

PETITION REGARDING BROADSTAIRS TOILET REFURBISHMENT

Council	22 February 2018
Report Author	Nick Hughes, Committee Services Manager and Deputy Monitoring Officer
Portfolio Holder	Councillor Crow-Brown, Cabinet Member for Corporate Governance Services
Status	For recommendation
Classification:	Unrestricted
Key Decision	No
Ward:	Thanet Wide

Executive Summary:

An e-petition containing 69 valid signatures was received by the Council requesting that income from the sale of assets in Broadstairs be reinvested in Broadstairs facilities, specifically public toilets.

This report sets out how the Council deals with petitions of this size; it explains that the petition organiser will present the petition to the meeting and sets out the next steps as to how the Council will deal with the petition.

Recommendation(s):

Under the Council's petitions scheme, Council is required to refer the petition to Cabinet without debate for report back to Council.

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Financial and Value for Money	There are no identified financial implications from this report.
Legal	This matter is dealt with under the Council's scheme for dealing with petitions from the public which is contained within the constitution.
Corporate	In accordance with the Council's petition scheme if a petition has over 25, but less than 650, signatories, it will be referred to Cabinet or an appropriate committee without debate for report to Council within three ordinary meetings.
Equalities Act 2010 & Public Sector Equality Duty	Members are reminded of the requirement, under the Public Sector Equality Duty (section 149 of the Equality Act 2010) to have due regard to the aims of the Duty at the time the decision is taken. The aims of the Duty are: (i) eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act, (ii) advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it, and (iii) foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.

	<p>Protected characteristics: age, gender, disability, race, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, religion or belief and pregnancy & maternity. Only aim (i) of the Duty applies to Marriage & civil partnership.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td colspan="2">Please indicate which aim is relevant to the report.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act,</td> <td style="width: 10%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>There are no specific equity and equalities issues arising from this report.</p> <p>However it is important to be aware of the Council's responsibility under the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) and show evidence that due consideration had been given to the equalities impact that may be brought upon communities by the decisions made by Council.</p>	Please indicate which aim is relevant to the report.		Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act,		Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it		Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.	
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CORPORATE PRIORITIES (tick those relevant)✓	
A clean and welcoming Environment	
Promoting inward investment and job creation	
Supporting neighbourhoods	✓

CORPORATE VALUES (tick those relevant)✓	
Delivering value for money	
Supporting the Workforce	
Promoting open communications	✓

1.0 Introduction and Background

- 1.1 Under the terms of the Council's petitions scheme, members of the public may present petitions at ordinary meetings of Council; and if a petition has over 25, but less than 650, signatories, it will be referred to Cabinet or an appropriate committee without debate for report to Council within three ordinary meetings.

2.0 The Current Situation

- 2.1 An e-petition organised by Mr Irving has been validly signed by 69 persons. The petition prayer reads:

"We the undersigned wish to petition Thanet District Council regarding the following: We request that the income (£350.000) from the sale of a Broadstairs asset, (Viking Bay lift shaft, former toilet and shelter, be reinvested in Broadstairs to improve Broadstairs facilities and infrastructure, specifically the public toilets. These facilities are very important to our visitors and residents and require urgent refurbishment and upgrading to reach a standard that reflects people's expectations in 2017, it will also ensure these facilities present a positive image of a popular coastal resort."

- 2.2 The petition organiser is entitled to present their petition to Council, and in accordance with the Council's petition scheme has three minutes to present the petition.
- 2.3 Mr Irving has informed the Council that he will be in attendance to present the petition.

3.0 Next Steps

- 3.1 Under the Council's petitions scheme, Council is required to refer the petition to Cabinet for report back to Council within three ordinary meetings.

Contact Officer:	Nick Hughes, Committee Services Manager (7208)
Reporting to:	Tim Howes, Director of Corporate Governance

Annex List

None	N/A
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Background Papers

Title	Details of where to access copy
None	N/A

Corporate Consultation

Finance	Ramesh Prashar, Head of Financial Services
Legal	Tim Howes, Director of Corporate Governance & Monitoring Officer