

Council	Agenda Item 69 (a)
17 th December 2015	Brighton & Hove City Council

**NOTICE OF MOTION
LABOUR AND CO-OPERATIVE GROUP**

HOUSING AND PLANNING BILL

This council notes that the Housing and Planning Bill, if passed, would threaten the provision of affordable homes for rent and to buy in the city through:

- forcing 'high-value' council homes to be sold on the open market;
- extending the right-to-buy to housing association tenants; and
- undermining section 106 requirements on private developers to provide affordable homes.

This council resolves to ask the Chief Executive:

- (1) to write to the Secretary of State expressing its concerns about the Bill; and
- (2) to set up an urgent meeting between the Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive with the local Members of Parliament to raise our concerns.

Proposed by: Councillor Meadows Seconded by: Councillor Cattell

Supported by: Councillors Allen, Atkinson, Barford, Barradell, Bewick, Chapman, Daniel, Gilbey, Hamilton, Hill, Horan, Inkipin-Leissner, Marsh, Mitchell, Moonan, Morgan, Morris, O'Quinn, Penn, Robins, Yates.

Supporting information:

The Bill contains no commitment that affordable homes will be replaced like-for-like in the local area. The 'starter homes' proposals will be unaffordable to families and young people on ordinary incomes in most parts of the country; will not preserve the taxpayer investment; and will be built at the expense of genuinely-affordable homes to rent and buy.

The Bill undermines localism by establishing 32 new wide and open-ended Government powers, including the ability to override local plans, to mandate rents for social tenants, and to impose a levy on stock-holding councils, violating the terms of the housing revenue account self-financing deal.

The Bill does not help with the high rents and insecurity affecting private renters - including one in four families with children - and does nothing to help arrest the recent rise in homelessness.

