

# THE ASSEMBLY

1 MARCH 2006

## REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES

*This report is submitted under Agenda Item 3(b). The Chair will be asked to determine whether this report can be considered at the meeting under the provisions of Section 100B(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972 as a matter of urgency.*

<b>Title: Update on Outstanding Petitions</b>		<b>For Information</b>
<b>Summary:</b>  This report provides an update on four petitions that have been received by the Council and are due to be presented to the Assembly in due course. This report is being submitted in order that Members be kept informed of the current position and progress in respect of each petition.  <b>Wards Affected:</b> Abbey, Chadwell Heath, Eastbrook, Longbridge		
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### 1. Introduction and Background

- 1.1 The Council's Constitution (Part B, Article 2, Paragraph 17 – Procedure for Petitions) states that all petitions containing signatures from 50 or more separate addresses will be reported to the Assembly.
- 1.2 The following four petitions have been received and the relevant lead officers are progressing with these in accordance with the Procedure for Petitions. A more detailed report summing up the actions taken in respect of each petition will be submitted to the Assembly in due course.

### 2. Petition regarding a request for speed restrictions in Rush Green and Dagenham Road (Eastbrook Ward)

- 2.1 This petition expresses concerns that speeding vehicles in the Rush Green area and in particular Dagenham Road were travelling in excess of the required speed limit. On a number of occasions speeding vehicles has led to wildlife, including foxes, being killed.
- 2.2 Officers will be arranging a meeting with the lead petitioner regarding her request to introduce speed humps in Dagenham Road to reduce the potential hazard to local wild life. Council policy will not allow speed humps to be introduced on bus routes, however other measures may be appropriate. Generally the Council prioritises road safety schemes in relation to road safety accidents, however information provided by the petitioners will be considered and a report brought before the Assembly in due course.

**3. Petition against the Installation of a One Way System on the Leftley Estate, Barking (Longbridge Ward)**

- 3.1 This petition on behalf of residents on the Leftley Estate in Barking objects to a planned one way system.
- 3.2 The experimental scheme has now been in place for sufficient time for the Council to consider whether the scheme should be modified, removed or implemented in a final form. Traffic survey data is available regarding the impact that the scheme has had on traffic movement and a meeting has been held with lead petitioners and Ward Members with an acceptance to recommend the removal of the one way system in Stratton Drive and Woodbridge Road while leaving Cavendish Gardens, between Stratton Drive and Beccles Drive, and the service road behind the shops as one way.
- 3.3 A full report will be presented to the Assembly in due course with details of the changes to traffic flow and recommendations to implement the scheme as referred to above as a final proposal with recommendations to prepare formal Traffic Management Orders. If accepted by the Assembly, the temporary traffic management arrangements will be made permanent in the appropriate roads and one way signs and markings removed where necessary.

**4. Petition regarding a request for a Community Centre (Abbey Ward)**

- 4.1 This petition from the Barking and Dagenham Punjabi Welfare Association seeks accommodation for a community centre to be incorporated into the regeneration of the Linton Road area in Barking.
- 4.2 The petition also asks the Council to consider erecting a statue of Elizabeth Fry in the Quaker's burial grounds in Barking.
- 4.2 The petition has been put on hold pending related legal proceedings.

**5. Petition for a Safer Crossing Area – Mill Lane, Chadwell Heath (Chadwell Heath Ward)**

- 5.1 This petition on behalf of parents of school age children requests a designated crossing in Mill Lane at the Whalebone Lane end. The petition also raises concern regarding the chicanes in Mill Lane at the junction of Ashton Gardens.
- 5.2 The Road Safety Service have held an informal meeting with the lead petitioner in order to fully appreciate the concerns of the signatories to the petition. A meeting is being arranged with the Ward Members and lead petitioners to consider their request for a safer crossing area in Mill Lane.
- 5.3 Ward Members have previously raised their concerns at the nature of the traffic calming features in Mill Lane and this will provide an opportunity to consider alternatives. In recent weeks, a number of residents of Kelly Way have contacted the Highway Services with regard to a chicane near to their road and it is intended that all of these issues can be considered together and reported in due course to the Assembly.

## **6. Council's Constitution**

- 6.1 An administrative change has been made to the Council's Constitution under delegated authority to the Corporate Director of Resources in consultation with the Chief Executive. All petitions which contain signatures from 50 or more separate households will now be reported to the Assembly within 2 months of receipt. Where it is not possible to resolve the issues contained in the petition within 2 months then a holding report will be presented to the Assembly.

### **Background Papers Used in the Preparation of the Report:**

- Council Constitution (Part B, Article 2)
- Petition regarding a request for speed restrictions in Rush Green and Dagenham Road
- Petition against the Installation of a One Way System on the Leftley Estate, Barking
- Petition regarding a request for a Community Centre
- Petition for a Safer Crossing Area – Mill Lane, Chadwell Heath