COUNCIL

## Agenda Item 37(c)

10 December 2009

Brighton & Hove City Council

## NOTICE OF MOTION

## LABOUR GROUP AMENDMENT

## HIGH PAY COMMISSION

To delete the wording as struck out in paragraphs 2 and 4 and the insertion of the wording in paragraphs 1 and 2 and the insertion new paragraphs 4 and 5 as shown in bold italics:

The motion to read as follows:

"This council recognises that the pay gap between high earners and *the rest of society, particularly* those on low incomes, is unfair, unsustainable and damaging to social cohesion.

It also recognises that inflated bonus payments and other rewards in the City of London and elsewhere in the private sector **banking and financial sector** fuelled the risk-taking that **nearly** brought down the world economy and triggered the recession.

Furthermore, it believes the unfair and unjustifiable gap between high and low earners is not restricted to the private sector and that pay differentials in local government and other public services are unacceptable and should also be addressed.

It therefore:

(1) Calls on the Cabinet to sign up to the national High Pay Commission campaign\*

- (2) Calls on the council's Chief Executive to write to Alistair Darling, Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Lord Mandelson, Secretary of State for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform, urging them to:
  - Take decisive action on excessive pay by establishing a High Pay Commission, set up on the lines of the Low Pay Commission, to deliver a fairer, more stable and sustainable economy for the future.
  - Instruct the High Pay Commission to launch a wide-ranging review of pay and consider proposals to restrict excessive remuneration, such as maximum wage ratios and bonus taxation, to provide a fair society and a sustainable economy.
  - Take the moral lead by setting reasonable pay structures in our public bodies and for public procurement contracts.

(3) Calls on the city's three MPs to urge the Government to establish a High Pay Commission

This council notes the campaign launched by the pressure group Compass for the establishment of a High Pay Commission.

At the same time this council acknowledges the action taken by the government to tackle the excess bonus culture, welcoming in particular the announcement by the Chancellor of the Exchequer in his Pre-Budget statement that there will be a 50% levy on bank bonuses above £25,000 and that over half of additional revenue will be raised from the wealthiest 2% of the population."

Proposed by: Cllr Kevin Allen

Seconded by: Cllr Les Hamilton