

Subject:	Petitions		
Date of Meeting:	12 February 2009		
Report of:	Director of Strategy & Governance		
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Key Decision:	No		
Wards Affected:	Various		

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

1.1 To receive the following petitions presented at Council on 29 January 2009 and any petitions presented directly to the Cabinet.

164. (i) To receive the following petition presented at Council on 29 January by Councillor Mitchell and signed by 583 people:

We, the undersigned, petition Brighton & Hove City Council to continue funding the Eastern Road and Tarner Area Partnership Neighbourhood Management Team.

The extensive community engagement and neighbourhood renewal work carried out by then team working with residents, local councillors and outside agencies in these two recognised areas of high deprivation has been of considerable benefit to all residents in both communities. Their work has resulted in several successful major projects now in operation. E.g. The Neighbourhood Charter, the regeneration of Tarner Park, the Sure Start Centre, Tarner Wide Internet Group, the Cyberden internet and computer training facility and financial support for other community based projects like the Women's Centre and the Impact Initiative. The team works to promote health, safety, equality and educational issues throughout the area and had had a considerable impact on reducing crime, anti-social behaviour, domestic violence and peoples' fear of crime. The team has successfully tackled issues around alcohol and substance misuse in the community and is particularly successful at involving all sections of the communities through their door knocking and outreach strategy. It is essential that the whole team is funded beyond March 2009 in order to ensure that current and future projects continue to benefit both communities..

164. (ii) To receive the following petition presented at Council on 29 January by Councillor Elgood and signed by 219 people:

To complain about the appalling performance of the new Brighton to London Victoria Southern / Gatwick Express Service and call on the City Council to urgently lobby Gatwick Express and Southern.

- *I am signing the petition as a regular commuter to complain about the appalling, unreliable performance of the recently introduced Brighton to London Victoria Gatwick Express / Southern service.*
- *Since the introduction of the so called 'improved' service 15 December, every train I have been on has been late during the peak periods from Brighton.*
- *The 7.30 and the 7.44 from Brighton are consistently 20-40 minutes late in reaching Victoria in the morning. There are no announcements, staff are unhelpful, doors don't work, heating has been faulty, trains are cancelled etc.*
- *This adds half an hour often both ways to our daily commute. This is totally unacceptable considering the cost of weekly, monthly and annual tickets.*
- *We demand a service that is reliable and on time and that Southern and Gatwick Express sort out the problems immediately. We demand a discount on the cost of our season tickets when they come up for renewal. We demand that there are announcements and apologies for the late running of the trains.*

164. (iii) To receive the following petition presented at Council on 29 January by Councillor Barnett and signed by 1104 people:

We, the undersigned petition Brighton & Hove City Council to provide £50,000 to enable the refurbishment of the swimming pool at Hangleton Junior School. We further petition that Brighton and Hove City Council noted that everyone at the school has worked extremely hard to raise money for this project and has already raised a contribution of £50,000.