

DETAILS OF OUR NEIGHBOURING COUNCILS' PETITIONS SCHEMES –

RE: DEBATES AT COUNCIL

Name of Council	Upon implementation of LDEDCA 2009 HOW MANY SIGNATURES FOR COUNCIL DEBATE?	IS DEBATE STILL MANDATORY?	If YES, what is the current signature threshold?	COMMENTS	PROVISIONS ABOUT REPEAT / SIMILAR PETITIONS
Thanet District Council	1300	YES	1,000	Level changed in April 2012	Petitions which are "substantially the same as one already received within the preceding 12 months" are disallowed
Canterbury City Council	3,000	YES	3,000		Petitions received "within 6 months of another petition being considered by the authority on the same matter" will not normally be considered
Dover District Council	1,600	YES	1,600	Petitions scheme to be reviewed in Autumn 2013	(as per constitution) a petition must not "be about the same subject as an active petition or have substantially similar effect to a petition that has been made to the Council within the period of 6 months ending with the date on which the petition was considered ..."
Ashford Borough Council	1,500	YES	1,500		"Not be a duplicate or near-duplicate of a similar petition received or submitted under 12 months ago"
Shepway District Council	1,000	NO	n/a ¹		No provision in scheme
Kent County Council	12,000 – county-wide matter 1,000 – district-wide matter	YES	10,000 – county-wide matter for County Council debate 2,500 – 9,999 – county-wide matter for debate by a Cabinet Committee 1,000 – district-wide matter (debate by the most appropriate local meeting, eg. Locality Board or Joint Transportation Board	Level changed in September 2012	No provision in scheme

¹ In November 2012, Shepway District Council has changed its scheme as follows:

"If a petition to Council has at least 250 signatures, the Council may:

- note the petition and take no further action
- refer the petition to cabinet or relevant overview and scrutiny committee, as the case may be, for their observations before deciding whether to examine the issues raised by the petition
- agree to examine the issues raised by the petition by debate at the meeting or a future meeting
- agree to examine the issues raised by the petition as part of a future scrutiny programme."