

Non-Executive Report of the: Council 19 th January 2022	 TOWER HAMLETS
Report of: Janet Fasan, Director of Legal and Monitoring Officer	Classification: Unrestricted
Petitions to Council	

Originating Officer(s)	Matthew Mannion, Head of Democratic Services
Wards affected	All wards

SUMMARY

1. This report sets out details of the valid petitions submitted for presentation at the Council meeting on Wednesday 19th January 2022. The text of the petition received for presentation to this meeting is set out in the attached report.
2. The Council's Constitution provides for up to four petitions to be heard at each ordinary Council meeting. These are taken in order of receipt, except that petitions for debate (those in excess of 2,000 signatures) will take precedence. Should more than four petitions be received, all remaining petitions will be listed to be formally noted by Council.
3. For Petitions listed as to be heard:
 - a. Petitioners may address the meeting for no more than 3 minutes.
 - b. Members may then question the petitioners for a further 4 minutes.
 - c. Finally, the speaker will invite the Mayor or (at the Mayor's discretion) the relevant Lead Member or Committee Chair to respond to the petition for up to 2 minutes. The petition will then be referred to the relevant Corporate Director for attention who will provide a written response within 28 days of the date of the meeting.
4. 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. For Petitions listed as to be noted, petitioners may not address the meeting. The Speaker will state where they will go for a full response.

6. Responses to all petitions will be sent to the lead petitioner and displayed on the Council's website.

PETITIONS FOR DEBATE

There are no petitions for debate.

PETITIONS TO BE HEARD

5.1 Petition regarding Open ladies shower access via Women only gym at Mile End gym submitted by Maya Nessa and others

We would like the council and the management of Better gym to take into consideration about opening the access to ladies shower and toilet facilities via the Women only gym at Mile End Gym.

This has always been open. Recently after the pandemic opening, this access has been blocked off. This has caused a lot of inconvenience for us as women to access the toilets and shower facilities. We have been told to walk across the corridor to the other side of the centre and or go to all the way around thru mix changing rooms. This is very inconsiderate. Some ladies have to wear their outer garments in their sweats and carry their bags backwards and forwards. There has never been an issues before. Initially I raised with the manager and was told they will open. Recently I have been told they will never open it as some women 'sneak' through the shower room to the gym!

PETITIONS TO BE NOTED

None.