

HOUSING CABINET MEMBER MEETING

Agenda Item 78

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject: Petitions
Date of Meeting: 29 February 2012
Report of: Strategic Director, Resources
Contact Officer: Name: Caroline De Marco Tel: 29-1063
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Key Decision: No
Wards Affected: Hanover & Elm Grove

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

1.1 To receive any petitions presented at Council, any petitions submitted directly to Democratic Services or any e-Petition submitted via the council's website.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

2.2 That the Cabinet Member responds to the petitions either by noting it or writing to the petition organiser setting out the Council's views, or where it is considered more appropriate, calls for an officer report on the matter which may give consideration to a range of options, including the following:

- taking the action requested in the petition
- considering the petition at a council meeting
- holding an inquiry into the matter
- undertaking research into the matter
- holding a public meeting
- holding a consultation
- holding a meeting with petitioners
- referring the petition for consideration by the council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- calling a referendum

3. PETITIONS

3. (i) Hanover/Elm Grove & Student Housing

To receive the following e-Petition from Stephanie Watson and signed by 30 people:

"We the undersigned petition the council to Produce an effective policy that all multiple occupancy landlords and letting agents will have licences to rent to students withdrawn if they do not use a letting contract that prohibits unsocial disturbance (including noise and street rubbish) of other residents in a residential area.

I have lived in Hanover for 9 years and been disturbed each year by a multiple occupancy building close by rented to students. The letting agency say that their hands are tied and the council will only take action if there is a record of complaints/noise measurement etc. This is not acceptable when residents are paying council tax. The council and universities should be working together on this issue and local residents should be given the right to live their lives without this form of disturbance and students should be given better contact conditions/building conditions/fair rent from letting agencies.”