

Non-Executive Report of the: Council 24 th January 2024	 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 and debate at this Council meeting. The text of the petitions received are 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.
 - a. There are two petition to be heard:
 - Save THCAN
 - Restricting events in Victoria Park
 - b. There are no petitions to be debated or noted.

PETITIONS TO BE HEARD

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

5.1 Petition requesting Save THCAN

Statement

We the undersigned petition the council to fund THCAN

I am signing this petition to ask the council to fund THCAN to avoid the closure of THCAN work This project has been instrumental in supporting advice services in Tower Hamlets for many years. Without funding all of THCAN work will stop after the 31st OCTOBER 2023.

We agree with Island Advice Centre that the Local Authority should fund THCAN valuable work.

Signatures: 181x electronic and 69x paper copies

5.2 Petition on restricting events in Victoria Park

Statement

We, the undersigned residents, call on Mayor Rahman to reverse his decision to increase events in Victoria Park and consult with residents and partners on his plans:

Mayor Lutfur Rahman is planning to change the policy for major events in Victoria Park, which would allow him to close the park for two extra events per year and increase the number of people who can attend each event from 5,000 to 20,000.

This is a terrible idea that would ruin our park, our neighbourhood, and our environment. It would mean more noise, more traffic, more waste, and more pollution in our area. It would also mean less access and less enjoyment of the park for us, especially for our families and children who need the park during the summer holidays.

Mayor Rahman is doing this because he wants to make more money from the park, without caring about the impact on us and the environment. He has not consulted us, he has not given us any evidence or analysis, and he has not considered any alternatives. He is trying to push through a change at the expense of the people of Tower Hamlets.

We cannot let this happen. We need to stand up for our park, our rights and our voice. We are campaigning to keep the number of large events as it is with all the mitigating measures for residents in place.

Signatures: 160 electronic