ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT & SUSTAINABILITY CABINET MEMBERS MEETING

Agenda Item 24

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject: Petitions

Date of Meeting: 4 October 2011

Report of: Strategic Director, Resources

Contact Officer: Name: Tanya Davies Tel: 29-1227

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Key Decision: No

Wards Affected: Various

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

1.1 To receive any petitions presented at Council, any petitions submitted directly to Democratic Services or any e-Petition submitted via the council's website.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.2 That the Cabinet Member responds to the petition either by noting it or writing to the petition organiser setting out the Council's views, or where it is considered more appropriate, calls for an officer report on the matter which may give consideration to a range of options, including the following:
 - taking the action requested in the petition
 - considering the petition at a council meeting
 - holding an inquiry into the matter
 - undertaking research into the matter
 - holding a public meeting
 - holding a consultation
 - holding a meeting with petitioners
 - referring the petition for consideration by the council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee
 - calling a referendum

3. PETITIONS

3. (i) Parking Problems and Controlled Parking

To receive the following petition presented to the Cabinet Members Meeting by Mr Robert Rosenthal:

"We, the undersigned, find parking in our street much more difficult since the council introduced residents' controlled parking in the area south of London Road Station in October 2010. This has made our quality of life north of the railway line significantly worse as a result of displacement. We call on the council to implement an urgent review of the parking problem and current policies in order to bring a solution to this problem."

3. (ii) Bus stops at Wilson Avenue

To receive a petition presented at Council on 21 July by Councillor Gill Mitchell signed by 311 people calling for the provision of a bus shelter and accessible bus stop at the bus stops outside City College (southbound) in Wilson Avenue, and the Sadler Way bus stop. The petition also asks for improvements to the 21 bus service.

3. (iii) Road safety, Chesham Street

To receive a petition presented at Council on 21 July by Councillor Turton and signed by 27 people calling for the Eastern Road end of Chesham Street to be blocked off for safety reasons due to the volume and speed of traffic in this small residential area.

3. (iv) A gardener for Withdean Park

To receive a petition presented at Council on 21 July by Mr Stuart Derwent on behalf of the Friends of Withdean Park, and signed by 435 people:

"The Friends of Withdean Park hereby petition Brighton and Hove City Council (City Parks) to provide Withdean Park with a regular gardener to help protect our former National Lilac Collection which has been sadly neglected by the council for many years.

The beds need regular weeding to keep the shrubs at their best. The older lilac beds, sycamore saplings, brambles and ivy have been allowed to grow and hence spoil the beautiful lilacs.

Withdean Park is more beautiful than any other Brighton park, with 35 acres, with a large green space, woodland and a pond garden which brings pleasure to many different people and children and should be protected."

3. (v) Student Safety! Pedestrianise Pelham Street

To receive the following e-Petition submitted via the council's website Ms Julia Horbaschk and signed by 189 people:

We the undersigned petition the council to Support the College financially to create a safe passage in form of a pedestrian zone with trees and seating. Having had several near misses in the last few years and a recorded accident this year, it is crucial to reconsider the traffic arrangements in this area. The road is extremely narrow making it impossible for two way traffic as well as aggravating drivers who force their way through. Having missed out on a huge redevelopment plan, which would have considered a change of road traffic we now feel it is time for a healthy change. We have evidence of a recorded accident which will be shown at the Council meeting in July. Sign this petition now to guarantee a safer crossing in Brighton.

3. (vi) Residents' parking in Round Hill conservation area

To receive the following Petition submitted presented directly to the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Cabinet Members Meeting by Councillor Deane and signed by 113 people:

We, the undersigned, call on Brighton and Hove City Council to reconsult residents in Round Hill on membership of the Area J Extension residents' parking scheme in the context of the problem of displacement from areas of the city where parking is no longer free.

As new CPZs reach the boundaries of our city suburb, Round Hill cannot comfortably store the vehicles of outsiders wishing to avoid a fee of circa £2 per week.

Preferential treatment is now needed for our own residents' parking needs as well as the other benefits (cleaner environment, clearer footways, more room on junctions for emergency services and recycling collection vehicles). Without a CPZ, the obstructions to our own residents' needs will get worse.