

Subject: Free Sunday Parking in Brighton & Hove
Date of Meeting: 12 June 2014
Report of: Monitoring Officer
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Wards Affected: All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT 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 concerning Free Parking in Brighton & Hove triggered a debate at the Council meeting on 27 March 2014, having exceeded the threshold with a total of 1,805 signatures.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the Committee, having regard to the recommendations from Council on 27 March 2014, (as detailed in paragraph 4.2), and in view of there being a report on the agenda, notes the petition.

3. CONTEXT/ BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

3.1 The Petition

"To receive the following e-petition which was debated at Full Council on the 27th March 2014 and has been signed by 1,253 people:

"We the undersigned, support the campaign to introduce Free Sunday car parking and on street parking across Brighton & Hove."

Lead petitioner – Mr. J. Gale

- 3.2 As the subject matter of the petition related to a committee function, the options open to the Council were:
- § 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.

3.3 The Council resolved to refer the petition to the Policy & Resources Committee for consideration along with a report on the matter following the approval of an amendment.

4. ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

4.1 The petition was be debated at the Council meeting in accordance with the agreed protocol, which included 3 minutes for the Lead Petitioner to outline the prayer of the petition and confirm the number of signatures and a total of 15 minutes for the petition to be debated.

4.2 The Council's Petitions Scheme states that where the issue is one on which a decision is required, the council meeting will decide whether to make recommendations to inform that decision. An amendment was moved and accepted at the council meeting which altered the covering petitions report recommendation and is listed detailed below and the Committee may have regard to this when responding to the petition:

"That the petition is referred to the Policy & Resources Committee for consideration accompanied by a full officer report on the proposal, including an estimate of the costs of partial or full implementation of free Sunday parking and an impartial assessment of the advantages and disadvantages."

4.3 The Petitions Scheme also states that 'the petition organiser will receive written confirmation of this decision'. The Lead Petitioner is invited to attend the meeting and hear the Committee's decision, however, given that the petition has been fully debated at council, there are no further speaking rights and the response will be given without debate.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Draft extract from the proceedings of Council on 27 March 2014.