

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

COUNCIL MEETING

WEDNESDAY 2ND FEBRUARY 2011

PETITIONS

**REPORT OF THE SERVICE HEAD,
DEMOCRATIC SERVICES**

SUMMARY

1. The Council's constitution as amended provides that a maximum of three petitions are received at any meeting. These are taken in order of receipt. This report sets out the valid petitions submitted for presentation at the Council meeting on Wednesday 2nd February 2011.
2. The deadline for receipt of petitions for this meeting is noon on Thursday 27th January 2011. However, at the time of agenda despatch the maximum number of three petitions had already been received as set out overleaf.
3. 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. Any outstanding issues will be referred to the relevant Corporate Director for attention who will respond to those outstanding issues in writing within 28 days.
5. Members should confine their contributions to questions and answers and not make statements or attempt to debate.

5.1 Petition from Mr. Matthew Smith and others regarding touting on Brick Lane

“We, the undersigned, being residents of the London Borough of Tower Hamlets believe that the reputation of the borough is harmed by the ongoing and seemingly unrestricted touting for custom outside restaurants which can often appear intimidating to visitors. We call upon the Mayor, Council and SNT to enforce the existing conditions and regulations to ensure that this practice ceases and that residents and visitors can enjoy the facilities of Brick Lane.”

5.2 Petition from the Parents, Grandparents, Carers and Children of Olga Sure Start centre opposing the closure of the centre.

“We, the undersigned residents of Tower Hamlets ask the Mayor and the Council to urgently review decisions which will lead to the closure of Olga SureStart. This project has helped hundreds of young families and is one of the best performing SureStart initiatives. Its closure will be devastating, particularly for the less well off families and the families of ethnic minorities and relative newcomers to our multicultural Tower Hamlets.

We understand that the Council and the Mayor are not responsible for the severe cuts in spending but cutting this SureStart programme is not in any way justified and must be reversed.”

5.3 Petition from the Save King Edward Park Campaign regarding Thames Water proposals at the park.

“We, the undersigned, call on Thames Water to find an alternative site to the greenfield sites in the park, children’s playground, riverside walkway and riverfront at King Edward VII Memorial Park, London, E1W.”