

Copy of petition response from: Nicholas Hughes (Committee Services Manager) to Petitioner Mrs Knight

Dear Mrs Knight,

Thank you for your letter submitting your petition which contained the the following Petition prayer:

“Petition to Local Council and highways for the removal of vehicles and unattached trailers abandoned outside Lyell Court and Briece Court, Lyell Road, Birchington, Kent CT7 9EJ”

In accordance with the Council’s petition policy, this letter will explain the next steps for the petition. I can confirm that your petition has been accepted as valid. After referring to the Council’s petition scheme the Council’s Monitoring Officer has confirmed that your petition has 56 valid signatories.

The Council's petition scheme states that those petitions signed by 50 or more petitioners but fewer than 1500 will be presented to a senior Officer of the Council who, after consultation with the relevant portfolio holder will respond. Then a report on the petition noting what action has been taken will be referred to the next meeting of Cabinet or Council for their information. I have forwarded your petition to the Head of Neighbourhoods Penny Button and her response is outlined below.

“We have investigated a number of abandoned vehicle notifications in Lyell Road over recent years and they have all been claimed by owners. Once claimed we are unable to take any further action under our powers to remove abandoned vehicles. As you have expressed concern about the roadworthiness of these vehicles, including trailers, I have passed your concerns on to Kent Police who enforce vehicles being roadworthy.

I appreciate that you are frustrated that people are leaving their vehicles on the road for prolonged periods of time without moving them but we are limited in the action we can take once they are claimed.

I have also passed your concerns onto colleagues in the planning enforcement team as you have stated that you believe there is a business being operated [REDACTED]

This response will be presented to Council at its meeting on 28 March 2024 for their information.

If you have any queries regarding the petition or the process, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "NHughes". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Nick" and the last name "Hughes" written in a single continuous stroke.

Nick Hughes
Committee Services Manager