

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Ban Animal Circuses in Brighton &amp; Hove – Petition for Debate</b>		
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	<b>6 April 2017</b>		
<b>Report of:</b>	<b>The Monitoring Officer</b>		
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Name:</b>	Mark Wall	<b>Tel:</b> 01273 291006
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<b>Wards Affected:</b>	<b>All</b>		

**FOR GENERAL RELEASE****1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:**

- 1.1 Under the Council's Petition Scheme if a petition contains more than 1,250 signatures and is not petition requesting officer evidence, it will be debated by the Full Council.
- 1.2 The e-petition and paper petition has resulted in triggering a debate at the council meeting, having exceeded the threshold with a total of 1,807 signatures confirmed at the time of printing the report.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- 2.1 That the petition is noted and referred to the Economic Development & Culture Committee for consideration at its meeting on the 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2017.

**3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION / CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:****3.1 The Petition****Ban Animal Circuses in Brighton & Hove**

"We the undersigned petition Brighton & Hove Council to no longer issue licences to animal circuses performing on Council land.

Justification:

To date 219 Councils across the country have already said NO to ALL animal circuses. If Brighton & Hove is to maintain its reputation as being a progressive city, we need to refuse animal acts.

On their last visit in September 2016 Zippos Circus used ponies, dogs, budgies and cats. This is in breach of our City's own Animal Welfare Charter which limits performances using animals to equines only. Since the restrictions of a travelling and performing life are not suited to any animals we ask that Brighton & Hove City Council follow the lead of the majority of councils across

the country and only allow circuses with human acts on Council land. We would like Brighton & Hove City Council to discuss at a full Council meeting, the issue of the exemption in the Animal Welfare Charter being breached.”

Lead Petitioner – Sue Baumgardt

3.2 The options open to the council are:

- To note the petition and take no action for reasons put forward in the debate; or
- To refer the petition to the relevant Committee meeting; or
- To refer the petition to the relevant Committee meeting with recommendations.

#### **4. PROCEDURE:**

4.1 The petition will be debated at the Council meeting in accordance with the agreed protocol:

- (i) The Lead petitioner will be invited by the Mayor to present the petition and will have up to 3 minutes in which to outline the prayer of the petition and confirm the number of signatures;
- (ii) The Mayor will then open the matter up for debate by councillors for period of 15 minutes and will first call on the relevant Committee Chair to respond to the petition and move a proposed response. The Mayor will then call on those councillors who have indicated a desire to speak in the matter, before calling on the relevant Committee Chair to respond to the debate;
- (iii) Any councillor may move an amendment or recommendation, having regard to the recommendation in 2.1 above and any such proposal will need to be formally seconded;
- (iv) After the 15 minutes set aside for the debate, the Mayor will then formally put:
- (v) (a) Any amendments in the order in which they are moved, and  
(b) The substantive recommendation(s) as amended (if amended).