

# Subject: Petitions

**Report to: London Assembly (Plenary)**

**Report of: Executive Director of Secretariat**

**Date: 15 January 2014**

**This report will be considered in public**

## 1. Summary

1.1 This report sets out details of two petitions to be presented at this meeting by an Assembly Member.

## 2. Recommendation

2.1 **The Assembly is recommended to receive and to note the petitions listed at paragraph 4 of this report and to decide whether to refer the petitions, and if so where to, and to seek a response to the points raised.**

## 3. Background

3.1 Standing Orders 3.20 to 3.21 make provision for the presentation of petitions by an Assembly Member at an ordinary meeting of the Assembly.

A petition to be presented must:

(a) Be addressed to the Mayor, the Assembly, a Functional Body (as the case may be);

(b) Clearly indicate the name, address and contact telephone number of the person organising the petition, or where the petition was organised on the internet, its data controller;

(c) Be presented in the form of printed sheets, each of which includes the "prayer" of the petition (the "prayer" is the formal request or other subject matter of the petition) or, if the petition was organised on the internet, clearly demonstrate that internet users who subscribed to the petition knew what the prayer was;

(d) Include each petitioner's name (which may be printed or be in the form of a signature, provided that the signature is legible) and address (sufficient that the person and their address can be identified) or, where the petition was organised on the internet, their names and email addresses;

(e) Indicate the total number of manual or electronic signatories to the petition.

(f) Young people aged 17 or under signing a petition may give their address as that of the school, or other recognised youth group or similar organisation that they attend (with details of their class name where appropriate), provided that the lead petitioner is a teacher at or leader of that school or youth group or similar organisation.

(g) Indicate the total number of manual or electronic signatories to the petition; and

(h) Refer to matters within the responsibilities of the Mayor, the London Assembly or the functional bodies, or to matters of importance to Londoners, including those who visit, live or work in Greater London.

- 3.2 Notice of the intention to present a petition at an Assembly meeting and a copy of the petition must be given to the Executive Director of the Secretariat by no later than 12 noon six clear working days before that meeting.
- 3.3 Under Standing Orders the Member presenting the petition will read out the prayer of the petition (but not the signatories). The Assembly will not debate the petition. If the Assembly agrees without debate, the petition will be forwarded to the Mayor, Functional Body, relevant committee or other organisation with a request for a response to the points made by the petitioner. The response received will be reported to the Assembly for information and forwarded to the petition's organiser. The prayer of the petition and the response received will be published in the appropriate Assembly Minutes.

#### **4. Petitions to be presented**

4.1 Notice of the following petitions have been received:

4.2 A petition, received by **Murad Qureshi AM**, is to be presented to the London Assembly, in accordance with Standing Orders 3.20 to 3.21, saying:

**“We residents and workers of London petition Transport for London and the City to install pedestrian traffic lights at the junction of Charterhouse Street and the A201 Farringdon Road / Farringdon Street. This junction lies on a major East - West pedestrian route. Pedestrians are crossing here at all times of day, but the lack of a pedestrian phase in the existing traffic lights means that the junction becomes dangerous for all road users.”**

The petition has 540 signatories.

The contact person for this petition is: Rosey Taylor, Smithfield area.

4.3 A petition, received by **Steve O’Connell AM**, is to be presented to the London Assembly, in accordance with Standing Orders 3.20 to 3.21, saying:

**“We the undersigned call on the London Mayor, Boris Johnson, to include Worcester Park as a station stop on the planned Cross Rail 2 line. Worcester Park is an important and growing retail, residential, business and transport hub in outer South West London and a stop at Worcester Park would also form part of a strategic transport link with the**

**proposed Sutton Tram. The current plan to run trains express through Worcester Park without stopping is a missed opportunity.”**

The petition has 500 signatories at the date of going to print.

The contact person for this petition is: Simon Densley, 119 Love Lane, Morden, Surrey, SM4 6LS.

## **5. Legal Implications**

- 5.1 By virtue of sections 59, 34 and 53 of the GLA Act 1999 (as amended), the Assembly has the power to do what is recommended in this report.
- 5.2 Under Standing Order 3.20 the petitions presented to the Assembly, together with the pages containing the names and addresses of the signatories to the petition, are documents to which the access to information rules from sections 100A - H and Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 apply.
- 5.3 Any applications from Members to see the names and addresses of the signatories to the petition will be considered by the Executive Director of the Secretariat on a case by case basis and in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Local Government Act 1972 and the Data Protection Act 1988.

## **6. Financial Implications**

- 6.1 There are no financial implications directly arising from this report.

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**List of appendices to this report:** None.

### **Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985**

List of Background Papers: None.

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