

## Eastbourne Borough Council

28 February 2024

Amendments being proposed:

### Agenda Item 11b – Motion – To support the youth voice in Eastbourne.

Amendment to be proposed by Councillor di Cara (changes shown in blue)

The Council will: ~~adopt a new and co-created approach to local democracy by seeking to:~~

#### Connect with Young People:

To encourage all local Councillors to connect with existing youth structures **and seek such as the East Sussex Youth Cabinet** to provide a platform for young people to offer an input on policies and participate in discussions on local issues.

To offer an annual open forum at the Town Hall hosted by Councillors, allowing young people to express their views to elected members on matters important to them.

#### Promote Youth-Friendly Spaces:

To actively promote youth-friendly spaces and events where young people can express their ideas, concerns, and aspirations for the community.

#### Collaboration:

For the relevant Cabinet Members and members appointed by Full Council to hold a 'youth brief', to seek to **engage with the East Sussex Youth Cabinet who** collaborate with local schools, youth and community groups to encourage young people to be consulted and involved in decision-making processes and civic activities.

#### Promote Street Art and Young Artists:

To promote street art, murals, and showcasing the talent of young artists, reflecting the desire of young people to see themselves reflected in the town through 'colour' and life.

#### Support Young Artists Market:

To support the Youth Market and ensure it provides creative opportunities to showcase young people's talent, fostering town-wide pride in our youth.

## **Agenda Item 11c - Motion – Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO) Study.**

Amendment to be proposed by Councillor Murray (changes shown in blue)

“This Council ~~requests~~ **welcomes** the issuing of the updated report by Aecom entitled ‘Eastbourne Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO) Study’, a draft of which was produced in June 2023, subject to Aecom having all required information. **With this additional information, it will allow the Council**, as a matter of urgency to bring forward and consider through a future committee report the intervention options that might be proposed in the final report. ~~including but not limited to Article 4 intervention.~~

**It is important that the Council looks at this particular area of housing, as it supports those with specific needs, with the housing crisis that we are facing and fills in some of the gaps that are being left by the traditional housing supply chain. It is important that the Council addresses these issues to support those most in need, whilst ensuring that the local community has a mixed tenure of housing in its area. The report will guide the Council in delivering options to deal with HMO’s including, but not limited to, Article 4 intervention.”**

## **Agenda Item 11d – Motion – A Housing Emergency**

Alternative course of Action to be proposed by Councillor Small

“This Council Notes:

- That the underlying issues behind Eastbourne’s increased demand for temporary and emergency accommodation are complex and many, but primarily driven by a shrinking and increasingly unaffordable private rental sector, a severe shortage of housing available to the Council for placements and employment levels in the town falling relative to the national average, all further being exacerbated by the increased cost of living following the pandemic and energy crisis triggered by the invasion of Ukraine.
- This is despite a national backdrop of record levels of house building, with the national target of a million homes built during this current parliament on course to be met and close to record levels of employment across the UK.
- Locally, Eastbourne has seen an average of 180 net dwellings constructed every year, with just half of these being new builds, despite a significant number of brownfield sites sitting vacant for years on end.
- There is also a major shortage of housing for those on the housing waiting list, with cases of residents in band C waiting as long as 13 years for a property.

For Eastbourne, the end result has been:

- Ordinary working families being priced out of the housing market through no fault of their own;

- Almost everyone knowing someone who is struggling to access housing of their choice; and
- The Council's total net spend on TA in 2023/24 forecast to be circa £4.6m, up from 3.8m in 2022/23 and £1.6m in 2021/22.

As such, this Council calls on the Leader and Cabinet to:

- Make use of all available powers to maximise Eastbourne's attractiveness for new housing proposals and commits to working meaningfully with all partners at both local and national level to solve the challenges that are blocking development in the town, notably but not limited to the sites at Bedfordwell Road, Junction Road, TJ Hughes and Debenhams buildings.
- Commits to publishing its own locally determined housing need figure, to help guide the towns housing ambitions.
- Commends the government for the action already taken to address the temporary accommodation challenges that this Council faces, namely in uprating the Local Housing Allowance Rate at a cost of £9Bn over the next 5 years, and uprating the core spending power grant to Eastbourne by an additional £145,000.
- Requests that the local MP continues to lobby the Treasury and Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities for the Housing Benefit Subsidy Rate to be increased and that the Council engages with the housing sector, MP and Government on what long term solutions are needed to fix the national housing crisis.
- Formally consider redefining the tourist zone, with a view to having a smaller number of higher quality beds and allowing some existing tourist accommodation to be converted to residential. ”

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