

**WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

A period of not more than fifteen minutes shall be allowed at each ordinary meeting for questions submitted by members of the public who either live or work in the area of the authority.

**i) The following written question has been received from Mike Bojczuk.**

“Will Council agree to provide Wi-Fi access to common area lounges of their senior housing schemes? Volunteering with Digital Brighton & Hove I have found that none of the Council run senior schemes provide this, unlike Housing Association schemes visited. Providing broadband to 25 schemes isn’t greatly expensive and if provided by the Council, it could be used in many ways to add to and improve communication and services to senior residents. City libraries and buses provide free Wi-Fi access so can you also extend this service to help mitigate the digital exclusion faced by many of our older residents?”

**ii) The following written question has been received from Barry Hughes.**

“I am aware that, in purely legal terms, the normal service of notices *“sent by first class post shall be deemed to have been received by the addressee within 48 hours of posting”*. However I have recently been involved in a Leaseholder dispute where Section 20 notices were sent to my members and not received and I am reminded that, in the commercial world, *“proof of posting is not proof of receipt”*. I would respectfully request that the council, in enacting its value of customer focus, adopts the use of recorded delivery when issuing Section 20 notices in the future?”

**iii) The following written question has been received from Martin Cunningham.**

“With regards to the proposed Hereford House Hostel what measures will be put in place to protect the residents from the increase in anti-social behaviour this will bring to Kempton?”

**iv) The following written question has been received from Daniel Harris.**

“The Council have announced that only 605 homelessness applications were received during Quarter 1 and 2 2017, can the council tell me exactly how many temporary accommodation units they plan to stop using and how this process will work?”

**v) The following written question has been received from John Hadman.**

“The Council undertook to look for empty council property in January 2017 to use as night shelters, for homeless and rough sleepers in Brighton and Hove. When is the night shelter going to open and where? Also for how many people?”

4,111 persons of Brighton and Hove community signed a 38 degrees petition to open night shelters, which the council voted 100% to act on, i.e. the will of the people.”

**vi) The following written question has been received from Clare Hudson.**

“It was welcome news to hear a positive response to John Hadman’s question at the Housing Committee on 20 September regarding a permanent Night Shelter managed and run by Brighton and Hove City Council

Are Members of the Committee satisfied with progress made? How many people will be accommodated in the Night Shelter and for what period will the shelter be available? Are facilities to be made available on a permanent and long term basis?”

**vii) The following written question has been received from Gemma Challenger.**

“The ‘Oxford Street Housing Office’ - What progress has been made in converting this building into a permanent Night Shelter or temporary accommodation? For what period has this building been empty and when is it scheduled for use in a manner that benefits our homeless fellow citizens?”

**viii) The following written question has been received from Maria Garret-Gotch.**

“Could the Committee provide any examples of the way in which it could delay or prevent the “roll-out” of Universal Credit in Brighton and Hove? Could you please provide precise details by post code of the Government proposals for Universal Credit in our City?”

**ix) The following written question has been received from Steve Parry on behalf of ETHRAG.**

“The recently published response by the Government to the Communities and Local Government & Work and Pensions Committees Joint Report on the future of supported housing, the DWP Supported Housing Task and Finish Groups Final Report, and the DCLG/DWP Policy Statement and Consultation on Funding Supported Housing have major implications for Brighton and Hove particularly in relation to Temporary & Emergency Accommodation including BHSCH.

Will the Committee commission a report from officers to be discussed at its 17.1.18 meeting, and ensure that community representatives are invited to contribute to this report particularly ETHRAG and the Brighton and Hove Housing Coalition?”

**x) The following written question has been received from Zuzana Sukova on behalf of Brighton Homeless Action Group.**

“Taking into account all of the deaths of homeless human beings on our streets, when will the local authority start to apply the 'Extended Winter Provision' for those living on our streets by opening shelters every night

throughout the winter from November to March, as advised by the Homeless Link Guidance to prevent the loss of even more lives on our streets. Although, severe weather can arise outside of these months so shelter is needed all year round as a long-term solution.”

**xi) The following written question has been received from Ree Melody on behalf of Love Activists.**

“When will the local authority adhere to the change in law made by the supreme court of law in May 2015 with regard to the vulnerability assessment of those who are homeless?”

