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 The e-petition has resulted in triggering a debate at the council meeting, having exceeded the threshold with a total of 2,475 signatures confirmed at the time of printing the report.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

2.1 That the petition is noted and referred to the Policy, Resources & Growth Committee for consideration at its meeting on the 10th October 2019.

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION / CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

3.1 The Petition

Stop the Theft of Brighton General Hospital Site: Keep it Public!

1. Conduct a more meaningful and extensive public consultation on the potential uses for this site - NHS, housing and community.
2. Explore further NHS uses for this site - such as community beds.
3. Brighton and Hove city to purchase the site.
4. Ensure any housing built on this site includes housing for social rent, keyworker housing and addresses the needs of homeless people in the city.

Lead Petitioner – Diane Montgomery
Additional Information:

**Why is this important?**

Sussex Community NHS Foundation Trust plan to sell the Brighton General Hospital and develop a new Community Health Hub. Brighton General Hospital Action Group believe that this public land must remain a public asset for the people of Brighton and Hove. We believe that this site redevelopment offers the opportunity to address some of the much needed, and urgent, health, social care and housing needs in the city and are concerned that current proposals are inadequate.


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 open the matter up for debate by councillors for period of 15 minutes and will first call on the relevant Committee Chair to respond to the petition and move a proposed response. The Mayor will then call on those councillors who have indicated a desire to speak in the matter, before calling on the relevant Committee Chair to respond to the debate;

(iii) An amendment to the recommendation in paragraph 2.1 of the report or to add additional recommendations should be submitted by 10.00am on the day of the meeting; otherwise it will be subject to the Chair’s discretion as to being appropriate. Any such amendment will need to be formally moved and seconded at the meeting;

(iv) After the 15 minutes set aside for the debate, the Mayor will then formally put:

(v) (a) Any amendments in the order in which they are moved, and

(b) The substantive recommendation(s) as amended (if amended).