

**REGENERATION, COMMUNITY AND CULTURE  
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE  
29 MAY 2008**

**PETITIONS**

Report from: Robin Cooper, Director of Regeneration, Community and Culture

Author: Caroline Salisbury, Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordinator

**Summary**

This report advises the Committee of the petitions presented to the Mayor at Council meetings including a summary of officer's response to the petitioners.

**1. Budget and Policy Framework**

1.1 The constitution provides that petitions presented at Council meetings relating to matters within the remit of an Overview and Scrutiny Committee will be referred immediately to the relevant Director for consideration at officer level.

**2. Background**

2.1 Where the Director is able to fully meet the request of the petitioners a response is sent of the proposed action and timescales for implementation. The petition organiser may request to refer the matter to the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee if s/he is not satisfied with the answer and has given reasons for their dissatisfaction.

2.2 For petitions where the Director is unable to meet the request of petitioners or where there are a range of alternative responses the petition will be referred to the next relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee for discussion.

**3. Petitions**

3.1 A summary of responses relevant to this Committee that have passed the ten day deadline for a request for referral to the Committee and are therefore seen as acceptable to the petitioners are set out below.

Subject of petition	Council Date Presented by	Response
Make 117-155 Maidstone Road, Rochester part of the parking scheme set up in Roebuck Road	22 November Councillor Bowler	It is regretted but residents parking schemes have been suspended until at least April 2008 due to budgetary constraints. If they recommence, the details will be added to the list.
Request for traffic calming in Lodge Hill Lane, Chattenden	17 January Councillor Mason	The accident data has been checked and three slight personal injury accidents reported in the cul-de-sac area and Chattenden Lane were reported between 1 November 2004 and 31 October 2007. Further investigation shows that none of these were as a result of speeding. Therefore there are other roads in Medway area with a higher priority for action and this area cannot be considered for traffic calming at this time.
Removal of bus stop to create more parking spaces	17 January Councillor Griffiths	The existing stop near Featherby Road presents problems for people with mobility difficulties and the Council is working on improving this. It is currently planned to fill the redundant layby but in light of the petition, traffic management officers will be asked to investigate whether the layby can be converted to a car parking area instead.
Request for residents parking permits	28 February Councillor O'Brien	The petition has been added to the ward file and included in the parking review of Rainham Central ward that is number 14 on the list of 22 wards to review.
Request that the Council and Police work together to fight the drug problems experienced by residents in the area	17 April Councillor Tony Goulden	Action is being undertaken against an owner of a property in Castle Road. Increased foot surveillance is being taken to monitor and discourage anti-social behaviour activities. Street lighting engineers have confirmed that works on broken lighting have been completed and toughened tamper proof covers fitted to deter vandalism.

Request an upgrade on the sewage works on all areas that will be renovated between The Brook to over the Luton Arches	17 April Councillor Mackinlay	Problems with sewage smells at Churchill's public house in The Brook were investigated and rectified by Southern Water. If the petitioner could contact officers, able to give time and dates these would also be followed up with Southern Water.
Ask the Council to do everything in its power to ensure that the post box is replaced in Norrey Road as soon as possible	17 April Councillor O'Brien	The Council wrote to the Post Office and since then Councillor O'Brien has confirmed that a post box has been restored to this location.
Request for zebra crossing in Goudhurst Road, Twydall near the junction with Twydall Green	17 April Councillor Stamp	A crossing facility will be investigated as part of the ongoing Twydall area improvements. These works are phased over the next 3 years with phase one currently underway.

## **5 Financial and Legal Implications**

- 5.1 Any financial and/or legal implications arising from the issues raised by the petitions are set out in the comments on the petitions.

## **6 Recommendation**

- 6.1 Members to note the response and appropriate officer action.

## **7 Background papers**

- 7.1 None

### **Contact for further details:**

Caroline Salisbury, Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordinator.  
Tel No: 01634 332013 Email: caroline.salisbury@medway.gov.uk