

Non-Executive Report of the: Council 22 November 2017	 TOWER HAMLETS
Report of: Asmat Hussain, Corporate Director, Governance	Classification: Unrestricted
Petitions to be Presented to Council	

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 22 November 2017.
2. The deadline for receipt of petitions for this meeting is noon on Thursday 16 November 2017. However, at the time of agenda despatch the maximum number of petitions has already been received as set out overleaf.
3. The text 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 regarding Watts Grove (Petition from Terry McGrenera and others)

The way Tower Hamlets Homes restricted the information about the allocation of the 148 new homes at Watts Grove calls into question its accountability to tenants and whether it is time to return responsibility to the Council sooner than 2018.

5.2 Petition regarding new secondary school, Westferry Printworks site (Petition from Father Tom Pyke and others)

This petition is about the selection process for the operator of the new secondary school planned for the Westferry Printworks site, 235 Westferry Road, E14 8NX.

We the undersigned are petitioning the Council to:

- (1) Ensure the views of parents and schoolchildren are placed at the centre of the decision making process for the operator of this new school —this is about parental and pupil choice;
- (2) Establish a clear 'person specification' against which all applicant operators should be assessed. The operator must be able to demonstrate a proven track record of community cohesion and inclusiveness, of actively reaching out to children from poor families and children from parents of all faiths and of positively encouraging children with special needs.

5.3 Petition regarding Zebra Crossing at Henriques Street, E1 (Petition from Lukey Begum and others)

On behalf of the families, staff and Governors at Harry Gosling Primary School, we are writing to request that a zebra crossing be introduced in Henriques Street and a one-way traffic flow.

Parents have raised a number of concerns with the school regarding the high level of road users and the dangerous manner in which they have been driving so close to the school. Although some traffic calming measures have been put in place in recent years, we are concerned that Henriques Street remains unsafe for children and their families to cross. This is particularly the case during school opening and closing times when high numbers of children and parents are arriving or leaving.

We also feel that the road markings around Fairclough Street and Henriques Street are not adequate. We would like to request that an assessment is carried out as to what road markings could be added to improve safety. It is our view that a safer crossing and clearer road markings will alleviate traffic at the school and help us develop the children's independence by allowing them to get to school safely. Please find attached a petition to

support our proposal for a safer crossing to ensure the safety of the pupils and families of the school.

We hope our concerns will be taken into serious consideration and we look forward to your response.