

Subject: Petition(s)
Date of Meeting: 3 December 2018
Report of: Executive Lead, Strategy, Governance and Law
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Wards Affected: All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

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

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.2 That the Committee 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
- calling for a report to Committee

3. PETITIONS

3. (i) Hove Carnegie Library

To receive the following petition signed by 202 people, presented by Councillor Wealls and referred by the meeting of Full Council held on 18 October 2018:

"We ask that with next Libraries Plan, due in January in, this Council includes a report to the Committee to explain the situation which has led to a disproportionate reduction in the number of new books being brought for Hove's Carnegie Library. Indeed, it has seen a cut to the

previously ring-fenced Book Fund greatly exceeding the stated overall cut of 25%.

We also ask that there be a reversal of this Administration's reduction in the Carnegie's opening hours.

What's more, with funding and new books steered towards Brighton's Jubilee Library, we ask for a review of the method of overall stock selection (many good books are not being chosen in advance for any library). Our town's central, Carnegie Library now appear to be regarded by the Administration as merely a branch library. Such an oxalic attitude to the Carnegie Library is counter to its stained glass and lift door, which proclaim: "Floreat Hova."