

Brighton, Hove and District Labour Party

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Press Release

For Immediate Release

Local Labour Party endorses City Councillors' home building plan and agree to campaign against government cuts.

The Brighton, Hove and District Labour Party, which met this weekend, heard from local councillors and endorsed their ambitious plan for over 1500 new homes in the city. 250 people attended the packed meeting at City College, which overwhelmingly elected Lloyd Russell-Moyle, of East Brighton, as Labour's new District chair, replacing Nancy Platts the former candidate in Kemptown.

Party members agreed to support councillors in the Labour administration who are setting a balanced budget whilst at the same time developing plans to campaign and confront the cuts the Conservative government is imposing on the city. The meeting resolved that the spending cuts to local government were "politically motivated and not economically necessary".

Speaking after the meeting the newly elected chair, Lloyd Russell-Moyle said, "It was clear that the vast majority of members are united to take the campaign against Tory cuts into our local communities whilst recognising the hard work our councillors are doing in developing our city after years of neglect by other parties".

Warren Morgan, the Council Leader said: "I'm delighted that members are supporting our councillors and our ambitious plan for house building which will ensure 500 council houses and up to 2000 new homes offered at social rates, being truly affordable with rents no higher than 40% of income for those on minimum wage".

The Labour Party in Brighton, Hove and District meets monthly at all member meetings where local wards, affiliated organisations and individual members put forward proposals for the party and discuss pressing issues with their elected representatives. The next meeting will take place in the evening of the 10th February 2016 to enable discussions with potential Labour candidates for the Sussex Police Crime Commissioner elections to be held later this year.

//ENDS: Notes to the editor over the page.



Labour Party covering Hove & Portslade, Brighton Pavilion and Brighton Kemptown & Peacehaven.

Notes to the Editor

- Lloyd Russell-Moyle can be contacted for comment on: lloyd@russell-moyle.co.uk 01273 252929
- Warren Morgan can be contacted for comment on: warren.morgan@brighton-hove.gcsx.gov.uk 01273 294362
- There were two candidates for chair of the District Labour Party, which was vacant because Nancy Platts has been appointed as the Labour Party's Trade Union Liaison officer in Westminster.
- Three resolutions passed at the meeting held on the 16th January 2016 in City College:

1) Resolution supporting the Labour Council's Housing Initiative.

As rank and file Labour Party members we recognise the massive challenge that the housing crisis places on our Labour minority administration in the City. Without safe affordable and sufficient housing we feel that our city is increasingly pricing the poorest in our communities out of the city and causing significant community breakdown.

We welcome news that the City Labour Group is:

- *delivering on its manifesto promise of delivering 500 new council homes*
- *developing innovative solutions to deliver 1000 further truly affordable homes for rent and purchase based on the living wage*
- *working hard along with other campaign groups to highlight and improve the large private rental sector in the City*

2) Resolution opposing Tory Cuts and supporting the work of the local Labour Group.

We, as Brighton and Hove Labour members, condemn the Conservative Government for the imposition of £25 million in cuts to local council services in this City which will mean the loss of many services and cause much hardship.

In accordance with the statement by Shadow Chancellor John McDonnell on 18th November 2015, we support the Labour Group leading the city council in setting a lawful and balanced budget for 2016/17 and in finding co-operative and innovative solutions aimed at defending jobs and services in the face of Tory cuts.

3) Resolution opposing Tory Cuts and support campaigns in opposition to them.

Labour Party members across Brighton and Hove recognise that the unprecedented level of cuts to local government funding, including that of Brighton & Hove City Council (BHCC), is taking place directly as a result of central government policy. We further recognise that these cuts will have a devastating impact on people who rely on BHCC services, as well as on the workers who deliver those services.

We believe these cuts to be politically motivated and not economically necessary. Recognising the need to set a legal budget, we call on the Brighton, Hove & District Labour Party (BHDLP) Executive, in consultation with the Council Labour Group, to start a discussion within the BHDLP aimed at developing a strategy to confront these cuts and further mobilise local campaigns to highlight the devastating impact of this government's cuts to local council spending.