

HOUSING MANAGEMENT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 32

Brighton & Hove City
Council

Mr. John Barradell
Chief Executive – Brighton & Hove City Council
King's House

13th September 2011

Dear John,

I would be grateful if you could ensure that this letter is included on the agenda for the Housing Management Consultative Committee meeting on 26th September under Council Procedure Rule 23.3.

I have very serious concerns about a lack of openness and transparency which is becoming evident in the attitude of the Administration towards council tenants and I would like this to be addressed by HMCC as a matter of urgency.

Two recent events have led to my concern:

1. The decision to delay the elections for the area panels due to the introduction of an "innovation group".
2. The decision to replace the Council's Homemove magazine with a largely internet-based service for property bidding. This decision has serious equalities implications for groups of residents who are not necessarily as internet-savvy as the rest of the general population.

Both of these significant changes in policy were simply announced in letters to tenant reps. and councillors without any proper consultation. The feedback which I have had from tenants on this is that they believe that the Administration has acted in a high-handed and arrogant manner towards them in the way that these changes have been imposed.

I would like to address the Committee to propose changes to the way these sort of policy issues are handled in the future for the benefit of the Council's fourteen thousand or so tenants and leaseholders.

Kind regards



Mary

Cllr. Mary Mears – Rottingdean Coastal Ward

