


<p style="text-align: center;">Non-Executive Report of the:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Council</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">23 March 2016</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>TOWER HAMLETS</b></p>
<p><b>Report of:</b> Director, Law, Probity and Governance</p>	<p><b>Classification:</b> Unrestricted</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Petitions to be Presented to Council</b></p>	

## SUMMARY

1. The Council's Constitution provides for up to three petitions to be presented at each ordinary Council meeting. These are taken in order of receipt. This report sets out the valid petitions submitted for presentation at the Council meeting on Wednesday 23 March 2016.
2. The deadline for receipt of petitions for this meeting is noon on Thursday 17 March 2016. However, at the time of agenda despatch the maximum number of petitions has already been received as set out overleaf.
3. The texts of the petitions received for presentation to this meeting are set out in the attached report. In each case the petitioners may address the meeting for no more than three minutes. Members may then question the petitioners for a further four minutes. Finally, the relevant Cabinet Member or Chair of Committee may respond to the petition for up to three minutes.
4. The petition will then be referred to the relevant Corporate Director for attention who will provide a written response within 28 days.
5. Members, other than a Cabinet Member or Committee Chair responding at the end of the item, should confine their contributions to questions and not make statements or attempt to debate.

### **5.1 Petition relating to Ayasofia Primary school. (Petition from Mr Mohammed Umair and others)**

Ayasofia Primary School has been providing an exceptional service to the entire community through its charitable projects since 2008. The ever increasing demands from the local community for this valuable community hub cannot be met due to the limited space at its current premises. The local community has exhausted its means to find premises both privately and through consistently bidding for suitable council premises.

We the undersigned demand the local authority of Tower Hamlets to have an open debate on the following:

1. Why Ayasofia Primary school is being harassed unnecessarily since the last 6 Months.
2. Why is school not being given the right to remain at its current site for a mere 6 months despite being here for 6 years previously.
3. Why has the council ignored the schools bids to buy or lease community assets since 2008.

The school also demands a full apology from the council for its approach towards the school in recent days.

### **5.2 Petition relating to the Glenkerry Co-Operative Housing Association (Petition from Gerry Cornelius and others)**

We, the undersigned, are members and supporters of the Glenkerry Co-Operative Housing Association (GCHA) – a ‘community leasehold’ housing co-operative on the Brownfield Estate (Lansbury Ward)

GCHA is a ‘not for profit’ self-financing mutual company registered with the Industrial and Provident Societies Act (registered number 22274R).

We are frustrated by the lack of progress in negotiations with Tower Hamlets Council to extend our Head Lease and the failure to resolve outstanding issues with the provision of heating, historic charges and the administration thereof. These failures are having a detrimental impact upon the smooth running of GCHA.

We call upon the Council to:

1. Enter into immediate, meaningful negotiations to extend the GCHA Head Lease by 250 years.
2. Review the superior landlord’s obligations and resolve all outstanding matters regarding heating and maintenance.
3. Ensure that the negotiations are entered into in good faith based upon

how best to maintain and strengthen the functioning of the GCHA community leasehold model.

4. Ensure that a Head Lease extension is granted no later than the end of July 2016.

### **5.3 Petition relating Anti-Social Behaviour on the Aberfeldy Estate (Petition from Khaled Ahmed and others)**

We the undersigned, are concerned citizens of the Aberfeldy Estate, to increase police patrols to curb the sudden increase of illegal activities of drug dealing, fly tipping, gang problems and anti-social behaviour which will only grow if not stopped. These unlawful activities are not only affecting the worrying residents/parents but are also creating a huge impact on vulnerable children. We strongly feel that our neighbourhood deserves to be safe. We demand Council installs CCTV cameras to prevent the dangerous incidents continuously occurring in the area.