Subject:		**Stop the Clearance**		
Date of Meeting:		**21 October 2010**		
Report of:		**Acting Monitoring Officer**		
Contact Officer:	**Name:**	Mark Wall	Tel:	29-1006
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Wards Affected:	**All**			

For general release

PETITION TRIGGERING A FULL COUNCIL DEBATE

Note: The subject matter of the petition is an executive function and therefore not one that Full Council can make a decision on.

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 a petition requesting officer evidence, it will be debated by the Full Council.

1.2 A combined paper and e-petition has resulted in triggering a debate at the council meeting, having exceeded the threshold with a total of 1,779 signatures.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

2.1 That the petition is referred to the Environment Cabinet Member Meeting for consideration.

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION / CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

3.1 **The Petition**

Stop the Clearance

"We the undersigned petition the council to stop the deforestation and scrub clearance on the hillsides around Wild Park and to stop putting up barbed wire fences in the park. We believe the work is destroying a valuable habitat for wild birds and other flora and fauna. We also believe that barbed wire has no place in a public park and that the work is a waste of public resources."

Lead Petitioner – Ms. Peta Fluendy

3.2 As the subject matter of the petition relates to an executive function, 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 Cabinet Member Meeting; or

- To refer the petition to the relevant Cabinet Member 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 call on the relevant Cabinet Member to respond to the petition and move a proposed response;

(iii) The Mayor will then open the matter up for debate by councillors and call on those councillors who have indicated a desire to move an amendment or additional recommendation(s);

(iv) 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;

(v) After a period of 15 minutes, the Mayor will then call an end to the debate and ask the relevant Cabinet Member to reply to the points raised;

(vi) The Mayor will then formally put:

(a) Any amendments in the order in which they are moved, and then
(b) The substantive motion as amended (if amended).