

NOTICE OF MOTION**SOUTH DOWNS NATIONAL PARK**

“This council, a long-standing supporter of the South Downs National Park, recognises:

- The vital importance of the South Downs to our tourist economy
- The recreational benefits it offers to local people and visitors
- The additional economic benefits National Park status will bring to Brighton and Hove
- The physical and mental health benefits that access to a high quality landscape will bring to the City.
- The protection National Park status will offer to the fragile and pressured national environment of the South Downs.
- That Brighton and Hove is a natural major gateway to the proposed park.

It notes:

- The Government plans to announce its decision on the South Downs National Park in the ‘early summer’
- The efforts of the South Downs Campaign to persuade Ministers to include the chalk hills, The Western Weald, Ditchling and Lewes in the confirmed National Park.
- The need for Brighton and Hove City Council to look beyond designation and plan for the benefits of the National Park on the city.

It therefore resolves to:

- Commend the South Downs Campaign for its tireless work,
- Ask the Cabinet to consider establishing a working group to develop a comprehensive strategy to reap the benefits for the city of a South Downs National Park.
- Ask the city’s Chief Executive to write to Hilary Benn, Secretary of State for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, urging him to include the chalk hills, the Western Weald, Ditchling and Lewes in the confirmed national park.
- Call on the city’s three MPs to write to Mr Benn urging him to include the chalk hills, the Western Weald, Ditchling and Lewes in the confirmed national park.

Proposed by Cllr Pete West

Seconded by Cllr Sven Rufus

Supported by: Cllrs Davey, Ben Duncan, Rachel Fryer, Amy Kennedy, Jason Kitcat, Bill Randall, Steedman, Keith Taylor, Wakefield-Jarrett and Wrighton

