

PETITION REGARDING WESTERN UNDERCLIFF FACILITIES – REPORT BACK TO COUNCIL

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 information
Classification:	Unrestricted
Key Decision	No
Ward:	Cliffsend and Pegwell

Executive Summary:

A petition containing 1910 valid signatures and an e-petition containing 135 valid signatures were received by the Council requesting the reinstatement of local facilities along Western Undercliff, Ramsgate.

The report is for information only and is to inform Council of the result of the Cabinet meeting on 30 January 18.

Recommendation(s):

To note the report.

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	<p>If a petition contains more than 1,000 signatures, Council can debate the petition unless it falls into a category of exception as detailed at paragraph (a) and (b) of 1.6 of the scheme. In this case paragraph (b) would be appropriate, namely;</p> <p>(b) If the petition with 1000 or more signatures relates to an issue for which the executive (Cabinet) has responsibility, it may, following presentation, be referred by Council to Cabinet without debate.</p>
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

	<p>not share it, and (iii) foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.</p> <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 This report informs Council of the result of the Cabinet meeting of the 30 January 2018.

2.0 The Current Situation

- 2.1 A paper petition and e-petition were received from Ms Morgan. The paper petition was validly signed by 1910 persons, and the e-petition was validly signed by 135 persons. The petition prayers for both petitions were identical and read:

"We the undersigned petition the council to reinstate our local facilities along the Western undercliff, Ramsgate. It is imperative that we have public conveniences for all. The nearest toilets now are at the top of the cliff, which means it excludes people with disabilities and most parents with small children. We feel that this would increase the usage of the area and encourage tourists."

- 2.2 The petitions were considered at the full Council meeting on 7 December 2017 where Ms Morgan presented to the meeting, they were then referred to the meeting of Cabinet on 30 January 2018 for decision in accordance with the Council's petition scheme.

- 2.3 Cabinet considered the petition at its meeting on the 30 January 2018 and agreed to consider the comments made as part of the strategic toilet review which was ongoing and would be presented to Cabinet in 2018.

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