

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Live Music Venues. Petition Triggering Full Debate</b>		
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	<b>26 March 2015</b>		
<b>Report of:</b>	<b>Monitoring Officer</b>		
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Name:</b>	Mark Wall	<b>Tel:</b> 29-1006
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<b>Wards Affected:</b>	<b>All</b>		

**FOR GENERAL RELEASE****1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:**

- 1.1 Under the Council's Petition Scheme if a petition contains more than 1,250 signatures and is not petition requesting officer evidence, it will be debated by the Full Council.
- 1.2 An e-petition has resulted in triggering a debate at the council meeting, having exceeded the threshold with a total of 3,269 signatures confirmed at the time of printing the report.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- 2.1 That the petition is noted and referred to the Economic Development & Culture Committee for consideration at its next meeting.

**3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION / CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:****3.1 The Petition**

"Stand Up for Brighton & Hove's Live Music Venues

This is a petition calling for Brighton & Hove City Council to fully and transparently review its procedures and protocols in respect of noise abatement notices served on live music venues across the city.

Remove the ability for somebody to move close to an established live music playing venue, make a noise complaint, and have it closed down."

Lead Petitioner – Mark Stack

In support of the petition, we submit the following information:

"A legal loophole exists allowing someone to move close to, next to and even into the same building as a long established music venue and then demand the noise is silenced forcing the council to act. In the city of Brighton & Hove (and

across the whole country) venues have been almost systematically closed down through this piece of legislation. This is our cultural heritage we are losing and needs protecting with as much endeavour as historic buildings, tree streets and Battersea chimneys.”

3.2 The options open to the council are:

- To note the petition and take no action for reasons put forward in the debate;  
or
- To refer the petition to the relevant Committee Meeting; or
- To refer the petition to the relevant Committee Meeting with recommendations.

#### **4. PROCEDURE:**

4.1 The petition will be debated at the Council meeting in accordance with the agreed protocol:

- (i) The Lead petitioner will be invited by the Mayor to present the petition and will have up to 3 minutes in which to outline the prayer of the petition and confirm the number of signatures;
- (ii) The Mayor will then call on the relevant Committee Chair to respond to the petition and move a proposed response;
- (iii) The Mayor will then open the matter up for debate by councillors and call on those councillors who have indicated a desire to move an amendment or additional recommendation(s) to the recommendation listed in paragraph 2.1 of the report;
- (iv) Any councillor may move an amendment or recommendation, having regard to the recommendation in 2.1 above and any such proposal will need to be formally seconded;
- (v) After a period of 15 minutes, the Mayor will then call an end to the debate and ask the relevant Committee Chair to reply to the points raised;
- (vi) The Mayor will then formally put:
  - (a) Any amendments in the order in which they are moved, and
  - (b) The substantive recommendation(s) as amended (if amended).