

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

COUNCIL MEETING

WEDNESDAY 18TH NOVEMBER 2015

PETITIONS

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF LAW, PROBITY AND GOVERNANCE

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 18th November 2015.
2. The deadline for receipt of petitions for this meeting is noon on Thursday 12th November 2015. 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. 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, 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 calling for a 30 MPH speed limit along the A12 Blackwall Tunnel Approach (Petition from Julia Rodrigues and others).

The A12 is one of London's most congested and polluted highways. Not only is it a major contributor to ill health among local residents, but it cuts the community of Poplar in half, leaving families and businesses isolated and divided. Slowing traffic to 30MPH would greatly improve safety for those using the two crossings in the area, especially as it would give more time for children and the elderly to cross.

We ask Tower Hamlets Council to hear our plea and bring in a 30MPH speed limit and do more to alleviate congestion, in order to make our community a safer place.

5.2 Petition in support of opening an Idea Store at Bethnal Green Road, E2.

We, the undersigned, residents of Tower Hamlets, call upon John Biggs, Mayor of the London Borough of Tower Hamlets, to open a much needed Idea store on Bethnal Green Road, in order to support local residents, families and children.

5.3 Petition calling on the Mayor and Council to support the businesses of Chapman Street. (Petition from Matthew Wood and others)

We the undersigned businesses and customers of Chapman Street shops, Shadwell, are requesting that our Ward Councillors, Cllr Harun Miah and Cllr Rabina Khan, and Mayor Biggs support us in ensuring that our businesses are protected from Network Rail's proposals to gradually quash our enterprises. Over 10 years ago the areas in and around the Railway arches on Chapman Street were concerns of anti-social behaviour, crime and disorder, which resulted in knife crime and gang fights. With the first handful of businesses specialising in groceries and Bangladeshi fish and veg, the area gradually began to regenerate with increased uptake of businesses, The businesses provided jobs for local people and became as it is today, a vibrant and thriving enterprise zone, instead of the no go area it was many years ago.