

# Subject: Petitions

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

**Report of: Executive Director of Secretariat**

**Date: 9 December 2014**

**This report will be considered in public**

## 1. Summary

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

## 2. Recommendation

2.1 **That the Assembly receives and notes the petitions listed at paragraph 4 of this report and decides whether to refer the petitions, and if so where to, and seeks 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 **Valerie Shawcross CBE AM**, is to be presented to the London Assembly, in accordance with Standing Orders 3.20 to 3.21, saying:

**'We the undersigned call upon the Mayor of London to increase the number of bus countdown indicators on Greyhound Lane and Streatham Vale. As the busiest station in Streatham, we believe that Streatham Common Station is under served in terms of information about onward bus travel. This is especially relevant to women and those travelling late at night when they have been advised not to get mobile phones out on leaving the station by the police'.**

The petition has 380 signatories.

The contact person for this petition is: Councillor Clair Wilcox, Lambeth Town Hall, Acre Lane, Brixton, London, SW9 1RW.

4.3 A petition, received by **Valerie Shawcross CBE AM**, is to be presented to the London Assembly, in accordance with Standing Orders 3.20 to 3.21, saying:

**‘We are concerned at the loss of 194 police officers in Southwark since 2010 and call on the Mayor of London to restore our lost officers.’**

The petition has 1388 signatories.

The contact person for this petitions is: Councillor Michael Situ, Members' Room, London Borough of Southwark, 160 Tooley Street, London, SE1 2QH.

- 4.4 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, the undersigned, are concerned about the slow moving of traffic in and around Redbridge roundabout, which has serious health implication for local residents. Traffic entering and leaving the roundabout into Redbridge Lane East and subsequently into surrounding roads, including Roding Lane South, moves at a slow pace and is often stationary during rush hours in the morning and late afternoons /evenings. For local drivers it is taking 45 minutes or more just to reach the roundabout. Residents, including our resident Councillor Gurdial BHAM RA, are frustrated and concerned about the high level of pollution and its impact on all, especially children and residents who are walking through the polluted air. This problem has been highlighted before:**

- **Surveys were conducted by LBR**
- **Meetings were held with LBR, London Buses and TFL representatives.**

**Tfl and LBR expressed an understanding but no concrete steps have been taken to reduce the impact. We urge the council and mayor of London to take remedial action by:**

- 1. Shortening the phasing of traffic lights for slip road from A406 to allow at least 5 vehicles to enter the roundabout from Redbridge Lane East OR**
- 2. Installing traffic lights at the junction to control the flow of traffic.**
- 3. LBR to carry out traffic study for a bigger area and produce traffic plans to reduce this problem.’**

The petition has 1541 signatories.

The contact person for this petition is: Councillor Gurdial Bhamra, London Borough of Redbridge, Town Hall, 128-142 High Road, Ilford, IG1 1DD.

## **5. Legal Implications**

- 5.1 By virtues 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.

<b>Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985</b>
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List of Background Papers: None.
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