

**Committee Name and Date of Committee Meeting**

Council – 04 October 2023

**Report Title**

Petitions

**Is this a Key Decision and has it been included on the Forward Plan?**

No

**Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report**

Sharon Kemp, Chief Executive

**Report Author(s)**

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**Ward(s) Affected**

Borough-Wide

**Report Summary**

This report provides Members with a list of all petitions received by Rotherham MBC since the last Council meeting held on 19 July 2023 and details which petitions will be presented by members of the public at this Council meeting.

This report is submitted for Members' awareness of the items to be presented to the Council meeting.

**Recommendations**

1. That the report be received.
2. That the Council receive the petitions listed at paragraph 2.1 of the report and the lead petitioners be entitled to address the Council for a total period of five minutes in accordance with the Council's Petition Scheme.
3. That the relevant Strategic Directors be required to respond to the lead petitioners, as set out in the Petition Scheme, by Wednesday 18 October 2023.

**List of Appendices Included**

None

**Background Papers**

None

**Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel**

No

**Council Approval Required**

Yes

**Exempt from the Press and Public**

No

## PetitionsPetitions

### 1. Background

- 1.1 The Council refreshed its Petition Scheme in May 2019, following its introduction in 2010 after legislative changes requiring local authorities to respond to petitions. Whilst the Localism Act 2011 repealed that statutory requirement, the Council has maintained its commitment to responding to issues raised by local people and communities in respect of matters within the Council's remit.
- 1.2 The current Petition Scheme sets thresholds for various routes that petitions can take through the decision-making process:
- Up to 20 signatures – not accepted as a petition.
  - 20 to 599 signatures – five-minute presentation to Council by Lead Petitioner and response by relevant Strategic Director.
  - 600 to 1,999 signatures – five-minute presentation to Council by Lead Petitioner and referral to Overview and Scrutiny Management Board for review of the issues, followed by response by the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Management Board setting out their findings and recommendations.
  - 2,000 signatures and above – five-minute presentation to Council by Lead Petitioner followed by a 15-minute debate of the petition by the Council, followed by response by relevant Strategic Director on behalf of the Council.
- 1.3 This report is submitted for information to detail the number of petitions received since the previous Council meeting held on 19 July 2023 and the route that these petitions will take through the Council's decision-making processes.

### 2. Key Issues

- 2.1 The following petitions have been received which meets the threshold for presentation to the Council meeting and for a response to be issued by the relevant Strategic Director:

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Number of Valid Signatures</b>	<b>Lead Petitioners</b>	<b>Directorate</b>
Provide more school places at Waverly Junior School	215 verified signatures. (233 signatures)	Mr Jamie Baggaley	Children & Young People
Todwick Roundabout Improvements	130 verified signatures. (130 signatures)	Mr Ian Sanderson	Regeneration & Environment
Melton High Street Traffic Calming	33 verified signatures. (233 signatures)	Mr Jack Greaves	Regeneration & Environment

### **3. Options considered and recommended proposal**

3.1 This report is submitted for information and Members are recommended to note the content and resolve that the petition received be administered in accordance with the provisions of the Council's Petition Scheme.

### **4. Consultation on proposal**

4.1 This report is submitted for information in order to detail the petition received by the Council since the previous Council meeting held on 19 July 2023. There are no consultation issues directly associated with this report.

### **5. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision**

5.1 Under the provisions of the Council's Petition Scheme, Strategic Directors are accountable for the provision of responses to petitions received by the authority. The scheme provides for responses to be issued to the lead petitioner following the Council meeting. As a customer service standard, the Council has committed to responding to petitions within ten working days of the Council meeting.

5.2 The deadline for responding to these petitions is Wednesday 18 October 2023.

### **6. Financial and Procurement Advice and Implications**

6.1 There are no financial or procurement implications directly associated with this report.

### **7. Legal Advice and Implications**

7.1 There are no legal implications directly associated with this report.

### **8. Human Resources Advice and Implications**

8.1 There are no human resources implications directly associated with this report.

### **9. Implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults**

9.1 There are no implications for either children and young people or vulnerable adults directly arising from this report.

### **10. Equalities and Human Rights Advice and Implications**

10.1 There are no specific equalities or human rights implications directly associated with this report.

## 11. **Implications for Ward Priorities**

11.1 There are no direct implications on ward priorities arising from the petition referred to earlier in this report.

## 12. **Implications for Partners**

12.1 There are no known implications for partners arising from the petition referred to earlier in this report.

## 13. **Risks and Mitigation**

13.1 As this report is submitted for information, there are no risks associated with the presentation of information in respect of petitions received.

## 14. **Accountable Officers**

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