, context as well as to review possible savings ideas. This cross-party working is appropriate as the budget is ultimately a decision for all councillors and this council has no overall control. This inclusive approach has been agreed by all three parties and is modelled on best practice from other councils which have seen long periods of no overall control.

As happened last year, the press were invited for a general briefing with a finance officer to discuss the overall context and shape of the budget. Interviews were also offered with Cllr Littman, as Lead member for Finance, and myself. Because I had to be away on Council business later that week, this was scheduled a few days before the publication of the budget proposals and was done so under embargo, so that the comments could not be used until the budget was published. Opposition groups were informed that this was taking place.

The budget proposals were not shared with the press at this briefing. Nothing which was not already in the public domain was shared and discussed in the briefing.

Opposition group leaders were given copies of the budget proposals the evening before they were published to the press and public on Friday 29th November.

I am confident that this has all been done completely appropriately and in the best interests of the council. As an administration we have pursued the most open and inclusive budget process the city has ever seen, publishing draft proposals three months before the final decision is taken.

Officers will continue to help ensure that opposition councillors receive timely information on the budget and the opportunity to influence the budget setting process.”

Council

12 December 2013

Agenda Item 54

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject: Council Tax Reduction Review – Extract from the proceedings of the Policy & Resources Committee meeting held on the 5th December 2013

Date of Meeting: 12 December 2013

Report of: Head of Law

Contact Officer: Name: **Mark Wall** Tel: **29-1006**
E-mail: mark.wall@brighton-hove.gov.uk

Wards Affected: All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE***Action Required of the Council:***

To receive the item referred from the Policy & Resources Committee for approval:

Recommendation:

- (1) That the proposed Council Tax Reduction scheme for 2014/15 which is unchanged from 2013/14 be approved;
- (2) That the discretionary element of the scheme budget be set at £100,000 recurrently whilst maintaining one-off resources of £100,000 to top it up if necessary.

POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

4.00 pm 5 December 2013
COUNCIL CHAMBER, HOVE TOWN HALL

DRAFT MINUTES

Present: Councillor J Kitcat (Chair); Councillors Littman (Deputy Chair), G Theobald (Opposition Spokesperson), Morgan (Group Spokesperson), Davey, Hamilton, Lepper, A Norman, Peltzer Dunn and Shanks.

PART ONE

73. COUNCIL TAX REDUCTION REVIEW

- 73.1 The Executive Director for Finance & Resources introduced the report which detailed the outcome of the annual review of the council's local Council Tax Reduction Scheme. She stated that it was not proposed to make any changes to the existing scheme and the reductions in funding in 2014/15 that the council receives from central government to pay for the local scheme would be absorbed by the council and not passed on to those in receipt of support.
- 73.2 Councillor Littman thanked the officers for the report and stated that he believed the scheme was working well and thanks to the hard work of officers was paying dividends for the council. He therefore fully supported the recommendation to retain the current scheme for 2014/15.
- 73.3 Councillor A. Norman stated that the success of the scheme was the result of the hard work of officers and the results were encouraging at this point in time, although she hoped it would be carefully monitored.
- 73.4 Councillor Hamilton agreed that the scheme had only been in place for a short period and therefore needed to be monitored to see if it would be successful.
- 73.5 RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND:**
- (1) That the analysis undertaken on the implementation and operation of the Council Tax Reduction scheme in 2013/14 including the feedback from consultation be noted;
 - (2) That the proposed Council Tax Reduction scheme for 2014/15 which is unchanged from 2013/14 be recommended to council for approval;
 - (3) That it be noted that the Executive Director Finance & Resources will, prior to 1st April 2014, exercise her delegated powers to increase the appropriate calculative elements of the scheme, to give effect to national changes;
 - (4) That the council be recommended to agree that the discretionary element of the scheme budget be set at £100,000 recurrently whilst maintaining one-off resources of £100,000 to top it up if necessary; and
 - (5) That delegated authority be granted to the Executive Director Finance & Resources to continue to commission an independent money advice service for people who claim Council Tax Reduction for 2014/15.

Council

12 December 2013

Agenda Item 55

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject: Council Tax Property Discounts – Extract from the proceedings of the Policy & Resources Committee meeting held on the 5th December 2013

Date of Meeting: 12 December 2013

Report of: Head of Law

Contact Officer: Name: **Mark Wall** Tel: **29-1006**

E-mail: mark.wall@brighton-hove.gov.uk

Wards Affected: All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE***Action Required of the Council:***

To receive the item referred from the Policy & Resources Committee for approval:

Recommendation:

- (1) That the reduction of the Council Tax discount for empty and unfurnished properties (known as the Class C discount) from six weeks to four weeks, with effect from 1 April 2014 be approved;
- (2) That the removal of the Council Tax discount for empty properties that are intended for use as furnished lets, with effect from 1 April 2014 be approved;
- (3) That to give effect to the preceding recommendations, makes the formal determinations and decisions for the financial year commencing 1 April 2014 and subsequent financial years as set out in Appendix 1; and
- (4) That delegated authority be granted to the Director Finance & Resources to take all appropriate steps to implement and administer the preceding recommendations, including the publishing of any related data or information in accordance with statutory requirements.

POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

**4.00 pm 5 December 2013
COUNCIL CHAMBER, HOVE TOWN HALL**

DRAFT MINUTES

Present: Councillor J Kitcat (Chair); Councillors Littman (Deputy Chair), G Theobald (Opposition Spokesperson), Morgan (Group Spokesperson), Davey, Hamilton, Lepper, A Norman, Peltzer Dunn and Shanks.

PART ONE

72. COUNCIL TAX PROPERTY DISCOUNTS

- 72.1 The Executive Director for Finance & Resources introduced the report, concerning Council Tax Property Discounts and the proposed reduction of the 100% discount for empty and unfurnished properties from six to four weeks on line with the practice of neighbouring authorities. It also proposed to remove the 10% discount for properties that are empty and intended for use as furnished lets.
- 72.2 Councillor Littman welcomed the report and thanked the officers for their work on the proposals. He felt that the change from six to four weeks was an appropriate one following the review of the situation and taking into account the practice of other authorities and feedback from the consultation on the matter.
- 72.3 Councillor G. Theobald stated that he supported the proposals in the main, although was a little uneasy about the reduction from six to four weeks and expressed some concern over the possible situation where a landlord may lose a tenant in a furnished property and would not benefit from the discount period.
- 72.4 The Executive Director for Finance & Resources stated that it was difficult to distinguish between furnished lets and what were second homes and therefore the discount only applied to unfurnished lets.
- 72.5 The Chair then put the recommendations to the vote.
- 72.6 **RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND:**
- (1) That the reduction of the Council Tax discount for empty and unfurnished properties (known as the Class C discount) from six weeks to four weeks, with effect from 1 April 2014 be approved;
 - (2) That the removal of the Council Tax discount for empty properties that are intended for use as furnished lets, with effect from 1 April 2014 be approved;
 - (3) That to give effect to the preceding recommendations (1) and (2), the formal determinations and decisions for the financial year commencing 1 April 2014 and subsequent financial years as set out in Appendix 1 to the report be agreed; and
 - (4) That delegated authority be granted to the Director Finance & Resources to take all appropriate steps to implement and administer the preceding recommendations, including the publishing of any related data or information in accordance with statutory requirements.

Council

12 December 2013

Agenda Item 56

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject: Treasury Management Policy Statement 2013/14 – Mid Year Review – Extract from the proceedings of the Policy & Resources Committee meeting held on the 5th December 2013

Date of Meeting: 12 December 2013

Report of: Head of Law

Contact Officer: Name: **Mark Wall** Tel: **29-1006**
E-mail: mark.wall@brighton-hove.gov.uk

Wards Affected: All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE**Action Required of the Council:**

To receive the item referred from the Policy & Resources Committee for approval:

Recommendation:

That the Full Council be recommended to agree changes to the Annual Investment Strategy 2013/14 as set out in paragraphs 3.12 to 3.16 and appendix 3 of the report.

POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

4.00 pm 5 December 2013
COUNCIL CHAMBER, HOVE TOWN HALL

DRAFT MINUTES

Present: Councillor J Kitcat (Chair); Councillors Littman (Deputy Chair), G Theobald (Opposition Spokesperson), Morgan (Group Spokesperson), Davey, Hamilton, Lepper, A Norman, Peltzer Dunn and Shanks.

PART ONE**74. TREASURY MANAGEMENT POLICY STATEMENT 2013/14 – MID YEAR REVIEW**

74.1 The Executive Director for Finance & Resources introduced the report which provided a six monthly update in regard to the Treasury Management Policy Statement and the

Treasury Management Practices for the year commencing 1 April 2013. It also detailed the action taken during the period April to September 2013 to meet the policy statement and practices and the investment strategy. She stated that due to the difficulties in finding sufficient investment counterparties of suitable financial standing in relation to the Annual Investment Strategy, and the need to balance risks and secure investments, some changes were proposed which would need to be approved by full council.

- 74.2 Councillor Littman welcomed the report and noted that the economic climate around the world was still uncertain and therefore there was a need to review how the council's investments were made and to look at other banking organisations with a triple 'A' rating.
- 74.3 Councillor A. Norman stated that council officers had an excellent track record in this area and whilst the difficulties faced by the Co-op Bank were unfortunate, there was a need to maintain the council's position securely. She noted the possibility of utilising non-UK banks but asked if further information could be provided in regard to the RABOBANK and the Australian Banks referenced in the report at paragraph 3.15.
- 74.4 The Executive Director for Finance & Resources stated that she would ensure further checks were undertaken and confirm the outcome with Councillor Norman.
- 74.5 The Chair stated that he was sure the officers would monitor the situation carefully and noted that there was a degree of risk associated with any investment. He then put the recommendations to the vote.
- 74.6 **RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND:**
- (1) That the action taken during April - September 2013 to meet the Treasury Management Policy Statement 2013/14 and associated treasury management practices and the Annual Investment Strategy 2013/14 be endorsed;
 - (2) That it be noted that the maximum indicator for risk agreed at 0.05%, the authorised borrowing limit and operational boundary have not been exceeded; and
 - (3) That the Full Council be recommended to agree changes to the Annual Investment Strategy 2013/14 as set out in paragraphs 3.12 to 3.16 and appendix 3 of this report.

Council

12 December 2013

Agenda Item 57

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject:	Response to the Report of the Publicly Accessible Toilets Scrutiny Panel Recommendations – Extract from the proceedings of the Policy & Resources Committee meeting held on the 5th December 2013		
Date of Meeting:	12 December 2013		
Report of:	Head of Law		
Contact Officer:	Name: Mark Wall	Tel: 29-1006	
	E-mail: mark.wall@brighton-hove.gov.uk		
Wards Affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE***Action Required of the Council:***

To receive the item referred from the Policy & Resources Committee for approval:

Recommendation:

That the Committee's response be noted.

POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE**4.00 pm 5 December 2013
COUNCIL CHAMBER, HOVE TOWN HALL****DRAFT MINUTES****Present:** Councillor J Kitcat (Chair); Councillors Littman (Deputy Chair), G Theobald (Opposition Spokesperson), Morgan (Group Spokesperson), Davey, Hamilton, Lepper, A Norman, Peltzer Dunn and Shanks.**PART ONE****89. RESPONSE TO THE REPORT OF THE PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE TOILETS SCRUTINY PANEL RECOMMENDATIONS****89.1 RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND:**

- (1) That the evidence, findings and recommendations of the Scrutiny Panel on publicly accessible toilets be noted;
- (2) That the actions and comments summarised in Appendix 1 to the report, in response to the Panel's recommendations be agreed; and
- (3) That the Committee's response be referred to the Full Council for information.

Council

12 December 2013

Agenda Item 58

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject: Review of Members Allowances – Extract from the proceedings of the Policy & Resources Committee meeting held on the 5th December 2013

Date of Meeting: 12 December 2013

Report of: Head of Law

Contact Officer: Name: **Mark Wall** Tel: **29-1006**

E-mail: mark.wall@brighton-hove.gov.uk

Wards Affected: All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE***Action Required of the Council:***

To receive the item referred from the Policy & Resources Committee for approval:

Recommendation:

- (1) That the Panel's desire to undertake a full review of the Members Allowances Scheme be noted,
- (2) That the Council be recommended to adopt the existing Members Allowances Scheme for the payment of allowances in 2014/15, with effect from day after the Annual Council Meeting in May 2014;
- (3) That the Chief Executive be authorised to issue the Brighton & Hove Members' Allowances Scheme in accordance with the regulations following council approval;
- (4) That the allowance payable to each of the members of the Independent Remuneration Panel be increased by 1% in line with the Public Sector Pay award with effect from 1 September 2013, in recognition of the time commitment and the role of the Panel.

POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

**4.00 pm 5 December 2013
COUNCIL CHAMBER, HOVE TOWN HALL**

DRAFT MINUTES

Present: Councillor J Kitcat (Chair); Councillors Littman (Deputy Chair), G Theobald (Opposition Spokesperson), Morgan (Group Spokesperson), Davey, Hamilton, Lepper, A Norman, Peltzer Dunn and Shanks.

PART ONE

91. REVIEW OF MEMBERS ALLOWANCES

- 91.1 The Head of Law introduced the report, which set out the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel in regard to the Members Allowances Scheme. He noted that the Panel had indicated a desire to undertake a full review and to report back in 2014 on a scheme that could be adopted for 2015 and be applied for the full four-year term of the council, subject to an annual review.
- 91.2 The Chair noted the report and stated that he wished to place on record the Committee's thanks to the Panel for their work. However, in view of the current economic climate he wished to move a cross-party amendment to the recommendations so that the level of Basic Allowance remained unchanged and the current Members' Allowances Scheme was adopted for the 2014/15 municipal year. He also welcomed the Panel's intention to put forward recommendations for a scheme that could be approved by the current council to be effective from the inception of the newly elected council in 2015 and run for the duration of that council. He hoped that such a scheme would be one that would encourage people from all communities to consider standing as a councillor and would therefore reflect the level of commitment that was required.
- 91.3 Councillor Morgan agreed that in view of the budgetary constraints faced by the authority at this point in time that it is was not appropriate to approve an increase in allowances, albeit that it was below inflation and in-line with the public sector pay rise. He was therefore happy to support the amendment, however; he also hoped that in regard to the Independent Panel's future recommendations that the council would be prepared to accept them as it was the role of the Panel to review the scheme and consider how it should reflect the council's structure.
- 91.4 Councillor G. Theobald stated that he supported the amendment and thanked the Panel for their work.
- 91.5 The Chair stated that he agreed if the Panel were asked to undertake a review then the council should be open to receiving their recommendations and taking them forward. He put the amendment to the vote which was carried and the put the recommendations as amended to the vote.
- 91.6 **RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND:**
- (1) That the Panel's desire to undertake a full review of the Members Allowances Scheme be noted,

- (2) That the Council be recommended to adopt the existing Members Allowances Scheme for the payment of allowances in 2014/15, with effect from day after the Annual Council Meeting in May 2014;
- (3) That the Chief Executive be authorised to issue the Brighton & Hove Members' Allowances Scheme in accordance with the regulations following council approval;
- (4) That the allowance payable to each of the members of the Independent Remuneration Panel be increased by 1% in line with the Public Sector Pay award with effect from 1 September 2013, in recognition of the time commitment and the role of the Panel.

NOTICE OF MOTION**LABOUR & CO-OPERATIVE GROUP
AMENDMENT****BRIGHTON NATIONAL SPEED TRIALS**

To delete the text as struck through in paragraphs 2, 3, 4 and 5 and insert the wording as shown in bold italics in what would then be a new paragraph 3 as shown below:

“This Council notes that the historic Brighton National Speed Trials event, organised by the Brighton & Hove Motor Club, has been an integral part of the city’s outdoor events calendar since 1905, when Sir Harry Preston persuaded the Town Corporation to lay a tarmac motor racing track between Black Rock and the Aquarium. This much-loved event attracts many visitors to Brighton & Hove and hence makes a significant contribution to the local economy.

This Council notes ~~with concern~~ the proposals to stop supporting the Brighton National Speed Trials on Madeira Drive. ~~and fears that if they are not given permission to take place; other motor vehicle based events such as the Veteran Car Run could also be put in jeopardy.~~

~~The Council believes that important historic events should not be removed from our annual calendar as this will destroy the heritage of our great City.~~

~~The Council further believes that efforts should be made to ensure that Madeira Drive continues to attract important motoring events, as well as many other diverse events, throughout the year and not replace any of them with new events that could easily be hosted in other areas of the city.~~

Therefore, this Council resolves to ask the Economic Development & Culture Committee to ***give consideration to*** ~~continue to support~~ the staging of the Brighton National Speed Trials event in 2014 and beyond, ~~by granting landlords consent to the Brighton & Hove Motor Club for the closure of Madeira Drive~~ ***as part of setting its annual Events Programme for 2014.***”

Proposed by: Cllr Fitch

Seconded by: Cllr. Robins

NOTICE OF MOTION**GREEN GROUP AMENDMENT****ENERGY PRICE FREEZE**

“The Council notes the the ‘big six energy companies’ have increased their prices for gas and electricity by 37% since October 2010. In comparison, average earnings have risen by just 4.4% over the same period.

The Council notes the recent report by energy regulator OFGEM that showed profits made by the Big Six Energy Companies, British Gas, Npower, SSE, Scottish Power, e.On and EDF have risen to £53 per household in 2012, in comparison to £8 in 2009.

The Council recognises the impact these price rises are having on residents across the City, especially vulnerable groups such as the elderly, and those working on low incomes whose wages have not kept pace with the spiralling cost of utility bills.

Finally, this Council also recognises the importance, in particular across our City, of home energy efficiency measures in mitigating high domestic fuel bills.

This Council resolves:

- 1) To request the Chief Executive and Leader of the Council writes to the Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change:
 - a. To urge him to implement an energy price freeze;
 - b. To request that the funds currently made available from levies on energy companies for home energy efficiency measures are not reduced in any way by an energy price freeze;**
 - c. Reiterating the request of this Council in March 2012 to launch an independent public inquiry into the Big Six energy companies in order to identify market reforms that will make energy pricing fairer, reduce fuel poverty and increase trust between consumers and companies.**
- 2) To request that officers **continue to** work closely with community and voluntary associations across the City to support vulnerable groups over the winter period who may find themselves unable to afford to heat their homes.”

Proposed by: Cllr Sykes

Seconded by: Cllr Jarrett

NOTICE OF MOTION**CONSERVATIVE GROUP AMENDMENT****FIXED ODDS BETTING TERMINALS**

Insert text in the first paragraph and after point 8 and change the numbering from points 9 and 10 to 1 and 2, with the deletion of the text as struck through and the insertion of the text as shown in bold italics.

“This council notes ***the terrible impact on vulnerable people caused by the provisions of the Gambling Act 2005, introduced by the then Labour Government, namely:***

1. The prevalence of Fixed Odds Betting Terminals (FOBTs) in betting shops often referred to in the media as “the crack cocaine of gambling”.
2. That, unlike fruit machines in pubs, bingo halls and amusement arcades where cash stakes are limited to £2, gamblers can bet with cash or via a debit card up to £100 every 20 seconds on FOBTs, more than four times as fast as the rate of play in casinos.
3. That in 2012, over £1.5bn was lost on FOBTs across the UK. More profit was made from FOBTs than from the National Lottery, when according to the most recent British Gambling Prevalence Survey, 56% of the population play the Lottery, but just 4% play FOBTs.
4. Empirical evidence that suggests FOBTs are the most addictive form of gambling.
5. Research carried out by Geofutures, which found there to be four times as many betting shops in areas of high unemployment than in areas of low unemployment.
6. Research carried out by 2CV in Newham, which found that the average bet per spin on FOBTs is £17, and the average amount of cash inserted into the machine is £55 per session, with one in five putting in over £100 a time.
7. Nationally, more than 80% of turnover in betting shops and more than half of profits are derived from FOBTs. Less than 20% of stakes in betting shops are over the counter.
8. A recent economic analysis undertaken by Landman Economics, commissioned by the Campaign for Fairer Gambling, which assessed the

impact of FOBTs on local economies and across the wider economy. The report concluded that every £1bn spent on FOBTs produces a net reduction of 13,000 jobs, compared to if spent in the wider consumer economy. The projected doubling of revenue from FOBTs by 2023 could cost a further 23,000 jobs across the economy.

This Council further notes:

1. ~~Concern that the Government has not addressed the issues caused by FOBTs, and the announcement made by Maria Miller MP, Secretary of State for Culture Media and Sport, on 10th October 2013 in response to the Triennial Review of gaming machine stakes and prizes, where the stakes on FOBTs were unchanged.~~ ***which left the stakes on FOBTs unchanged but concluded that “there remains a serious case to answer in relation to the potential harm caused by category B2 gaming machines and we consider their future to be unresolved pending further work, which is already underway.”***
2. The position in the Republic of Ireland where the Government has introduced legislation to outlaw FOBTs in betting shops.

This council believes that the increase in FOBTs is causing significant problems and believes that the Government should either use the existing legislative framework, or introduce legislation to outlaw B2 casino games in betting shops.

At the very least, local authorities should be given the powers to protect the local amenity and wellbeing of communities by (1) stopping the proliferation of betting shops and (2) reducing the maximum stakes and slowing down the speed of play.

This council therefore requests:

1. The Chief Executive writes to the Secretary of state for Culture, Media and Sport to outline the terms of this motion and demand urgent action against FOBTs by the Government; and
2. That the Policy & Resources Committee be asked to ensure the use of the Sustainable Communities Act as a means to reduce the maximum stake on Fixed Odds Betting Terminals to £2 per spin is explored.”

Proposed by: Councillor Cox

Seconded by: Councillor Simson

NOTICE OF MOTION
GREEN GROUP AMENDMENT
FIXED ODDS BETTING TERMINALS

“This council notes:

1. The prevalence of Fixed Odds Betting Terminals (FOBTs) in betting shops often referred to in the media as “the crack cocaine of gambling”.
2. That, unlike fruit machines in pubs, bingo halls and amusement arcades where cash stakes are limited to £2, gamblers can bet with cash or via a debit card up to £100 every 20 seconds on FOBTs, more than four times as fast as the rate of play in casinos.
3. That in 2012, over £1.5bn was lost on FOBTs across the UK. More profit was made from FOBTs than from the National Lottery, when according to the most recent British Gambling Prevalence Survey, 56% of the population play the Lottery, but just 4% play FOBTs.
4. Empirical evidence that suggests FOBTs are the most addictive form of gambling.
5. Research carried out by Geofutures, which found there to be four times as many betting shops in areas of high unemployment than in areas of low unemployment.
6. Research carried out by 2CV in Newham, which found that the average bet per spin on FOBTs is £17, and the average amount of cash inserted into the machine is £55 per session, with one in five putting in over £100 a time.
7. Nationally, more than 80% of turnover in betting shops and more than half of profits are derived from FOBTs. Less than 20% of stakes in betting shops are over the counter.
8. A recent economic analysis undertaken by Landman Economics, commissioned by the Campaign for Fairer Gambling, which assessed the impact of FOBTs on local economies and across the wider economy. The report concluded that every £1bn spent on FOBTs produces a net reduction of 13,000 jobs, compared to if spent in the wider consumer economy. The projected doubling of revenue from FOBTs by 2023 could cost a further 23,000 jobs across the economy.

9. Concern that the Government has not addressed the issues caused by FOBTs, and the announcement made by Maria Miller MP, Secretary of State for Culture Media and Sport, on 10th October 2013 in response to the Triennial Review of gaming machine stakes and prizes, where the stakes on FOBTs were unchanged.
10. The position in the Republic of Ireland where the Government has introduced legislation to outlaw FOBTs in betting shops.

This council believes that the increase in FOBTs is causing significant problems and believes that the Government should either use the existing legislative framework, or introduce legislation to outlaw B2 casino games in betting shops.

At the very least, local authorities should be given the powers to protect the local amenity and wellbeing of communities by (1) stopping the proliferation of betting shops and (2) reducing the maximum stakes and slowing down the speed of play.

This council therefore requests:

1. The Chief Executive writes to the Secretary of state for Culture, Media and Sport to outline the terms of this motion and demand urgent action against FOBTs by the Government; and
2. The Policy & Resources Committee to **consider ensure** the use of the Sustainable Communities Act **to control the spread and activities of betting shops**, and reduce the maximum stake on Fixed Odds Betting Terminals to £2 per spin.”

Proposed by: Councillor Randall

Seconded by: Councillor Powell