



A Healthy, Caring City

Labour's Health and Social Care Manifesto for **Brighton and Hove**

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A HEALTHY, CARING CITY

The health and wellbeing of our residents is probably the most important area of a council's responsibilities, and yet one that has seen huge reductions in government funding over many years. Despite these cuts, a Labour council will continue to ensure that the most vulnerable residents in the city are prioritised, and that we strive for the very best quality in our services. We will be relentless in fighting the creeping privatisation of our health and social care systems, and ensure that people have a strong say in how their local health and social care services develop.

The Labour Minority Council has:

- Lobbied for the retention and expansion of democratic oversight and accountability of all services across our health and social care system.
- Continued to increase the council's social care budget despite significant government cuts and allocation restrictions.
- Ensured that all residents eligible for social care receive the support they need to remain as independent as possible.
- Adopted and delivered on the Unison Ethical Care Charter for home care services, including removing the '15-minute' care slots, paying home care workers between visits and ensuring that home care workers are paid the Brighton and Hove Living Wage.
- Become a more dementia friendly city by promoting the dementia friendly kitemark and running dementia awareness sessions for our staff.
- Introduced a Carers Hub that has delivered coordinated, joined up support for many of the 24,000 residents who are informal carers across the city.

- Supported thousands of residents of all ages and capabilities to improve their health and wellbeing by taking part in activities that promote healthy lifestyles.
- Become the first Fast Track City in the UK, achieving the 90:90:90 target for ending the HIV epidemic.

A Labour Majority Council will:

- Defend the NHS and work to create a joined up health and social care system locally to provide the best seamless care for residents. However, we will oppose any proposal for merger which further privatises our NHS, fails to provide for democratic oversight, or is not in the best interests of the people of our city.
- Review the city's Health and Wellbeing Board to ensure that the voices of all are represented and heard.
- Continue to ensure that every resident who is eligible receives social care support at a level that enables them to live as independently as possible.
- Focus on preventative services and support to improve healthy life expectancy for our residents, such as through promoting Park Runs, the Daily Mile, and services to reduce social isolation.



- Ensure that care home staff are paid in line with the Ethical Care Charter principles.
- Develop a Care Workers Card offering discounts in local shops, cafés and leisure venues and subsidised transport for their work within the city.

- Prevent negative judgments and increase understanding of the mental health problems that one in four of us will experience at some stage across our lives.
- Ensure that all local people know where to turn for help and advice to manage their physical health, mental health and social care needs.
- Support the one in ten people in the workforce who are informal carers by promoting a 'Carers Passport' across all workplaces in the city and, as one of the largest employers, make the council an exemplar in supporting our own staff who are carers.
- Develop social prescribing across the city, which involves helping patients to improve their wellbeing by referral to community led non-clinical services.



- Work alongside BAME, LGBT and other marginalised or minority groups to audit all social care services to ensure they meet the needs of all and are accessible to all.
- Ensure that all in the city, including those living their life with a learning disability or dementia, are respected and supported to participate in all decisions regarding their lives.

With a Labour Government we could:

- Restore funding to pre-2010 levels to ensure that social care and all health services are part of a world class National Care Service.



- End the development of Sustainability and Transformation Partnerships and give the local council more responsibility for the health and social care system.
- Fund free hospital parking for patients, staff and visitors.
- Increase the number of health visitors and school nurses to help address childhood obesity. Support under-fives and promote dental health and the wellbeing and mental health of our children and young people.
- Increase the Carer's Allowance for unpaid informal carers, many of whom are women who often lose access to earning through taking on these roles.
- Introduce ringfenced funding for mental health services and ensure this funding reaches front line care.