

**NOTICE OF MOTION
LABOUR AND GREEN GROUPS****FUEL POVERTY**

This council resolves to request the Policy & Resources Committee to call for a report to a future meeting of the committee detailing a strategy to alleviate fuel poverty in the City of Brighton & Hove by 2030 and that the report includes proposals on:

- 1) Improving energy efficiency of Council / housing association housing stock;
- 2) Better enforcement of existing regulations on energy efficiency and property standards;
- 3) Publishing a statement of intent to access Energy Company Obligation funding via LA Flex;
- 4) Continuing the ongoing work to switch council properties over to the Your Energy Sussex scheme that ensures new tenants have access to cheaper energy tariffs, and resolving to continue exchanging pre-payment meters with credited smart meters, and offering this option to tenants;
- 5) Improving tenants' rights;
- 6) Providing information advice and guidance to those most in need;
- 7) Becoming a member of the End Fuel Poverty Coalition.

Proposed by: Cllr Platts

Seconded by: Cllr Mac Cafferty

Supporting Information:

At least 2.53m households are in fuel poverty in England alone ([BEIS](#)). In Brighton and Hove 11.7% of households are in fuel poverty, above the average for the South East region. endfuelpoverty.org.uk

Local authorities are able to take action to help alleviate fuel poverty directly:

- Improve energy efficiency / insulation on the Council's own housing stock with an aim to achieve net zero carbon emissions.
- Leverage funds to improve the energy efficiency standards of all housing tenures
- Declare a target (e.g. 2030) of making sure nobody in Brighton & Hove will suffer from a cold home due to fuel poverty or their inability to have the necessary insulation and heating.
- Enforce existing regulations around energy efficiency and property standards in private rental sector and houses of multiple occupancy (other local authorities have found this to provide income).
- Deploy [ECO Flexible Eligibility](#), to identify residents who may be in fuel poverty but may not fit under the current Energy Company Obligation funding criteria and sign a declaration for them making them eligible.
- Take action to lobby for powers to stop unaffordable rent rises and improve tenants' rights locally.
- Provide information advice and guidance to local residents about reducing fuel bills, improving energy efficiency, their rights to welfare benefits and to help them access available funding and grants.
- Put in place cross-departmental arrangements and partnerships with the health sector and other local agencies to achieve the above objectives

