

REGENERATION, COMMUNITY AND CULTURE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

7 APRIL 2009

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 The following petition was referred to the committee for consideration as petitioners were dis-satisfied with the response they received.

Subject of petition	Council Date Presented by	Response
Requesting traffic lights at Davis Estate roundabout to improve the flow of vehicles leaving the Davis Estate.	5 March 2009 Councillor Juby	The site has been investigated but regrettably at this time officers have no plans to carry out any alterations to this roundabout, additionally there are no funds available for any alterations. The request will be held on file and considered should this situation change in the future.

- 3.2 A letter was received on 30 March 2009 from the lead petitioner stating that she was dissatisfied with the response, as follows:

“I am unhappy with the Council’s response on this matter and would like this matter to be referred to Overview and Scrutiny on the grounds that this roundabout lies in an Air Quality Action Zone and it is acknowledged that one of the major contributors to the poor air quality here is the poor traffic management. The Council is committed to cutting the number of zones by half and at the moment it looks as if the number of zones is actually to increase. Sorting out the traffic management at the roundabout presents the Council with an opportunity to improve air quality in an Air Quality Action Zone.”

4 Directors comments

- 4.1 As the petition referral was received on the day the agenda was printed and despatched, the Director’s comments will be circulated under separate cover as soon as possible.

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 are asked to consider this matter.

Contact for further details:

Caroline Salisbury, Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordinator.

Tel No: 01634 332013 Email: caroline.salisbury@medway.gov.uk