

POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE ADDENDUM

4.00PM, THURSDAY, 5 DECEMBER 2019

COUNCIL CHAMBER - BRIGHTON TOWN HALL

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ADDENDUM

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WRITTEN QUESTIONS

A period of not more than fifteen minutes shall be allowed at each ordinary meeting for questions submitted by a member of the public.

The question will be answered without discussion. The person who asked the question may ask one relevant supplementary question, which shall be put and answered without discussion. The person to whom a question, or supplementary question, has been put may decline to answer it.

The following written questions have been received from members of the public.

(1) Rent Levels & License Fees

When deciding on rent levels and license fees regarding its property portfolio, what consideration does the council take on the wider social value provided by the lessee and what formal consultation does the council undertake when making significant changes to charges?

Mr R Stammeijer

**COUNCIL TAX REDUCTION REVIEW 2020-21 AND WORKING TOWARDS A
NEW WELFARE FRAMEWORK**

GREEN GROUP AMENDMENT

To amend the recommendations as shown below in ***bold italics***, with renumbering as appropriate:

2.1 That the Committee confirms that the current Council Tax Reduction scheme shall continue without amendment, except for technical amendments to the amounts and allowances used to calculate entitlement.

2.2 Committee notes that despite a July 2019 decision of this committee, no consultation has been undertaken with residents on options for council tax bill support, thereby preventing substantive changes to the CTR scheme for 2020/21

~~2.7~~ ***2.3*** That the Committee confirms that officers should produce a further report following the General Election with more detailed proposals for a new welfare framework incorporating a city-wide view, i.e. having consulted with members from all Groups and key stakeholders. ***Committee requests that such a report also outline specific timescales for a future council tax reduction consultation (for 2021-2022), as originally requested in a July 2019 decision of this committee***

2.4 Committee notes that since 2015, £2.2m has been taken out of the CTR scheme, and agrees to consult residents on whether the 2021/22 CTR scheme should:

- 1. Reduce the minimum liability below the current rate of 20%***
- 2. Reduce the taper rate below the current rate of 25p***
- 3. Reduce or eliminate the restriction on minimum council tax reduction, currently £5 per week or £260 per year;***
- 4. Consider options for reframing the Council Tax Reduction Scheme to align with other Welfare Support***

2.5 Committee notes the absence of an agreed report on the result of promotion work done on the scheme and discretionary fund. Committee requests officers to undertake an urgent marketing exercise to promote the Discretionary Fund, with a particular focus on working with city partners, housing associations and others, to ensure maximum reach to

low-income households

2.6 That the Committee approves ~~£150,000~~ £200,000 funding for the discretionary fund in 2020/21; this would require additional one-off funding of ~~£140,000~~ £190,000

2.7 For Committee to agree to explore the introduction of additional one-off funding to support this marketing exercise as outlined in 2.4

2.8 That the Committee confirms that work should continue towards the creation of a more comprehensive welfare framework that better joins up support from officers to residents in need.

2.9 That the Committee notes the options and provides a steer for wider consultation with stakeholders as the new welfare framework is developed.

Proposed by: Cllr Gibson

Seconded by: Cllr Mac Cafferty

Recommendations if carried to read:

2.1 That the Committee confirms that the current Council Tax Reduction scheme shall continue without amendment, except for technical amendments to the amounts and allowances used to calculate entitlement.

2.2 Committee notes that despite a July 2019 decision of this committee, no consultation has been undertaken with residents on options for council tax bill support, thereby preventing substantive changes to the CTR scheme for 2020/21

2.3 That the Committee confirms that officers should produce a further report following the General Election with more detailed proposals for a new welfare framework incorporating a city-wide view, i.e. having consulted with members from all Groups and key stakeholders. Committee requests that such a report also outline specific timescales for a future council tax reduction consultation, as originally requested in a July 2019 decision of this committee

2.4 Committee notes that since 2015, £2.2m has been taken out of the CTR scheme, and agrees to consult residents on whether the 2021/22 CTR scheme should:

1. Reduce the minimum liability to 15%
2. Reduce the taper rate from 25p to 20p
3. Delete the restriction on minimum council tax reduction, being £5 per week or £260 per year;

2.5 Committee notes the absence of an agreed report on the result of promotion work done on the scheme and discretionary fund. Committee requests officers to undertake an urgent marketing exercise to promote the Discretionary Fund, with a particular focus

on working with city partners, housing associations and others, to ensure maximum reach to low-income households

2.6 That the Committee approves £200,000 funding for the discretionary fund in 2020/21; this would require additional one-off funding of £190,000

2.7 For Committee to agree to explore the introduction of additional one-off funding to support this marketing exercise as outlined in 2.4

2.8 That the Committee confirms that work should continue towards the creation of a more comprehensive welfare framework that better joins up support from officers to residents in need.

2.9 That the Committee notes the options and provides a steer for wider consultation with stakeholders as the new welfare framework is developed.

CITY ASSEMBLY

GREEN GROUP AMENDMENT

To amend the recommendations and insert recommendation 2.1.6 to the report, as shown below in ***bold italics***:

2.1 That the Committee:

2.1.1 approves the establishment of a City Assembly;

2.1.2 notes the council's ongoing work to reduce carbon emissions;

2.1.3 notes the establishment of a carbon reduction programme to achieve the target of Brighton & Hove becoming carbon neutral by 2030;

2.1.4 notes the requirement to develop an engagement programme to inform this work, to include a City Assembly;

2.1.5 agrees to establish a cross-party member working group to oversee the implementation of the 2030 Carbon Reduction Programme; and **to allocate seats, with a suggested 3:3:2 balance**

2.1.6 agrees to identify resources through the budget-setting process for a Climate Change/Carbon Neutral budget line in the 2020/21 revenue and capital budget, to make provision to develop the proposals endorsed by the city assembly

2.1.6 notes the Notice of Motion agreed at 24th October Full Council and agrees that work on these measures be taken forward as part of the Carbon Reduction Programme.

Proposed by: Councillor Mac Cafferty

Seconded by: Councillor Gibson

Recommendations if carried to read:

That the Committee:

- 1 Approves the establishment of a City Assembly;
- 2 Notes the council's ongoing work to reduce carbon emissions;
- 3 Notes the establishment of a carbon reduction programme to achieve the target of Brighton & Hove becoming carbon neutral by 2030;
- 4 Notes the requirement to develop an engagement programme to inform this work, to include a City Assembly;
- 5 Agrees to establish a cross-party member working group to oversee the implementation of the 2030 Carbon Reduction Programme; and to allocate seats, with a suggested 3:3:2 balance
- 6 Agrees to identify resources through the budget-setting process for a Climate Change/Carbon Neutral budget line in the 2020/21 revenue and capital budget, to make provision to develop the proposals endorsed by the city assembly
- 7 Notes the Notice of Motion agreed at 24th October Full Council and agrees that work on these measures be taken forward as part of the Carbon Reduction Programme.

Item 90: Customer Experience

ERRATUM

On page 647, at the bottom left hand corner, under “You can help us to keep our promise by...” it says:

“● Treat us with respect”

It should read:

“● Treat us *and other customers* with respect”

**DEED OF VARIATION TO INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT CONTRACT
GREEN GROUP AMENDMENT**

To amend the recommendations and insert recommendations 2.3 and 2.4 to the report, as shown below in ***bold italics***:

That the Policy & Resources Committee:-

- 2.1 Approves the principle of entering into the Deed of Variation to the Integrated Waste Management Services Contract as set out in the report;
- 2.2 Delegates authority to the Executive Director for Environment, Economy and Culture, following consultation with the Executive Lead Officer for Strategy Governance and Law, to agree the final terms and enter into the Deed of Variation to the Integrated Waste Management Services Contract; ***and***
- 2.3 ***Instruct Officers to identify how savings from contract variation could be ringfenced; in order to fund additional recycling measures, including collection of more plastics, and report back to the Environment Transport and Sustainability Committee.***

Proposed by: Councillor Shanks

Seconded by: Councillor Clare

Recommendations if carried to read:

- That the Committee:
1. Approves the principle of entering into the Deed of Variation to the Integrated Waste Management Services Contract as set out in the report;
 2. Delegates authority to the Executive Director for Environment, Economy and Culture, following consultation with the Executive Lead Officer for Strategy Governance and Law, to agree the final terms and enter into the Deed of Variation to the Integrated Waste Management Services Contract; and
 3. Instruct Officers to identify how savings from contract variation could be

ringfenced; in order to fund additional recycling measures, including collection of more plastics, and report back to the Environment Transport and Sustainability Committee.