

Council Petition Scheme

Council

Date 18th July 2013

Author: Director of Law and Democratic Services

Wards Affected: All

Purpose

- To consider a petition received in accordance with the Council's Petition Scheme.

Recommendation

Council is recommended to:

- To hear from the Lead Petitioner (or representatives).
- Determine any action to be taken in respect of the petition, which have been received in accordance with the Council's Petition Scheme.

1 Reasons

- 1.1 At the Annual Council meeting held on 21st May 2010 the Council formally adopted a Petition Scheme in accordance with the requirements of Sections 10 to 22 of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 (the 2009 Act) and subsequent statutory guidance.

2 Detail

- 2.1 A petition has been received which satisfies the requirements for them to be presented to Full Council.

Queensfield Experimental Traffic Order

- 2.2 A petition of 374 signatures regarding the Queensfield Experimental traffic Order and requesting that the access route from Cricklade Road into Queensfield should not be closed during rush hours.
- 2.3 At the Annual Council meeting held on 21st May 2012 the Council resolved to adopt a petition scheme to apply to all petitions received by the Council. The Minute of Council is set out below:
"(1) That, subject to (2) below, the Swindon Borough Council Petitions Scheme, as set out in Appendix 1 of the joint report of the Leader of the Council and Director of Law and Democratic Services be adopted.
(2) That if a Petition is to be reported to and debated at a meeting of the Council it must contain at least 1,500 signatories or petitioners (this is to be reduced to 750 signatories or petitioners where the

Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from
Stephen Taylor on Direct Dial No. 463013 or Email staylor@swindon.gov.uk
or Ian Willcox, Committee and Member Services on Direct Dial No. 463601 or Email
iwillcox@swindon.gov.uk

Council Petition Scheme

Council

Date 18th July 2013

petition relates to a local issues affecting two or three wards or 350 signatories or petitioners for a single ward issue within the Council's area.)

(3) That the Director of Law and Democratic Services be appointed as the Council's Petitions Officer.

2.4 The Council's Petitions Officer has determined that the Petition set out in paragraphs 2.2 of the report meet the requirements to be considered by the Council.

2.5 In accordance with the Scheme:

- Petitions for Debate will be reported to the next convenient meeting of Council. (Petitions will not be considered at the Annual Meeting of Council or at Extraordinary Meetings of Council, which are not convened to consider the subject matter of the petition.)
- The petition organiser, or their appointed deputy, will be invited to address the meeting for up to 5 minutes on the subject of the petition.
- The petition organiser will be notified of the outcome of the debate in writing and of any follow-up actions that are agreed by the meeting.

2.6 A Copy of the petition is available for inspection by contacting Committee and Member Services.

2.7 The Lead Petitioner has been advised that their Petition will be presented to Council on 18th July 2013 and has been invited to attend.

2.8 The relevant Lead Member will respond having heard what the petitioner has said, and will make a recommendation to Council accordingly.

Alternative Options

- No alternative options are proposed.

Council Petition Scheme

Council

Date 18th July 2013

Risk Management

Financial and Procurement Implications

- There are none specific to this report. However, should the Council determine that action be taken in respect of this petition this will require a report to the Cabinet, Cabinet Member or relevant Committee and the Financial and Procurement Implications will need to be addressed in that report.

Legal/Human Rights Implications

- Legal and human rights implications have been taken into account in the body of the report. Sections 10 to 22 of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 and the Department for Communities and Local Government Statutory Guidance on Handling Petitions have been taken into account in the development of the Council's Petition Scheme.
- *Links to Corporate Plans and Policies*
- None.

Consultees

- The Director of Finance (S.151 Officer) and the Director of Law and Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer) are consulted on all reports.

Appendix

- Petition Front page

Background Papers

- Petitions.
- Council Petition Scheme