

Part Four, Section A

Council Procedure Rules

12. PETITIONS

12.1 The Democratic Services Manager should be notified of any Petitions by 10 a.m. five clear days in advance of the Council meeting. The petition will be handed to the Mayor, and recorded as received by the Democratic Services Manager without any further debate. The relevant Cabinet member should report the Council's response to the petition at the next ordinary meeting of the Council.

12.1.1 Where a petition submitted to the Council, under the Petitions Scheme, contains more than 2643 signatures it will trigger a debate by the full Council. The Council will endeavour to consider the petition at its next meeting, although on some occasions this may not be possible and consideration will then take place at the next available meeting. The petition organiser will be given five minutes to present the petition at the meeting and the petition will then be discussed by councillors for a maximum of 15 minutes. The Council will decide how to respond to the petition at this meeting. They may decide to take the action the petition requests, not to take the action requested for reasons put forward in the debate, or to commission further investigation into the matter, for example by a relevant Committee. Where the issue is one on which the Cabinet are required to make the final decision, the Council will decide whether to make recommendations to inform that decision. The petition organiser will receive written confirmation of this decision. This confirmation will also be published on our website, in the minutes of the meeting.