

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 4

Brighton & Hove City Council

Dear Tom Hook, Head of Scrutiny,

re. Crisis in primary school places in Brighton and Hove

I would like this letter to be placed on the agenda of the next Children & Young People's overview & scrutiny committee meeting on Wednesday 16th June and I would like to attend the meeting as a member of the public and put my question to the panel.

I would ask the panel to address **There is a crisis in primary school places in Brighton and Hove. Children and Young people's services have been collecting information telling them precisely how many children are being born in the city and yet they have FAILED to increase the number of primary school places to the required number, in fact, on the contrary, they have closed primary schools and have extended some only sufficiently to accommodate siblings and no new families?**

This is not rocket science, this is simply logic. There are not enough places and the department has failed in its duty to educate Brighton's youngest and most vulnerable children. **There must be an urgent solution to this crisis now. I propose placing a sign over the M23 – 'Do not move here – we cannot educate your children.'**

I would ask the committee in its 'overview' capacity to carry out an urgent review of the situation now – before September 2010 and open new schools and increase existing schools' capacity in Brighton and Hove by September 2010.

Yours sincerely,

Sally Wells

