Council	Agenda Item 59(3)
14 December 2017	Brighton & Hove City Council

NOTICE OF MOTION

LABOUR AND CO-OPERATIVE GROUP AND GREEN GROUP REMOVE FREEDOM OF THE CITY FROM AUNG SAN SUU KYI

This council resolves, in the light of continuing lack of protection of the human rights of the Rohingya people in Myanmar, many of whom are now refugees in Bangladesh, to hold a Special Council meeting to remove at the earliest opportunity the Freedom of the City granted to Aung San Suu Kyi in 2011.

Proposed by: Cllr Morgan Seconded by: Cllr West

Supporting information

- 1. The United Nations have called for swift action to protect the Rohingya people, a minority Muslim community facing persecution mostly based in the northern Rakhine state of Myanmar. The Government refuse to recognise or grant citizenship to the Rohingya, with stringent restrictions placed on their access to medical assistance, education and other basic services. Rights groups have reported systematic and widespread human rights abuses. Over 1000 are estimated to have died amid the violence, with more than 300,000 people reported to have fled to nearby Bangladesh in what the U.N have also described as the 'world's fastest developing refugee emergency.' http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=57770#.Wfc-CNJI-Uk
- Aung San Suu Kyi's office has been condemned by fellow Nobel Peace Prize winners for silence on the crisis, drawing widespread international criticism for labelling reports of massacres, rapes, torture and the torching of villages by the military as 'exaggerated' and 'fake' news. http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/magazine-39204086
- 3. In recognition of the abhorrence of the violation of human rights and mass atrocities exacted against the Rohingya people in Myanmar, other local authorities, including Sheffield and Oxford City Council have moved to revoke the Freedom of the City title from Aung San Suu Kyi. Trade Union UNISON has also suspended her honorary membership. https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2017/oct/04/aung-san-suu-kyi-to-be-stripped-offreedom-of-the-city-of-oxford

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