

homing in

www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/council-housing

Spring 2022

A block of flats in Hollingdean has been given a colourful new look, find out more on page 7.



In this issue

Help with energy costs

New council homes update

Funds for community projects

Win tickets to the UEFA Women's EURO 2022



**Brighton & Hove
City Council**

Welcome to the spring issue of Homing In

We know many people in the city are already struggling financially due to the pandemic and now face significant increases in the cost of living.

There is help and advice available, and on page 3 we have information about support with energy costs, plus the Welfare Rights Team advice line which can help you check if you are entitled to benefits.

In this issue there is also news and updates from housing services. We're continuing to provide much needed new council homes, and anyone who visited Oxford Street housing office in Brighton will be amazed at how it has been converted into ten energy efficient flats (see page 4).

We have information about our seniors housing schemes and what they offer to residents. Plus news of some great



Cllr Siriol Hugh-Jones



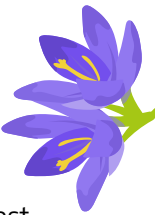
Cllr David Gibson

community projects and details of how you can apply for funds for a project in your neighbourhood.

We're also celebrating some of our Covid heroes and you can nominate someone who has made a real difference during the pandemic (see page 8).

Thank you to everyone for playing their part over the last two years of Covid to help us stay safe.

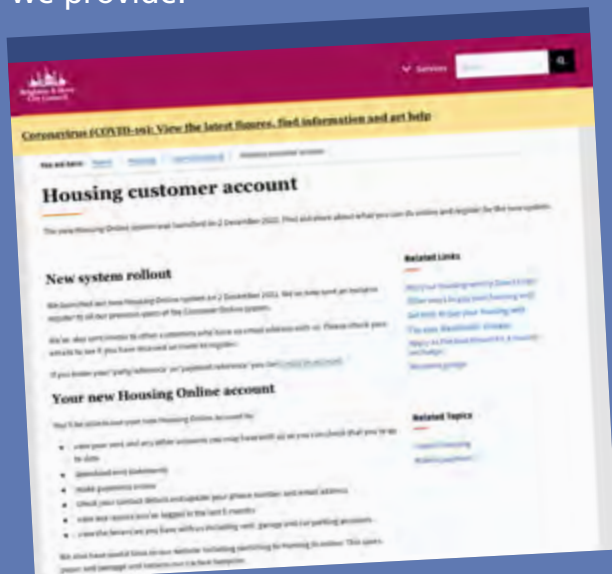
Councillors David Gibson and Siriol Hugh-Jones
Co-chairs of the Housing Committee



New Housing Online system

Our new Housing Online system was launched in December.

More than 1,250 tenants have so far registered to use the system, which is enabling us to improve the service we provide.



One tenant said:

“ I just wanted to say how excellent the new Housing Online service is. Much clearer and much easier to use – well done and thank you. ”

For details of how to create an account, visit www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/housingonline
Once registered, you can use your Housing Online account to:

- view your rent account
- make payments online
- update contact details
- view any recent repairs logged



We will be developing the site to enable users to do more in future, such as report new repairs and set up direct debits.

Help with energy costs

With household energy bills likely to rise significantly this year, many people are understandably worried about fuel costs.



Heating your home to at least 18°C (65°F) is important for your health and immune system, especially if you are 65 or over, have reduced mobility, or an existing health condition such as heart or lung disease.

The government has announced that households in Council Tax Bands A to D will receive £150 towards increased fuel costs.

The one-off payment is likely to be made in April or May, but we're still finalising details of how the scheme will work.

Later in the year, energy companies will also give households a £200 credit, repayable over 5 years in £40 instalments. This will be administered by the energy companies.

There's more advice on what support you might be eligible for at:

www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/help-with-fuel-bills



Check your benefits

Many people who work are able to claim Universal Credit to top up their wages.

The Universal Credit taper rate, which is used to calculate the benefit, has been reduced so you can now keep more of your monthly pay before it affects your Universal Credit.

Millions of pounds in benefits goes unclaimed each year. You can check your entitlement using online benefit calculators, such as www.policyinpractice.co.uk/software

You can also ring the council's Welfare Rights Team on our advice line, open every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 10am to 1pm on **01273 291116**.



Topping out in Portslade

A 'topping out' ceremony was held in December to mark a development of 42 new council homes in Victoria Road, Portslade reaching its highest point.

Councillors David Gibson and Siriol Hugh-Jones, co-chairs of the Housing Committee, pictured here with ward councillor Alan Robins, got a bird's eye view of progress from the roof of the development.

The flats are due to be completed later this year.

Topping out is a construction industry tradition when the structure of a large new building reaches its maximum height.

Be alert for scams

We've had reports of a potential phone scam involving a caller asking if a tenant has 'any outstanding repairs to log'.

We would always identify ourselves as working for the council's repairs team when calling residents.

If you receive any call you're suspicious of, do not give out any details. Ask for the repairs reference number, and if in doubt, please call our repairs helpdesk on **0800 052 6140**.



New life for housing office



Councillors David Gibson and Mary Mears at George Cooper House with housing staff and contractors

A former housing office in Oxford Street, Brighton, has been transformed into ten energy-efficient new homes.

The one and two-bedroom flats will provide temporary accommodation for people in housing need, and include two fully wheelchair accessible properties.

The building was already called George Cooper House, after a former tenant representative in the area, and it will keep this name.

Solar panels and air source heat pumps will provide renewable sources of energy and the homes are highly insulated.

This is the first council housing conversion project in the city where solar panels feed directly into flats, rather than into communal electricity supplies and the national grid – directly helping to reduce bills for residents.

These sustainability features are 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

The solar panels were provided as part of the council's EU funded Solarise project.

Full steam ahead for affordable homes

Construction is well underway on 242 new homes on land east of Coldean Lane and 104 on the former Belgrave Day Centre site in Portslade.

They are being built by Homes for Brighton & Hove, a partnership of the council and housing association, the Hyde Group.

More than half will be council-rented homes, with the rest available to buy through a shared ownership scheme from Hyde. They are due to be ready next year.

To find out more, visit www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/hfbh



New homes at Coldean – photo taken earlier in the winter



Before and after – how the new homes will look

Go ahead to transform garage site

Plans to demolish old garages and build three new council houses in Rotherfield Crescent, Hollingbury, have got the go ahead.

Feedback from local residents helped shape final plans for the site, following a design competition run jointly with the Royal Institute of Architects.

The three-bedroom homes are designed to keep running costs down and be environmentally

friendly, with features including air source heat pumps and solar panels. Work is expected to start in 2022/23.

The development is part of our New Homes for Neighbourhoods building programme, which is providing new homes to let to people on the council's housing register. To find out more, visit www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/nhfn



Advice on damp and condensation

Our repairs and maintenance staff are often asked about damp and condensation, here is their advice:

Condensation is formed when water particles in moist air come into contact with cold surfaces, such as windows, tiles or external walls. It can be caused by increased moisture from cooking, drying clothes and steam from showers/baths. In some cases condensation can lead to mould.

Damp usually creates a 'tide mark' and the main sources are leaking pipes, wastes, overflows, roof defects, blocked gutters, or a failure in the structure of the building.

You can help to reduce the build-up of moisture in your home by:

- Using lids to cover pans when cooking, closing doors to the kitchen and bathroom when in use, and opening trickle vents and windows.
- Using an extractor fan in the kitchen and bathroom (if you have one installed) while cooking or washing.
- Try and reduce the drying of washing inside on radiators and ventilating the room if possible, making sure all tumble dryers are ventilated.
- If you need to dry clothes indoors, this should ideally be done in a room with an extractor fan or window that can be opened.

When you first notice mould, try to remove by wiping away with an anti-fungal treatment (always follow instructions). If this does not work or you would like further advice, contact our repairs helpdesk on **0800 052 6140** (or **01273 294409** if calling from a mobile).

Working in partnership to keep us moving

We have six electric vehicles in our repairs fleet, as part of our ongoing commitment to reduce vehicle emissions by 2030.

We're also taking part in a pilot scheme with EB Charging who operate the city's vehicle charging points. Lamppost charging points will be installed near the homes of two repairs staff for vehicles to be charged overnight, ready for action the next day.



Welcome to our new apprentices

We've taken on three new electrical apprentices in the repairs and maintenance service. A warm welcome to Charlie, Katy and Seth (pictured) who started their training this spring.

Further apprenticeship opportunities will be advertised on our website later in the year, visit www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/repairs-jobs



Brighton & Hove continues to expand the vehicle charging network and is now one of the top five leading councils in the country, with more than 240 publicly available charging points.

For locations of charging points, visit www.electricbrighton.com/charging or call **0330 111 0078**.

Find out about seniors housing

Are you in your fifties or older, and starting to think ahead about your future housing?

Or perhaps you have a relative or friend whose needs are changing or would benefit from having a 'safety net', just in case of emergencies. If so, it may be a good time to consider our seniors housing service.

There are 23 council-run seniors housing schemes across the city. The Seniors Housing Team aims to help people to continue to live as independently as possible, signposting to other services when more support or care may be required.

There's advice on hand to help to provide peace of mind, with a scheme manager service available during the day and a 24-hour emergency alarm system provided by Carelink Plus.

Communal gardens and lounges offer plenty of opportunities for relaxing and socialising. Our guest rooms mean that your friends and family can stay close at hand for a short while if extra room is needed.

We know how important pets are to many people, so your pet is also made welcome at our schemes (with permission).

Social activities, such as fitness classes and art groups are enjoyed at many of our schemes. Like many group events, they have been on hold during the pandemic, but some have restarted and we hope more will start again soon.



Two of our seniors housing schemes, Hazelholt in Portslade (above) and Elwyn Jones Court in Patcham



Like to find out more? Contact the Seniors Housing Team, email seniorshousing@brighton-hove.gov.uk or call 01273 293030 and ask for a call back from a member of our team.



Stay strong and independent

Stay Strong, Stay Steady, Stay Independent is a local campaign in April to highlight the importance of strength and balance exercises to support healthy ageing.

Did you know that as we get older, our muscle strength and balance reduces?

In fact, it starts from about age 30. Then from about 55, we lose about 1% of our muscle mass every year. This increases our risk

of having a life-changing fall. The good news is that there are lots of easy, affordable ways to keep strong and steady. This includes at home or at one of many activities across the city.

Activities take place all year round, and there will be extra sessions and events from 25 to 29 April.

To find out more, visit www.ageingwellbh.org or phone 01273 322947.

For more information about services and activities for people aged 50 plus, please see page 8.

Do you have an idea for improving your area – let us know!

We have two different funds for projects and improvements on our estates.

- **The Estate Development Budget** is spent on community projects suggested by residents.
- **The Environmental Improvement Budget** is spent on areas that need improving, based on feedback from residents, staff, and councillors.

Estate Development Budget (EDB)

Funds are used for resident led community projects, for example, communal gardens, benches, and cycle stores.

They can also be used to set up community activities, such as parent and toddler groups or fitness classes.

Residents can make a 'quick bid' for smaller projects up to the value of £1,000 or a 'main bid' for bigger projects up to the value of £10,000.

To find out more, visit www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/EDB or contact the Community Engagement Team (see right).

Environmental Improvement Budget (EIB)

Funds are used for improvements in response to feedback from residents including complaints, and issues staff notice when on our estates.

This could be a local need, like installing security fencing, or a city-wide project such as refurbishing children's play areas.

Other examples of work carried out include new bin stores and more storage for waste and recycling; landscaping measures, including creating community spaces, and improved accessibility through raised planters and additional pathways.

To suggest an improvement, you can take part in our survey at www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/eib-survey or contact the Community Engagement Team, email: communityengagement@brighton-hove.gov.uk or call 01273 291211 or 291518.



A bike shelter and footpath at Westham flats in Whitehawk provided with EDB funds



Carl at the Merevale mural

Making a difference at Merevale

A block of flats in Hollingdean has an eye-catching new look, thanks to local resident and artist Carl Evans.

Carl and other residents were fed up with seeing anti-social graffiti on the side of Merevale flats and a connecting alleyway.

So he suggested painting a colourful mural to transform the area and deter graffiti. Carl said: "Hollingdean borders the Downs, where a lot of people enjoyed walking in lockdown, so I've incorporated local nature and wildlife in the design."

Carl got permission and funding from the Environmental Improvement Budget to paint the mural, and was helped by fellow artist David Oates.

Local people are delighted with the result. One said: "I'm excited to see this beautiful artwork on the wall. It's on a pathway where our children walk to school and nursery, and makes a big difference."

To see a video about the mural, go to www.youtube.com and search for 'Merevale mural'.



Some of The Bevy meals on wheels team

Celebrating our Covid heroes

Volunteers and staff at The Bevy community pub and café in Moulsecoomb received a public thank you after being nominated as Covid heroes.

The Bevy team sprang into action at the start of the pandemic, delivering a 'meals on wheels' service to vulnerable local people, and have carried on ever since.

The grateful person who nominated them said: "They do fantastic work in the local community all year round and really stepped up with practical, frontline support when the pandemic hit."

Councillor Alan Robins, Mayor of Brighton & Hove, thanked The Bevy team and other community groups, charities and residents who helped during the pandemic.

There's still time to nominate your Covid heroes. Councillor Robins said: "I wish to celebrate the everyday heroes in this city who went above and beyond to help others, support their community or keep the city running during an unprecedented chapter in our history."

To nominate a Covid hero, visit www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/covid-19-hero-recognition-scheme

Living safely with Covid

Covid-19 has not gone away, but with lower case numbers and good protection from vaccines we can now look forward.

As legal restrictions are lifted we should make sensible decisions to protect ourselves and others:

- Let fresh air in or meet outside
- Consider wearing a face covering anywhere that's busy or enclosed
- Stay at home if unwell
- Wash your hands regularly



Get vaccinated

Vaccines are the best way of protecting you and your loved ones from illness. If you haven't already had yours, you can book online or call **119**, or visit a walk-in across the city that's convenient for you – there are lots of different locations available. Go to:

www.sussexhealthandcare.uk/get-my-jab

There's also help for you to get there if you need it, and vaccine teams can answer any questions you might have.

Ageing Well

If you are looking for information and advice, social groups, wellbeing activities, or volunteering opportunities, friendly advisors at Ageing Well can help.



Ageing Well is a programme of services and activities for people aged 50+ who live in Brighton & Hove. It's a partnership involving 10 local community and voluntary organisations, led by Impact Initiatives and commissioned by the council and Brighton & Hove Clinical Commissioning Group.

Whether you are interested in joining a yoga class or a lunch club, for example, advisors can help with details of activities in your area. Call 01273 322947 to talk to them.

Grants for BME communities

A Caribbean elders club and a multicultural women's cycling group are among community projects awarded grants from the council's Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) Engagement Fund.

The fund was launched in 2020 to support projects that improve the wellbeing of BME residents and promote fairness, and groups can apply for grants of up to £2,000. Seven groups received grants in the latest round of funding, including:

Brighton & Hove Black Anti Racism Community Organisation (BARCO) which will use the grant to support a dominoes and vinyl club for Caribbean elders.

Brighton Multicultural Women's Cycling Club which started in lockdown and now meets weekly, organising group rides and encouraging more women to start cycling.

Hangleton and Knoll Multicultural Women's Group which is reaching out to more people to increase membership.

Sussex Syrian Community Group, which provides community support and organises classes and events in Brighton & Hove.



Hangleton and Knoll
Multicultural Women's Group



Brighton & Hove
Black Anti Racism Community Organisation

The other groups are the Women of Colour Brighton group, Brighton & Hove Japanese Club, and Ohisama Ahaha Japanese groups for children.

The Engagement Fund is part of the Communities Fund which supports local community groups, voluntary organisations and not-for-profit social enterprise. For more details visit www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/communitiesfund

Brighton & Hove Black Anti Racism Community Organisation is celebrating black culture at 'Dominoes and Vinyl' events on 23 April and 28 May from 3pm at The Actors, Prince's Street, Kemp Town. Entry is free, learn how to play dominoes and bring your own vinyl! For more information visit www.brighton-barco.org or phone 07856 963740.



Brighton Multicultural
Women's Cycling Club



Have your say on the Wild Park Rainscape proposal

Plans are being drawn up to improve a small part of Wild Park in Brighton, to make an attractive new area for people and wildlife and help reduce pollution.

The aim is to create several shallow planted basins, known as 'rainscapes' at the front of the park. These will help to manage surface water from nearby roads in a more natural and sustainable way.

The project is led by The Aquifer Partnership (TAP), and they would like to hear the views of local people before a planning application is submitted.

A consultation event is being held on **Wednesday 18 May** at:

- 11am to 1.30pm at New Larchwood, Waldron Avenue, Coldean
- 2pm to 7.30pm at Moulsecomb Hall, Lewes Road, Brighton

More events are planned and organisers welcome the chance to talk with residents at meetings and community groups to explain more about the plans.

TAP brings together the South Downs National Park Authority, the Environment Agency, Southern Water, the council and other partners to protect the aquifer – the source of our drinking water in the city.

To find out more, visit www.wearetap.org.uk/wild-park-rainscape email WildPark@southdowns.gov.uk

If you don't have internet access, contact the Community Engagement Team on **01273 291211** to arrange a call from the TAP team.



Furniture recycling

Our Estates Services team runs a furniture recycling project to help tenants in need. Last year the team provided more than 180 items, ranging from tables to fridges.

The team welcomes donations of unwanted furniture and household items in good condition. Beds and mattresses are particularly needed.

If you have unwanted furniture which could help someone else, please call **01273 294769**.

News from the Leaseholder Action Group

The Leaseholder Reunion took place in January – it was good to have so many people there.

Due to Omicron, we were all on the phone/online this time. We hope to have a real-life get-together again soon. We heard from leading councillors and council staff about housing, discussed major and planned works, and heard about the satisfaction survey results.

We also held our first Annual Meeting for nearly three years, and elected a new committee. We still have space for more people to get involved, so if you're interested in

taking up leasehold issues, please do get in touch. In particular, can you share a leaseholder's perspective on tackling anti-social behaviour (ASB)? Or are you a non-resident leaseholders concerned about the Estate Development Budget?

If your flat or building has any repairs issues let us know! Send info to LAG and we'll get it to the right people at the council.

All committee meetings are open to all leaseholders, so do come and join us. We hope to meet in person this year – but you can always phone or zoom in too if that is easier for you.

Contact the Leaseholder Action Group on **01273 605225** or email lag@clarend.com or search for B&H Leaseholders Action Group on facebook.

Rosemary Johnson
Chair, Leaseholder Action Group

Enjoy fresh produce for less!

A thriving community food project is now open in four locations.

BrightStore opened in Hollingdean in 2020 and has added stores in Hove, Mile Oak and Whitehawk.

People sign up to become members of the weekly social grocery store and get an affordable shop of fresh fruit, vegetables and other essential groceries, sourced mostly locally from surplus or donated food.

Membership is based on a 'pay what you can afford' principle and members help run the stores.

One said: "BrightStore is a lovely way of feeling part of the community where I live and has saved me so much money and time on groceries!"

BrightStore is open from 1pm to 4pm as follows:

- Tuesday Hollingdean Community Centre, Thompson Road
- Wednesday Church of the Good Shepherd Hall, Stanley Avenue, Mile Oak
- Thursday Vallance Centre, Sackville Road, Hove
- Thursday Roundabout Children's Centre, Whitehawk Road, Whitehawk

To find out more, visit www.brightstore.org or call 07306 655432.

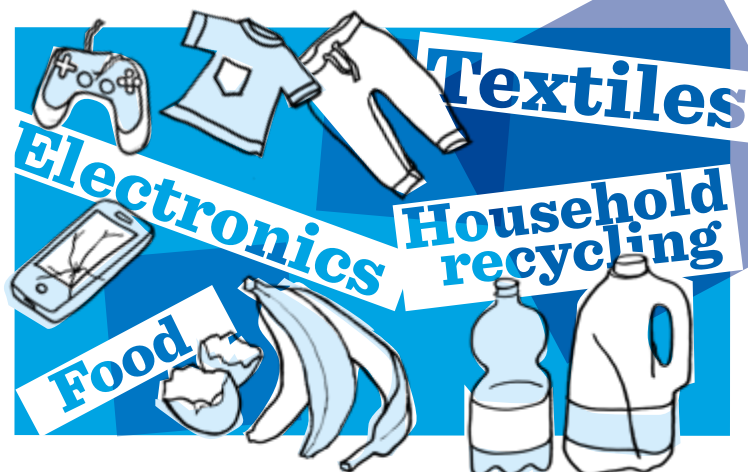


BrightStore social grocery store

Become a circular economy champion!

Fancy taking part in an eco-challenge?

The council's sustainability team is looking for volunteer 'champions' to help residents reduce waste and recycle more.



The Circular Economy Champions scheme is part of a newly launched European-funded BLUEPRINT project.

When it comes to fashion and fabrics, food waste, electronics, and household recycling, the sustainability team is working in partnership to spread the word in the community about the benefits of a circular economy – reducing, reusing, repairing, sharing and recycling wherever we can.

Our Circular Economy Champions will help by sharing information with family, friends, and neighbours about reducing waste and encouraging them to make 'pledges' of action.

No previous experience is needed. Training and support is provided and there will be opportunities to meet other environmental volunteers.

Community events are also being planned to share ideas and information about cutting waste.

The first is at Whitehawk Library from on 1 April (3 to 5pm) and 2 April (10am to 3pm) with a focus on textiles. There will be local organisations in attendance running stalls, a clothes swap, presentations from speakers, and children's activities.

To find out more, visit www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/become-circular-economy-champion or email BLUEPRINT@brighton-hove.gov.uk

How we've been doing

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

October to December 2021



Estates Service

748 jobs were completed to move bulky items. A new fire safety team was set up in August 2021 and has been visiting all blocks to ensure items are not being left in communal ways and causing a hazard.



Repairs and improvements

The proportion of 'Decent Homes' has continued to increase, from 92.9% to 96.9%.



Tenancy management

We've helped 12 people to keep their tenancies which were at risk. This included helping vulnerable tenants with arranging benefit claims, repairs, and care packages, as well as decluttering their homes.



Customer services

Housing Customer Services dealt with an average of 74 phone calls and 73 emails per working day. The most common queries were about residents' parking, tenancy issues such as anti-social behaviour and the housing waiting list.



Anti-social behaviour

At the end of December, our officers were working with 254 victims/witnesses and 178 perpetrators of anti-social behaviour.



Moving home

We let 138 homes, including 16 new homes. This is an improvement on the previous quarter, when 107 homes were let. We are taking on additional resources so more empty homes can be repaired ready for letting.

Feedback about housing services

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

Please send your compliments and complaints to the council's Customer Feedback Team at CustomerFeedback@brighton-hove.gov.uk or on 01273 291229.

If you do make a complaint your right to receive a good quality service will not be affected.

The Housing Ombudsman service can give independent advice to tenants on how to make complaints, and options available if you have exhausted the council's complaints procedure and remain unsatisfied with the outcome.

For details, visit:
www.housing-ombudsman.org.uk
email info@housing-ombudsman.org.uk
or call 0300 1113000.





Volunteers help to create new woodland

Volunteers helped to plant 2,400 trees and shrubs at Carden Hill in Hollingbury.

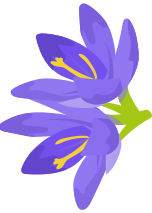
The project is part of action by the council to increase the number of trees across the city – including creating more woodland and planting more street trees – to maximise biodiversity.

Last year 2,000 trees were planted at Carden Hill during lockdown by council staff.

This year, with restrictions lifted, local people got involved with the second phase of planting. Children from Carden Primary School were among those helping.

Volunteer Liz said: “Planting trees helps tackle climate change and creates new habitats for wildlife. But what I like most about the Carden Hill project is that it’s creating a new woodland that Carden residents can enjoy for years to come.”

A big thank you to all the volunteers.



Children helping with planting at Carden Hill

Buzzing into life

Spring brings a buzz in the air as nature reawakens, with plant life unfurling fresh new shoots, leaves, buds, and flowers bursting into colour.

Pollinating insects, such as bumblebees and flies, are beginning to whirr around in search of much needed food in the form of pollen and nectar.

Flowering plants attract the pollinators and the glorious yellow manes of dandelion and the yellow eyes of daisies are good early sources of food.

The birds are singing loud and proud, asserting their breeding territories, and bats are waking up from their winter slumbers on the hunt for insect meals at dusk.

Look and listen out for the tiny lives we share our city with!



Photo: The Living Coast

Keen to discover local wildlife?

People are being encouraged to spot and record nature on our doorstep as part of an international event called the City Nature Challenge.

You can get involved by using a smartphone app to record wildlife from 29 April to 2 May. For details visit www.thelivingcoast.org.uk/project/city-nature-challenge

Locally, City Nature Challenge is organised by University of Brighton, University of Sussex, The Living Coast and South Downs National Park.

Try something new for free

Check out a choice of activities organised by the Hangleton and Knoll Project.

Clubs and holiday activities in the area for young people aged 11 to 19 (and up to 25 for those with special educational needs or disabilities) include boxing, street dance and table tennis.

To find out more visit www.hkproject.org.uk, email youth@hkproject.org.uk or call 01273 706469.

For adults there are 'shape up' exercise sessions on Tuesdays and yoga for all abilities on Wednesdays, both at 6pm at St Richard's Community Centre, Egmont Road, Hove. For details call 01273 410858 or email claire.johnson@hkproject.org.uk

The activities are free for council tenants and leaseholders.



Dates for your diary

Area Panels

The next round of Area Panels be held as follows:

West

2pm Wednesday 18 May

East

7pm Tuesday 17 May

Central

2pm Tuesday 17 May

North

7pm Wednesday 18 May



These will be online meetings on Zoom, and you can also join Area Panels by phone.

For more information contact the Community Engagement Team, email 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

City events

Brighton Marathon Weekend
8 to 10 April

Brighton Fringe
6 May to 5 June, various locations

Brighton & Hove Multicultural Festival
9 July, Seafront east piazza by the i360

Find out about forthcoming events in the city at www.visitbrighton.com/whats-on

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



Festival fun as parade returns

Brighton Festival Children's Parade returns after a two year gap on Saturday 7 May and promises to bring a sea of colour and creativity to the city centre.



Children at local schools, and artists from Same Sky, are creating large-scale artworks and costumes to celebrate the parade's return, on the theme of rebuilding and hope.

The parade starts at 10.30am in Jubilee Street and ends on Madeira Drive. It marks the opening of the festival which runs until 29 May.

Festival highlights include the popular Our Place community events, organised by residents in Hangleton and Knoll, East Brighton, Moulsecoomb and Bevendean. A range of events are being planned, including Without Walls, a weekend of free performances in Hangleton Park on 7 and 8 May.

For details, visit www.brightonfestival.org or call 01273 709709.

Win tickets to the UEFA Women's EURO 2022

Enter our free draw for a chance to win a family ticket to the Austria v Norway UEFA Women's EUROs 2022 match at the Brighton & Hove Community Stadium on Friday 15 July at 8pm.

Brighton & Hove is one of nine host cities for the tournament and the venue for three international matches in July.

The winner will see some of the world's best players in action and be able to soak up the atmosphere of event. The ticket will be for two adults and three children.

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

- Where was a 'topping out' ceremony held in December?
- How many council-run seniors housing schemes are there across the city?
- How many cities are hosting the UEFA Women's EUROs 2022?

The closing date for entries is **3 May 2022**. The winner will be contacted 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.



Send your answers by email to homingin@brighton-hove.gov.uk or 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.**

UEFA Women's EURO 2022 runs from 6 – 31 July. For information and details of how to get tickets, visit www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/uefa-womens-euro-2022 and www.uefa.com/womenseuro. There will be community events and celebrations to mark the tournament and a fan zone.

Congratulations!

Thanks to everyone who entered our winter competition to win a year's membership to enjoy activities at local leisure centres and swimming pools. The lucky winner was Derek Hayes from Brighton.

Free business support and advice

A range of free business advice and information sessions are available from the Business & IP Centre (BIPC) Sussex, which has its regional base at Brighton's Jubilee Library.

The centre supports entrepreneurs, start-ups and small businesses, from the first spark of inspiration to successfully launching and developing a business.

It provides one-to-one expert advice and runs a programme of business webinars and workshops to help you start or grow your

business, covering a variety of topics, including marketing, finance, and web development. There's also access to online business databases and intellectual property advice.

To find out more, visit www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/bipc email bipc@brightonhove.gov.uk or call in at the Jubilee Library.



Useful contacts

Housing Customer Services

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

Repairs Helpdesk

Report online at 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
01273 294266 or 01273 293541 for out of hours

Other useful contacts

Moneyworks Brighton & Hove

www.advicebrighton-hove.org.uk
0800 9887037 or 01273 809288

Citizens Advice Bureau

www.cabrightonhove.org
0300 330 9033

Help with domestic violence and abuse

www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/domestic-abuse-help
Freephone 0300 323 9985

Brighton & Hove Independent Mediation Service

www.bhims.org.uk
01273 700812

Leaseholders Action Group

lag@clarend.com
01273 605225
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



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Housing Committee Meeting

Wednesday 22 June 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-meeting

If you have any comments or suggestions
for future articles, email

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

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