

# homing in

[www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/council-housing](http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/council-housing)

Summer 2022



A parade by Paraorchestra brought music and dancing to the streets of Whitehawk during Brighton Festival. It was one of a variety of community events as residents celebrated 'Our Place'. Find out more on page 9.

## In this issue

Help and advice with living costs

Providing more council homes

Results of the STAR survey

Win theatre tickets

# Welcome to the summer issue of Homing In

We know many people are facing real hardship because of the rising cost of living, particularly the most vulnerable in our communities.

In this issue there's information about help and support available, plus news of the Brighton & Hove Cost of Living Crisis Appeal, which was launched in May to help people in poverty.

Our annual report to tenants and leaseholders is also included with this issue.

The last year has been a busy one for our housing services, and the report is an opportunity for you to see in detail how we have been performing, and our priorities for the coming year.



Cllr Siriol Hugh-Jones



Cllr David Gibson

In this issue of Homing In we've also got an update on our work to provide more council homes, and we're pleased to report that last year a record number of homes were brought back into council ownership through our Home Purchase Policy.

We're continuing to build new properties, and a planning application has now gone in for a proposed development of more than 200 council homes and a community hub in Moulsecoomb.

And there's news of a new trial scheme of estate walkabouts to focus on areas in need of attention.

After the challenges of the pandemic, and the easing of restrictions, we hope you have the chance to get out and about to make the most of this summer.

**Councillors David Gibson and Siriol Hugh-Jones**  
Co-chairs of the Housing Committee

## Cutting carbon emissions

**We're replacing electric storage heaters and immersion heaters in some council homes with low carbon, energy efficient heat pumps.**

A heat pump uses a small amount of energy to move heat from one location to another. The pumps work by extracting heat from the air or ground to heat water. The heated water then provides heating and hot water to a property.

After some successful trials, a larger programme of installations began in April. As we install newer technologies feedback from tenants will be vital and will help us to cut carbon emissions across the city's council housing.

A new heating and hot water contract will start next year and, as and when they need replacing, boilers and other heaters will be replaced with low carbon, energy efficient options.

It's part of our commitment to cut emissions and become a carbon neutral city by 2030.



To find out more, visit  
[www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/climate-change](http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/climate-change)

# Worried about money?

With food and energy bills going up, the cost of living crisis is a big concern for many local households. If you're struggling financially and need help, the council can provide welfare advice, discretionary payments and other support.

- Extra help is available for households in Brighton & Hove struggling to pay for food, fuel and other essential costs. The funding is part of the government's Household Support Fund and is available until 30 September 2022. To find out more, visit [www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/household-support-fund](http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/household-support-fund) or, if you don't have access to the website, call the council's Community Hub helpline on 01273 293117, option 2.
- To check if your child is entitled to free school meals, visit [www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/free-school-meals](http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/free-school-meals) or call 01273 293497.

- If you're in a low income household and need help paying your Council Tax, you could get a Council Tax Reduction, visit [www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/ctr](http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/ctr)
- For benefits advice call the Welfare Rights Team advice line, open Monday to Wednesday 10am to 1pm, on 01273 291116 or email [welfarerights@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:welfarerights@brighton-hove.gov.uk)
- If you are having problems paying your rent, please contact the Housing Income Management Team on 01273 293224 or email [housing.incomemanagement@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:housing.incomemanagement@brighton-hove.gov.uk)

## Cost of Living Crisis Appeal

Brighton & Hove Citizen's Advice and Brighton & Hove Food Partnership have teamed up to launch a Cost of Living Crisis Appeal, with the support of the council.

The appeal will help local people in hardship with their food and fuel costs through vouchers, food parcels, and low energy items like electric blankets and slow cookers. We know money is tight, but if you are fortunate enough to have a little money to spare, you can donate the appeal at [www.justgiving.com/campaign/BHCostofLivingCrisis](https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/BHCostofLivingCrisis)

**See page 10 for information about free activities and meals for children in the summer holidays.**

## There's help and advice available

For more information, visit [www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/benefits/help-and-support](http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/benefits/help-and-support)

Advice and support is also available from a range of local organisations. These include:

**Money Advice Plus**  
0800 988 7037  
[www.moneyadviceplus.org.uk](http://www.moneyadviceplus.org.uk)

**Citizens Advice**  
0300 330 9033  
[www.cabrightonhove.org](http://www.cabrightonhove.org)

**Local Energy Advice Partnership**  
0800 060 7567  
[www.applyforleap.org.uk](http://www.applyforleap.org.uk)

## Helping local families



Les and Ivor from Estates Services at the furniture recycling project

A furniture recycling project run by our Estates Services Team helps tenants in need and last year (2021/22) provided 238 items, ranging from tables to fridges.

Donations of unwanted furniture and household items in good condition can make a real difference to people

struggling with the cost of living. Recently the team provided a family with beds as they were sleeping on the floor and had no means to buy them.

If you have any furniture items in good condition to donate, please call 01273 294769.

## Success in buying back council homes

A total of 90 homes were brought back into council ownership last year through our Home Purchase Policy.

That's the highest number of homes purchased in one year since the policy was launched in 2017 to buy back properties sold under Right to Buy.

It's one of a range of ways we are providing more council housing for people on the city's housing register.

In the last 3 years we've provided more than 320 additional council homes through the Home Purchase Policy, our New Homes for Neighbourhoods building programme, and other projects.

If you're a leaseholder or freehold owner of a property sold through the government's Right to Buy, and interested in selling your home, visit [www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/home-purchase-policy](http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/home-purchase-policy) or call 07961 659 157.



New homes to be built in Frederick Street

## Moulsecoomb housing and community hub



**A planning application for the proposed new community hub and more than 200 new council homes in Moulsecoomb is now in.**

The proposals are to develop a new community building and new homes on land currently used by the Moulsecoomb north and south hubs, the 67 Centre, and the surrounding area.

The final designs have been shaped by residents' views following a series of 'planning for real' sessions held in early 2020.

Services in the hub could include a GP Surgery, Moulsecoomb Library, adult learning and a community café. Proposals also include a new centre for youth services with a separate entrance.

If the planning application is approved, work on site is expected to begin in autumn this year.

You can find out more about the proposals and how they've been developed at [www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/mhchp](http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/mhchp)

## Building new homes

**A development of 42 new council flats in Victoria Road, Portslade is due to be completed in the autumn.**

It will be the first new council housing project in the city with a ground source heat pump system to provide heating and hot water for residents.

Other features will include solar panels, a communal

garden for residents and a small outdoor space with trees and seating for people using Portslade Town Hall.

In Frederick Street, Brighton work is on track to start late summer on 4 new homes on a former car park site.

To find out more about New Homes for Neighbourhoods, visit [www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/nhfn](http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/nhfn)

# Getting out there on Estate Walkabouts

**Housing services have worked hard over the last two years to keep delivering services to residents during the pandemic.**

The Estates Services Team delivered an enhanced level of cleaning, emergency repairs continued, and Housing Customer Services and the Repairs Helpdesk provided a call answering service to those that needed to speak with someone.

Some resources were diverted to support the most vulnerable tenants, including arranging deliveries of food and medical prescriptions, and housing staff contacted thousands of tenants during lockdown to check if they needed help.

We would like to thank residents for your patience and understanding during the pandemic.

## Working with residents to improve estates

We are now pleased to be getting back out and working with our communities once again. During the month of May we started to introduce weekly Estate Walkabouts.

It's hoped this regular time on our estates will help us focus on the issues that matter to local communities, and that we can work with residents to improve the local environment.

Wherever possible the opportunity to make a difference on the day will be taken - for example cleaning a path of rubbish or a fly tipped area, or a deep clean of an entrance hall.

Although any urgent health and safety issues will be picked up, the walkabouts won't be repair focused. You can report repairs as usual online at [www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/repairs](http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/repairs) or call our repairs helpdesk on 0800 052 6140, or 01273 294409 if calling from a mobile.

Tenant and resident group representatives, councillors, housing managers, and other housing staff are being invited to join the walkabouts. The walkabouts will run for a trial for 3 months with a review to be completed in August, with more walkabouts to follow in the autumn.



An Estate Walkabout in Tyson Place, Brighton

To find out more or attend the session in your area, please contact our Housing Customer Services Team on 01273 293030 or email [housing.customerservices@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:housing.customerservices@brighton-hove.gov.uk).

## Help with decorating your home

**Our decorating work scheme is back up and running for the first time since March 2020.**

The scheme provides a decorating service for older tenants (aged over 70 and in receipt of certain benefits), and people with a disability, who don't have family or friends who can help out.

During the pandemic, we've continued to provide packs of decorating materials for those tenants who wish to do it themselves or have support.

To apply or find out more, visit [www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/apply-decorating-work-scheme](http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/apply-decorating-work-scheme) or call 01273 293030.

# STAR survey - thank you for giving us your views

Thank you to everyone who took part in the Survey of Tenants and Residents (STAR) in the autumn.



Your feedback is important to help us to plan services and highlight where we need to improve. A total of 1,000 tenants gave their views.

## **70% of tenants said they were 'very satisfied' or 'fairly satisfied' with Housing services overall.**

Here's a breakdown of responses for questions about different services:

- Quality of home 71% 'very satisfied' or 'fairly satisfied'
- Safety and security of home 71%
- Last completed repair 76%
- Rent provides value for money 89%
- Easy to deal with 72%
- Listening to and acting upon views 59%
- Standard of customer service 77%
- Clean and safe communal areas 70%

The key themes from tenants' comments were focusing investment on property improvements (55% of respondents) and neighbourhoods (19%), improving cleaning and security in communal areas, delivering new homes, and carrying out repairs more quickly (including catching up on outstanding repairs).

## **Actions to improve performance include:**

- Post-Covid recovery plan is in place to reduce repairs backlog
- Residents involved in anti-social behaviour review
- Better enquiries and complaints monitoring to improve response times

- Planned works such as kitchen and bathroom replacements resumed under new contracts in 2021/22
- Major works resuming under new contracts starting in 2022/23
- Providing more council homes
- Targeting fly-tipping hot-spots with new CCTV monitoring
- Assessing factors leading to lower satisfaction among tenants under 65

## **Here are some of the responses from tenants surveyed, in their own words:**

**"It is lovely where I am. I'm happy."**

**"Make sure that the vulnerable tenants are being looked after."**

**"Insulation should be a top priority for all council homes."**

**"They should build more affordable social housing so they can help to eradicate homelessness."**

**"They have done marvellously as far as I am concerned."**

**"Make sure the bin area is kept clean and tidy. We could do with more bin space and the area is used for people to dump larger items."**

**"Complete repairs that are still outstanding and complete repairs quicker."**

**"Repair the houses and get them back up to a good standard."**

**"I've lived here for 45 years, and it is the best I've ever seen it."**

For more information, visit [www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/star-survey-2021](http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/star-survey-2021)

## **Have your say – improving housing services and homes**

**Your views are important in helping to influence decisions about council homes and estates.**

Residents play a vital role in ensuring the council understands the experience of people living on estates and in council housing and help us improve and develop the quality of services, the local environment, and the standard of homes.

We are currently reviewing how we involve tenants and leaseholders and have launched a survey to understand the best ways for you to work with us.

Area Panels are one of the ways tenants and leaseholders work with the council. These are regular meetings with local councillors and senior housing officers to look at a wide range of issues.

We are looking at the way these meetings work and engage residents, and if there are other ways people would like to contribute as well.

We welcome your ideas and feedback and you can take part in the survey at [www.bit.ly/MyHomeMyView](http://www.bit.ly/MyHomeMyView) until 5 August, or contact the Community Engagement Team on 01273 291211 or 291518.

## **Save the date for conference**

**The Citywide Conference for tenants and leaseholders will be held on 8 October at Hove Town Hall from 10.30am to 2.30pm.**

The annual conference is organised by residents, and it is a chance to share ideas and put questions to housing councillors and managers.

‘Living with Disability, challenging stigma’ will be the theme this year, and the programme will include guest speakers and information about help and support available in the city.

The conference is open to all tenants and leaseholders and chaired by Chris El-Shabba, a tenant representative from Whitehawk.

After two years of virtual conferences, organisers are looking forward to welcoming people in person again. There will be the option to join the conference online or by phone if you prefer.

For more details, visit [www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/citywide-conference](http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/citywide-conference) or call the Community Engagement Team on 01273 291211 or 291518.

## **Jubilee celebrations**

**A Jubilee Extravaganza was held by Craven Vale Community Association with an afternoon of fun and festivities for local residents.**

The group was among 16 local organisations awarded council grants towards community events celebrating the Queen’s Jubilee.

Other celebrations included a tea party organised by Bates Estate Community Association and a party held by the residents’ association at Jasmine Court seniors housing scheme.

For more information about grants for community groups, visit [www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/communitiesfund](http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/communitiesfund)



**Jubilee events at Craven Vale (above) and Jasmine Court (left)**

# Stay safe this summer



An East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service home safety visit

We're reminding residents in blocks of flats of the importance of keeping communal areas and common ways clear, for everyone's safety.

Anything left in common ways - for example on landings or staircases - poses a potential fire risk and could block an escape route or cause a trip hazard in an emergency.

For this reason, please do not leave mats, shoes, bikes, toys or anything else outside your home in communal areas and common ways.

Our fire safety team has been visiting all blocks to ensure items are not being left in communal ways and causing a hazard. If necessary, items are removed and there is a charge for their return. (Any items removed are stored for 28 days and disposed of if not collected, unfortunately we are unable to store items for longer).

If you have a balcony, please remember that barbecues must

not be used on balconies because of the fire risk.

While you are welcome to keep bicycles on your balcony, it should not be used as a storage area for other items, such as furniture, white goods, decorating materials or toys.

As with anywhere else in your home, if you smoke on your balcony, always check that you've fully extinguished your cigarette in a proper ashtray – don't be tempted to use a plant pot, as these can catch fire.

## Thank you for your help to keep everyone safe

For more information, please call Housing Customer Services on 01273 293030 or email [housing.customerservices@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:housing.customerservices@brighton-hove.gov.uk)

For more fire safety advice, visit East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service website [www.esfrs.org](http://www.esfrs.org) or call 0800 177 7069 to arrange a home safety visit.



Raising funds at Leach Court coffee morning

## Fundraising for Ukraine

A coffee morning and raffle at Leach Court seniors housing scheme in Kemp Town raised £1,125 for the Ukraine crisis appeal.

Leach Court Social Committee organised the event for the residents in March and decorated the communal lounge with Ukrainian flags. Residents donated prizes for the raffle.

Eileen Esposito, one of the organisers, said: "People were so generous, the donations kept on coming even after the event. Everyone wanted to do something to help."

Tracy Boegli-Taylor, one of the scheme managers at Leach Court, said: "We are so proud of our social club and all the hard work they put into Leach Court in bringing the residents together. We're very lucky to have them."

# Hope and fun at Our Place

**A joyful celebration of community and creativity brought people together at Our Place events in Hangleton and Knoll, East Brighton, and Moulsecoomb and Bevendean.**

Our Place is part of Brighton Festival and residents helped to organise a variety of free family activities in May, inspired by the festival's theme of hope and rebuilding.

Neighbourhood events included music, dance, art projects with local artists and designers, displays and storytelling.

Highlights in Hangleton and Knoll included a weekend of outdoor performances in Hangleton Park and 'Hats for Hope', a vibrant exhibition of hats created by residents.

In East Brighton, residents got creative at 'Hearts for Hope' art workshops and decorated a trail of trees with brightly coloured hearts. And there was music and dancing in the streets with a fabulous parade through Whitehawk by Paraorchestra.

Community groups in Moulsecoomb and Bevendean took part in art workshops to design and make birds, which were displayed around the neighbourhood as 'The Murmurations of Moulsecoomb and Bevendean'.

Our Place is now in its sixth year and going from strength to strength!



Residents in East Brighton decorated trees with hearts



Photo: Chloe Hashemi/Brighton Festival

Left: Part of the Paraorchestra parade in Whitehawk

Below: Colourful hats created by residents in Hangleton and Knoll



## Commemorating Manoj Natha-Hansen

**A block of flats in Hartington Road, Brighton, has been named Manoj House, in memory of local teacher Manoj Natha-Hansen.**

The local community and neighbouring St Martin's Primary School were involved in the choice of the name.

Manoj was a teacher at the school who sadly died suddenly in 2020. He specialised in Special Educational Needs and won awards from the National Education Union for his campaigning work for minority groups working in education.

Manoj House is used to provide temporary homes for people in housing need.



## Free school holiday activities and meals

**Support for families will be available during the school summer break at more than 30 venues across Brighton & Hove.**

Children and teenagers who receive benefits-related free school meals will have the opportunity to take part in fun activities, including sports, arts, crafts and cookery.



Places on the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme are free and each session includes a tasty meal. Venues include schools, playschemes and community projects.

For more details, visit [www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/HAF](http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/HAF)

## Tax credits ending in 2024

A new government campaign aims to raise awareness that tax credits are ending. People claiming tax credits will be moved to Universal Credit (UC) by 2024.

Many people currently receiving tax credits could be better off on Universal Credit.

To find out more, and get details of independent benefits calculators to help check, visit [www.understandinguniversalcredit.gov.uk](http://www.understandinguniversalcredit.gov.uk) and follow the links to tax credit information.

This is all part of moving people onto Universal Credit if they are still getting one of the 5 benefits that UC replaced. This means anyone getting Income Support, Jobseeker's Allowance, Employment and Support Allowance, tax credits or housing benefit will start to be contacted and advised to claim UC instead.

For more information, call the Welfare Rights team advice line, open every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 10am to 1pm on 01273 291116.

## News from the Leaseholders Action Group

The committee elected at the Reunion have established our priorities for the year. Several of these are around maintenance and works on our blocks: early involvement in deciding what works are necessary and desirable; replace/repair decisions; and ensuring that all defects left after previous major works get fixed.

If you have had major works in your block and there are still defects left, as well as informing the council, please let the Leaseholders Action Group (LAG) know too.

Other priorities are: asset management - to ensure the investment in work done on our blocks is well

looked after; also building on our links with Housing Committee and getting our new Terms of Reference settled; and some non-building topics including lease extension/home buy-back links, anti-social behaviour and the Estate Development Budget.

Committee meetings are open to all leaseholders, so do come and join us. We aim to meet in person this year - but you can phone or zoom in too.

To contact us, or join our email discussion group, phone 01273 605225, email [lag@clarend.com](mailto:lag@clarend.com) or search for B&H Leaseholders Action Group on Facebook.

**Rosemary Johnson, LAG Chairperson**

## Make sure you're protected against Covid-19 this summer

There's still a risk of catching and spreading Covid-19. Vaccines are the best way of protecting you from getting seriously ill.

Most people are eligible for Covid first, second and booster vaccines. People aged 75 or older and those with weakened immune systems should also get a spring booster. If you haven't had all of yours it's not too late, get one today.

You can book online or call 119, or visit a walk-in that's convenient for you. Go to [www.sussexhealthandcare.uk/get-my-jab](http://www.sussexhealthandcare.uk/get-my-jab)

There's also help to get to your appointment if you need it and local vaccine teams can answer any questions you might have, call 0800 433 4545.

### Have your say on physical activity, sport and exercise opportunities in the city

We've launched a citywide consultation to find out people's attitudes to sports and physical activity, the type of opportunities you would like to see and what support you need to become more active.

Please share your experiences of being active in the city by Sunday 31 July. Go to [www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/active-for-life](http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/active-for-life)

You can also call the Healthy Lifestyles team on 01272 294589 to talk to someone, or get involved in events.



New play equipment in Preston Park

## Parks improvements in full swing

New fitness equipment and a multi-use games area will be installed at Wild Park in Brighton this summer.

The state-of-the-art equipment is designed to be durable and similar to apparatus you'd find in a gym.

The games area will incorporate football, basketball, two mini five-a-side football pitches, a running track and a chill out area.

There is also a £3 million package of improvements underway at parks and playgrounds across the city.

Play areas at Carden Park, Whitehawk Way, Woodingdean, Hollingdean Park, Knoll Park and Woollards Field are among those due to be refurbished this year (2022/23).

Local people have given views on improvements and play equipment they would like, and this is helping to shape designs for the new look playgrounds.

In total 45 play areas will be upgraded by March 2024. Work has already been completed at around half, including Saunders Park, East Brighton Park and Preston Park.

For more details, visit [www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/playgrounds](http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/playgrounds)

## Historic elm in jubilee tribute

An elm tree in Preston Park has been chosen as part of a nationwide network of 70 ancient trees dedicated to the Queen to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee.

The tree (pictured) is thought to be the oldest surviving English Elm in Europe. It was once part of a pair of elms, known as the Preston Twins. The other was felled in 2019 due to elm disease.

The network of ancient trees was chosen by the Queen's Green Canopy initiative [www.queensgreencanopy.org](http://www.queensgreencanopy.org)



# How we've been doing

Here are the highlights of our performance over the last quarter...



## Rent collection and current arrears

We've collected 95.66% of rent and around a quarter of households (26%) have someone on Universal Credit.



## Repairs and improvements

The proportion of 'Decent Homes' has slightly decreased, from 96.9% to 95.6%, and the Repairs Helpdesk answered an average of 292 phone calls per working day.



## Customer services

Housing Customer Services dealt with an average of 80 phone calls and 82 emails per working day. The most common queries were about tenancy issues such as anti-social behaviour, property maintenance, residents' parking and the housing register.

## January to March 2022



### Moving home

We let 148 homes, including 8 new homes. This is an improvement on the previous quarter, when 138 homes were let.

### Estates service

The team completed 712 jobs to move bulky items.

### Anti-social behaviour

Our officers supported residents with 183 new reports of anti-social behaviour.

### Tenancy management

We've worked on 72 cases to support vulnerable tenants, including 28 who required specialist tenancy sustainment support because they were at risk of abandoning their tenancies. This work includes helping vulnerable tenants with arranging benefit claims, repairs, and care packages.

## Feedback about housing services

**We want to know what you think about the service you receive so we can build on our successes and make improvements where they are most needed.**

Please send your feedback to [CustomerFeedback@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:CustomerFeedback@brighton-hove.gov.uk) or call 01273 291229.

Whether you make a compliment or a complaint, your right to receive a good quality service will not be affected.

The Housing Ombudsman service can give independent advice to tenants and options available if you have used the council's complaints procedure and are unsatisfied with the outcome. For details, visit [www.housing-ombudsman.org.uk](http://www.housing-ombudsman.org.uk) email [info@housing-ombudsman.org.uk](mailto:info@housing-ombudsman.org.uk) or call 0300 1113000.

## Brighter, safer car park reopens

A car park under St James' House in Kemp Town has been completely refurbished, and new security measures installed, in response to concerns from residents about serious anti-social behaviour.

The Chapel Street Car Park (formerly known as High Street Car Park) reopened in May. Improvements include new CCTV equipment monitored from the council's Transport Control Centre, new lighting, and gates and pedestrian doors for secure access.

# UEFA Women's EURO 2022 – get involved!

**Brighton & Hove is one of nine host cities for the UEFA Women's EUROS 2022 in July.**

Three matches will be played at Brighton & Hove Community Stadium. England v Norway on 11 July, Norway v Austria on 15 July, and a quarter final on 20 July.

A free family friendly 'Fan Party' site will be open in Victoria Gardens on match days and weekends during the tournament, from 12 noon to 6pm.

There will be a small stage, with music programmed by the British and Irish Modern Music Institute (BIMM). Activities will include table football, an inflatable football pitch, and opportunities to find out more about women's football in the city.

A special exhibition at Brighton Museum will share the stories of trailblazing women footballers.



Young footballers wave flags from the competing nations to celebrate the arrival of UEFA Women's 2022 tournament in Brighton & Hove

'Goal Power! Women's Football 1894-2022' runs from 18 June until 25 September. Visit [www.brightonmuseums.org.uk](http://www.brightonmuseums.org.uk) or call 03000 290 900.

For more information visit [www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/uefa-womens-euro-2022](http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/uefa-womens-euro-2022)

## Interested in learning a new skill?

**Check out the latest adult learning prospectus for courses starting from September.**

A wide range of day and evening classes are available, free or low-cost, for age 19+ residents.

All courses are free if you are unemployed or earn less than £18,525.

Courses include IT and digital skills, interview skills, creative writing, maths and English for speakers of other languages (ESOL).

For more information, visit [www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/adult-education](http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/adult-education) or call 01273 292828.

## Network of International Women



Sathi with the Archbishop of Canterbury on International Women's Day

**The Network of International Women for Brighton & Hove provides a friendly group for women from diverse cultures and backgrounds to get together.**

Members meet regularly to build friendships and enjoy a wide range of activities.

Regular sessions include crafts at the Jubilee Library on Wednesday mornings and art at Turner Children's Centre on Thursday afternoons.

In March the group marked International Women's Day with an event in Hove attended by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby.

Sathi Sivapragasam, a member of the group, said: "The International Women's Network is all about understanding and respecting different cultures.

"We share experiences and get to know different people and do different activities. Going to the group supports me and I can support others too."

To find out more, visit [www.niwbh.org](http://www.niwbh.org)



## Dates for your diary

### Area Panels

Area Panel meetings are a chance for residents to meet council officers and councillors to ask questions, share their views, and work with the council to improve housing services.

The next rounds of Area Panels will be held as follows:

**Central** 2pm Tuesday 16 August at the Barnard Centre, St Johns Mount, Mount Pleasant, BN2 0JP

**East** 7pm Tuesday 16 August at the Whitehawk Inn, Whitehawk Rd, Brighton, BN2 5NS

**West** 2pm Wednesday 17 August at the Council Chamber, Hove Town Hall, Norton Road, Hove, BN3 3BQ

**North** 7pm Wednesday 17 August at St Georges Hall, Newick Road, Moulsecoomb, BN1 9JG

These will be held in person, with the opportunity to also take part online on Zoom or join in by phone.

For more information contact the Community Engagement Team, email [communityengagement@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:communityengagement@brighton-hove.gov.uk) or call 01273 291211 or 291518.

Agendas and minutes of meetings are available at [www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/area-panel-meetings](http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/area-panel-meetings)

### City events

#### Paddle Round the Pier

3 July - Seafront

#### Brighton & Hove Multicultural Festival

9 July - Seafront east piazza by the i360

#### Pride

5 to 7 August - Various locations

Find out about forthcoming events in the city at [www.visitbrighton.com/whats-on](http://www.visitbrighton.com/whats-on)

If you have an event you'd like us to promote, please email [homingin@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:homingin@brighton-hove.gov.uk) or call Housing Customer Services on 01273 293030.

## Festival celebrating older people

**A fortnight of special events for people aged 50 plus will be held across the city from 19 September to 3 October.**

The Ageing Well Festival celebrates the city's older population, and the line-up will include music, arts, talks, and opportunities to try different sports and learn new skills.

Programmes will be available around the city in mid-August. For more details visit [www.ageingwellbh.org](http://www.ageingwellbh.org) or call 01273 322947.

The festival is produced by Impact Initiatives, working alongside the council, as well as voluntary sector organisations and local businesses.

## Summer fun in Hangleton and Knoll

'Big Munch' events are being held in August by the Hangleton and Knoll Project, with free food, fun, sport and craft activities for families.

They take place at Knoll Park (2 and 16 August) and Hangleton Park (9 and 23 August) from 12 to 2pm. To book a place, see contact details below.

Plus there are lots of free fun sessions and trips this summer for young people aged 11 to 19, and up to 25 for those with special educational needs or disabilities.

The project will also be supporting young people to keep safe and well with a Safe in the Summer campaign and giving out kit bags containing suncream and other items (while stocks last).

Current courses for adults in Hangleton and Knoll include Singing for Wellbeing, English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL), Persian Tile Making, and more are planned.

Activities are free for council tenants and leaseholders. For more information, visit [www.hkproject.org.uk](http://www.hkproject.org.uk), email [info@hkproject.org.uk](mailto:info@hkproject.org.uk) or call 01273 706469



# Win Theatre Royal Brighton tickets

Enter our free draw for a chance to win tickets to see the stage show of The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel at Theatre Royal Brighton.

The winner will receive two tickets to see the show at **7.45pm on 20 September 2022**.

**Simply answer the following questions, based on information in this issue:**

- **What will be the theme of this year's Citywide Conference for tenants and leaseholders?**
- **Which seniors housing scheme social committee has been fundraising for Ukraine?**
- **Which country is The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel set in?**

Send your answers by email to **homingin@brighton-hove.gov.uk** or by post to Homing In competition, Performance & Improvement, Housing Centre, Unit 1, Fairway Trading Estate, Eastergate Road, Brighton BN2 4QL. **Please include your name, address, postcode and phone number.**



Photo: Theatre Royal Brighton/Rosie Powell

## About the show

The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel is a comedy about a group of British retirees as they embark on a new life in India. The show is based on the novel which inspired the hit film of the same name.

**For more information, visit [www.atgtickets.com/brighton](http://www.atgtickets.com/brighton)**

The closing date for entries is **1 August 2022**. The winner will be notified and their name published in the next issue of Homing In.

The competition is open to all households who receive Homing In by email or post.

## Congratulations

Thanks to everyone who entered our spring competition to win tickets to the UEFA Women's EURO 2022. The lucky winner was Kumba Robert from Brighton.

## Our City Dances 2022

Brighton & Hove based charity South East Dance is inviting the whole city to celebrate the opening of its first ever purpose-built dance house – The Dance Space in Market Square, Circus Street – with a free festival of dance from 16 - 22 July.



Our City Dances 2022 offers a variety of free dance performances, workshops and have-a-go classes, providing a taste of what's to come in the space from September.

All events are free and drop in but can be pre-booked to secure your space at [www.southeastdance.org.uk](http://www.southeastdance.org.uk). Dance artist Valerie Ebuwa is pictured above outside The Dance Space.

## A waste less community pop up event

A community event is being held at the Old Boat Corner Community Centre in Hollingbury on Saturday 9 July, from 11am to 5pm, to share ideas and information about cutting waste.

The event will focus on food waste with lots of activities and local groups attending, such as Brighton & Hove Food Partnership.

It's part of the European-funded BLUEPRINT to a Circular Economy project and follows community events in Whitehawk in April.

The project is also looking for volunteer Circular Economy 'champions' interested in helping residents reduce waste and recycle more.

To find out more visit [www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/blueprint-circular-economy/become-circular-economy-champion](http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/blueprint-circular-economy/become-circular-economy-champion) or email [BLUEPRINT@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:BLUEPRINT@brighton-hove.gov.uk)

## Useful contacts

### Housing Customer Services

housing.customerservices@brighton-hove.gov.uk  
01273 293030

### Repairs Helpdesk

Report online at [www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/repairs](http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/repairs)  
**0800 052 6140** (local line **01273 294409**)

### Housing Income Management Team

housing.incomemanagement@brighton-hove.gov.uk  
01273 293224

### Housing Benefit

housing.benefits@brighton-hove.gov.uk  
**01273 292000** or **01273 290333** for people  
with speech or hearing difficulties

### Community Engagement Team

For information about tenant and leaseholder groups  
communityengagement@brighton-hove.gov.uk  
**01273 291518** or **291211**

### Access Point for adult social care

AccessPoint@brighton-hove.gov.uk  
**01273 295555**

### Noise Nuisance

[www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/noise](http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/noise)  
**01273 294266** or **01273 293541** for out of hours

## Other useful contacts

### Moneyworks Brighton & Hove

[www.moneyadviceplus.org.uk/advice-and-support/  
telephone-advice-line-moneyworks/](http://www.moneyadviceplus.org.uk/advice-and-support/telephone-advice-line-moneyworks/)  
**0800 9887037** or **01273 809288**

### Citizens Advice Bureau

[www.cabrightonhove.org](http://www.cabrightonhove.org)  
**0300 330 9033**

### Help with domestic violence and abuse

[www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/domestic-abuse-help](http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/domestic-abuse-help)  
**Freephone 0300 323 9985**

### Brighton & Hove Independent Mediation Service

[www.bhims.org.uk](http://www.bhims.org.uk)  
**01273 700812**

### Leaseholders Action Group

lag@clarend.com  
**01273 605225**  
[www.facebook.com/groups/bhlag](http://www.facebook.com/groups/bhlag)

## Online services

Visit the council housing website to check out  
all housing services at  
**www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/council-housing**

Pay online at **www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/pay**

Go to the Housing Online system at  
**www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/housingonline**

Information about money matters, tax, benefits  
and more **www.gov.uk**

 Follow us on [twitter.com/BHHousing](https://twitter.com/BHHousing)

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## Housing Committee Meeting

**Wednesday 28 September 2022 at 4pm**

**The meeting will be held at Hove Town Hall.**

At the time of going to print, there are restrictions  
on the number of people able to attend in the  
public gallery at committee meetings due to  
COVID-19, and the meeting will be available to  
view online.

Agendas, minutes and webcasts of council  
meetings are available at  
[www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/council-meetings](http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/council-meetings)

If you have any comments or suggestions  
for future articles, email  
[homingin@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:homingin@brighton-hove.gov.uk) or  
write to **Homing In**, Performance &  
Improvement, Housing Centre, Unit 1,  
Fairway Trading Estate, Eastergate Road,  
Brighton BN2 4QL or call 01273 293030

**Homing In** is produced by Brighton & Hove  
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