

**NOTICE OF MOTION****GREEN GROUP****MATERNITY SERVICES IN BRIGHTON & HOVE**

“This council welcomes the news that Brighton & Hove PCT are planning to introduce a midwife led unit in the city, and recognises that this decision reflects the findings of a recent survey into local residents’ views about the kinds of maternity services they desire.

“This council notes that the survey also found that:

- 88 per cent of respondents said they would like the same midwife throughout pregnancy and post natal care;
- 99 per cent of respondents thought it was a good idea to offer free counselling to women who have had a difficult birth.

“Furthermore, this council notes and supports the aims of the National Childbirth Trust’s *Reclaiming Birth* campaign, which is also calling for more midwives carrying their own caseloads and looking after parents-to-be from conception to birth and post-natally, and for more women to be able to give birth in free-standing midwifery units (Birth Centres) or at home.

“Therefore this council requests the Chief Executive to:

- Write to the PCT urging them to act on the other findings of the survey with regard to midwife provision and post-natal counselling services;
- Write to the Health Secretary Andy Burnham to call for funding to enable PCTs to better meet the needs of expectant women and new parents.”

Proposed by: Cllr Jason Kitcat

Seconded: Cllr Amy Kennedy

Supported by: Cllrs Ian Davey, Ben Duncan, Rachel Fryer, Alex Phillips, Bill Randall, Sven Rufus, Paul Steedman, Keith Taylor, Vicky Wakefield-Jarrett, Pete West and Georgia Wrighton.

